



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government



Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

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[www.gov.uk/defra](http://www.gov.uk/defra)

03 August 2026

Dear Sir/Madam,

## **Stakeholder engagement on proposed changes to checks and fees relating to the import of plants, plant products and other objects.**

I am writing to notify you on behalf of the Secretary of State and Scottish and Welsh Ministers, of the upcoming changes to The Plant Health etc. (Fees) (England) Regulations 2018, The Plant Health etc. (Fees) (Wales) Regulations 2018, The Plant (Import Inspection Fees) (Scotland) Regulations 2014 and The Plant Health and The Official Controls (Plant Health) (Frequency of Checks) Regulations 2022, which are intended to take effect when the new Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) agreement with the EU is implemented.

Please see Annex A for further details. Comments on the proposed changes should be sent to [plantpestsrisks@defra.gov.uk](mailto:plantpestsrisks@defra.gov.uk) by **25 September 2026**.

Comments provided in response to this letter, including personal information, may be made available to the public on request, in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and the Environmental information Regulations 2004 (EIRs).

If you do not wish your response, including your name, contact details and any other personal information, to be publicly available, please say so clearly in writing when you send your comments. Please note that if your computer automatically includes a confidentiality disclaimer, this will not count as a confidentiality request. Please explain why you need to keep details confidential. We will take your reasons into account if someone asks for the information under freedom of information legislation. However, we cannot guarantee that we will always be able to keep those details confidential.

Yours faithfully,

**Sam Bishop**

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INVESTORS  
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## **Annex A - Stakeholder engagement on changes to checks and fees relating to the import of plants, plant products and other objects**

### **Section 1 – Introduction**

- 1.1. This stakeholder engagement seeks to inform you of amendments to the relevant plant health fees, import inspection, and official controls regulations as outlined in the covering letter. Amendments are being made to Plant Health etc (Fees) (England) Regulations 2018 and the Plant Health etc. (Fees) (Wales) Regulations 2018 (“the English and Welsh fees regulations”), the Plant (Import Inspection Fees) (Scotland) Regulations 2014, and The Official Controls (Plant Health) (Frequency of Checks) Regulations 2022.
- 1.2. As part of the planned UK-EU SPS agreement, Great Britain will align with EU import inspection (documentary, identity and physical) frequencies. The changes proposed here will ensure that fees are aligned to the updated frequency of import checks (documentary, identity and physical) for goods imported into England, Scotland and Wales from Rest of World (i.e. non-EU third countries).
  - Remove fees for import checks on goods from the EU.
  - Amendments to the documentary check fee for imports from Rest of World.
  - Amendments to the physical and identity checks fees for imports from Rest of World.
- 1.3. These amendments are required to ensure that England, Scotland and Wales charge correctly for plant health services, once the SPS agreement with the EU is implemented.

### **Section 2 – Proposed changes**

#### **2.1 Remove fees for checks on imports from the EU**

We will remove fees for documentary, identity and physical checks on goods imported directly into England, Scotland and Wales from EU member states as these checks would not take place under the SPS agreement.

#### **2.2. Amendments to documentary check fees**

We are amending the English, Scottish and Welsh fees regulations to reflect that there will only be one fee for a documentary check, which will either be £5.25 or £6.00. This will be the fee payable by the importer of a Rest of World consignment in respect of a documentary check of each phytosanitary certificate or phytosanitary certificate for re-export accompanying the consignment.

#### **2.3 Amendments to physical and identity inspection fees**

##### **England and Wales**

A summary table of the indicative physical and identity inspection fees for England and Wales is provided below. The documentary check fee will be £5.25 in all cases. Any reference to ‘third country’ in the table does not include EU member states:

| Category and description of plant, plant product or other object                                                                                           | Country of origin                    | Fee: Physical check (£) | Fee: Identity check (£) | Fee: Documentary check (£) |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Bulbs, corms, rhizomes, tubers (other than tubers of potatoes), onions, shallots, garlic, leeks and other alliaceous vegetables, dormant, not in substrate | Any third country                    | 205.04                  | 5.25                    | 5.25                       |
| Cuttings, seedlings intended for planting, not specified or included anywhere else in this table                                                           | Any third country                    | 173.91                  | 5.25                    | 5.25                       |
| Plants for planting - Shrubs, trees (other than cut Christmas trees), other woody nursery plants including forest reproductive material (other than seed)  | Any third country                    | 182.38                  | 5.25                    | 5.25                       |
| Plants for planting - Other plants intended for planting, not specified elsewhere in this table                                                            | Any third country                    | 182.38                  | 5.25                    | 5.25                       |
| Seeds (for sowing), tissue cultures                                                                                                                        | Any third country                    | 128.13                  | 5.25                    | 5.25                       |
| Branches with foliage, parts of Conifers (other than bark or cut Christmas trees)                                                                          | Any third country                    | 33.99                   | 5.25                    | 5.25                       |
| <b>Cut flowers</b>                                                                                                                                         |                                      |                         |                         |                            |
| <i>Aster</i>                                                                                                                                               | Zimbabwe                             | 32.06                   | 3.93                    | 5.25                       |
| <i>Dianthus</i>                                                                                                                                            | Columbia                             | 1.28                    | 0.15                    | 5.25                       |
|                                                                                                                                                            | Ecuador                              | 4.27                    | 0.52                    | 5.25                       |
|                                                                                                                                                            | Kenya                                | 2.13                    | 0.26                    | 5.25                       |
|                                                                                                                                                            | Turkey                               | 4.27                    | 0.52                    | 5.25                       |
| <i>Gypsophila</i>                                                                                                                                          | Ecuador                              | 2.13                    | 0.26                    | 5.25                       |
|                                                                                                                                                            | Kenya                                | 1.28                    | 0.15                    | 5.25                       |
| <i>Phoenix</i>                                                                                                                                             | Costa Rica                           | 21.37                   | 2.62                    | 5.25                       |
| <i>Rosa</i> L.                                                                                                                                             | Colombia                             | 2.18                    | 0.26                    | 5.25                       |
|                                                                                                                                                            | Ecuador                              | 0.42                    | 0.05                    | 5.25                       |
|                                                                                                                                                            | Ethiopia, Kenya                      | 10.68                   | 1.31                    | 5.25                       |
|                                                                                                                                                            | Zambia                               | 32.06                   | 3.93                    | 5.25                       |
| Other genera not specified or included elsewhere in this table                                                                                             | Any third country                    | 42.75                   | 5.25                    | 5.25                       |
| <b>Fruit, vegetables, leaves</b>                                                                                                                           |                                      |                         |                         |                            |
| <i>Actinidia</i>                                                                                                                                           | All third countries                  | 2.65                    | 0.26                    | 5.25                       |
| <i>Carica papaya</i>                                                                                                                                       | All third countries                  | 2.65                    | 0.26                    | 5.25                       |
| <i>Fragaria</i>                                                                                                                                            | All third countries other than Egypt | 2.65                    | 0.26                    | 5.25                       |

|                                                   |                                             |       |      |      |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------|------|------|
| <i>Persea americana</i>                           | All third countries other than Cameroon     | 1.59  | 0.15 | 5.25 |
| <i>Rubus</i>                                      | All third countries                         | 1.59  | 0.15 | 5.25 |
| <i>Vitis</i>                                      | All third countries                         | 0.53  | 0.05 | 5.25 |
| <i>Citrus</i>                                     | Egypt                                       | 26.55 | 2.62 | 5.25 |
| <i>Citrus</i> , other than <i>Citrus sinensis</i> | Israel                                      | 2.65  | 0.26 | 5.25 |
| <i>Citrus</i>                                     | Mexico                                      | 26.55 | 2.62 | 5.25 |
| <i>Citrus</i>                                     | Morocco                                     | 2.65  | 0.26 | 5.25 |
| <i>Citrus</i>                                     | Peru                                        | 5.31  | 0.52 | 5.25 |
| <i>Citrus</i>                                     | Türkiye                                     | 1.59  | 0.15 | 5.25 |
| <i>Malus</i>                                      | Argentina                                   | 39.82 | 3.93 | 5.25 |
| <i>Malus</i>                                      | Chile                                       | 2.65  | 0.26 | 5.25 |
| <i>Malus</i>                                      | European third countries*                   | 2.65  | 0.26 | 5.25 |
| <i>Malus</i>                                      | New Zealand                                 | 7.96  | 0.78 | 5.25 |
| <i>Malus</i>                                      | South Africa                                | 5.31  | 0.52 | 5.25 |
| <i>Mangifera</i>                                  | Brazil                                      | 26.55 | 2.62 | 5.25 |
| <i>Passiflora</i>                                 | Colombia                                    | 2.65  | 0.26 | 5.25 |
| <i>Passiflora</i>                                 | Réunion                                     | 5.31  | 0.52 | 5.25 |
| <i>Passiflora</i>                                 | South Africa                                | 26.55 | 2.62 | 5.25 |
| <i>Passiflora</i>                                 | Viet Nam                                    | 5.31  | 0.52 | 5.25 |
| <i>Prunus</i>                                     | Argentina                                   | 26.55 | 2.62 | 5.25 |
| <i>Prunus</i>                                     | Chile                                       | 7.96  | 0.78 | 5.25 |
| <i>Prunus</i>                                     | European third countries* other than Turkey | 2.65  | 0.26 | 5.25 |
| <i>Prunus</i>                                     | South Africa                                | 5.31  | 0.52 | 5.25 |
| <i>Psidium</i>                                    | Brazil                                      | 39.82 | 3.93 | 5.25 |
| <i>Pyrus</i>                                      | Argentina                                   | 7.96  | 0.78 | 5.25 |
| <i>Pyrus</i>                                      | Chile                                       | 7.96  | 0.78 | 5.25 |
| <i>Pyrus</i>                                      | China                                       | 13.27 | 1.31 | 5.25 |
| <i>Pyrus</i>                                      | European third countries*                   | 2.65  | 0.26 | 5.25 |
| <i>Pyrus</i>                                      | South Africa                                | 5.31  | 0.52 | 5.25 |
| <i>Vaccinium</i>                                  | Argentina                                   | 18.58 | 1.83 | 5.25 |
| <i>Vaccinium</i>                                  | Chile                                       | 5.31  | 0.52 | 5.25 |
| <i>Vaccinium</i>                                  | European third countries*                   | 13.27 | 1.31 | 5.25 |
| <i>Vaccinium</i>                                  | Peru                                        | 2.65  | 0.26 | 5.25 |
| <i>Solanum lycopersicum</i>                       | Canary Islands                              | 7.96  | 0.78 | 5.25 |
| <i>Solanum lycopersicum</i>                       | Morocco                                     | 0.53  | 0.05 | 5.25 |

|                                                                                                                                   |                                                            |        |      |      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|--------|------|------|
| Root and tubercle vegetables, other than tubers of <i>Solanum tuberosum</i> , <i>Curcuma longa</i> and <i>Zingiber officinale</i> | All third countries other than Cameroon                    | 2.65   | 0.26 | 5.25 |
| Roots and tubercles of <i>Curcuma longa</i>                                                                                       | All third countries other than Thailand, Peru and Cameroon | 7.96   | 0.78 | 5.25 |
| Roots and tubercles of <i>Zingiber officinale</i>                                                                                 | All third countries other than Peru and Cameroon           | 2.65   | 0.26 | 5.25 |
| Other genera or species of fruit or vegetables not specified or included elsewhere in this table                                  | Any third country                                          | 53.1   | 5.25 | 5.25 |
| Other leaves not specified or included elsewhere in this table                                                                    | Any third country                                          | 71.68  | 5.25 | 5.25 |
| Grain (other than seeds for sowing)                                                                                               | Any third country                                          | 142.98 | 5.25 | 5.25 |
| Tubers of potatoes                                                                                                                | Any third country                                          | 156.69 | 5.25 | 5.25 |
| Cut Christmas trees (less than 3 metres in height)                                                                                | Any third country                                          | 119.64 | 5.25 | 5.25 |
| Soil and growing medium, bark                                                                                                     | Any third country                                          | 119.64 | 5.25 | 5.25 |
| Machinery or vehicles which have been operated for agricultural or forestry purposes                                              | Any third country                                          | 5.98   | 0.26 | 5.25 |

\*European third countries = Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canary Islands, Faeroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Russia (only the following parts: Central Federal District (Tsentralny federalny okrug), Northwestern Federal District (Severo-Zapadny federalny okrug), Southern Federal District (Yuzhny federalny okrug), North Caucasian Federal District (Severo-Kavkazsky federalny okrug) and Volga Federal District (Privolzhsky federalny okrug)), San Marino, Serbia, Türkiye and Ukraine.

## Scotland

Indicative Scottish fees for physical and identity checks are available here: [indicative Scottish fees](#). The documentary check fee will be £6.00 in all cases.