

## **POLICY NOTE**

### **THE MEAT PREPARATIONS (IMPORT CONDITIONS) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2023**

**SSI 2023/367**

The above instrument is made in exercise of the powers conferred by paragraph 10A(1) of schedule 2 of the Trade in Animals and Related Products (Scotland) Regulations 2012 and all other powers enabling the Scottish Ministers to do so.

The instrument is subject to negative procedure.

#### **Purpose of the instrument.**

To allow import of meat preparations which have not been deep frozen from EEA states to continue from 31 January 2024 until 29 April 2024, in line with the UK Government and the Welsh Government.

#### **EU Alignment Consideration**

This instrument is not relevant to the Scottish Government's policy to maintain alignment with the EU because it concerns transitional measures regarding sanitary controls on goods entering Great Britain from the EEA following Great Britain no longer being part of the EU's internal market. These measures will not create any barriers to re-entry to the European Union.

#### **Policy Objectives**

These Regulations amend Commission Decision 2000/572/EC laying down the animal and public health and veterinary certification conditions for imports of meat preparations from third countries.

Commission Decision 2000/572 is retained direct minor EU legislation and contains import conditions, made under Article 8(4) of Council Directive 2002/99/EC, requiring imports of meat preparations from a third country to have been deep frozen at the plant of origin. The Animals, Food and Feed (EU Exit) (Scotland) (Amendment) Regulations 2020, originally made an amendment to Commission Decision 2000/572 meaning that fresh meat preparations would continue to be able to be imported from territories subject to transitional import arrangements until 1 April 2021. Countries subject to special transitional provisions are Members of the European Economic Area (EEA), the Faroe Islands, Greenland and Switzerland. Without this amendment all meat preparations from these specified territories would need to be frozen at the plant of origin prior to import.

Having regard to the animal health situation in those countries and territories as mentioned above, it was not considered necessary to impose that import condition and as such Commission Decision 2000/572 was first amended by the Meat Preparations (Import

Conditions) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2021<sup>1</sup> to provide that the import condition that meat preparations have been deep frozen at the production plant or plants of origin were not to apply, where the production plant or plants of origin are in one of those territories, firstly until 30 September 2021. This derogation was subsequently further extended by the following instruments:

- The Meat Preparations (Import Conditions) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2021<sup>2</sup>;
- The Animal Products (Transitional Import Conditions) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2021<sup>3</sup>;
- The Meat Preparations (Import Conditions) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2022<sup>4</sup>
- The Official Controls and Import Conditions (Transitional Periods) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2022<sup>5</sup>

Having continued regard to the animal health situation in those countries and territories, these Regulations further extend the derogation, in order to permit the import of fresh meat preparations from those countries and territories to continue in Scotland from 1 February 2024 to 29 April 2024. Similar provision is being made by the UK and Welsh Government with respect to imports of fresh meat preparations into England and Wales.

## **Consultation**

Scottish Government officials continue to be in discussions with the UK Government and Welsh Government on the wider long-term position regarding all Prohibited & Restricted goods for imports, as well as those which apply to export, and a short consultation was held on extending this derogation in line with the extension of the transitional staging period.

## **Impact Assessments**

Full impact assessments have not been prepared for this instrument as no, or no significant, impact on the private, voluntary or public sector is foreseen. There is expected to be no impact on business, charities or voluntary bodies.

## **Financial Effects**

The Minister for Energy and the Environment confirms that no BRIA is necessary, as the instrument has no financial effects on the Scottish Government, local government or on business.

Scottish Government  
Agriculture and Rural Economy Directorate  
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1 S.S.I. 2021/161  
2 S.S.I. 2021/288  
3 S.S.I. 2021/432  
4 S.S.I. 2022/193  
5 S.S.I. 2022/371