

## Release

Date : 21 March  
No : 77/06  
Contact : Anna Davies  
Telephone : 0131 472 4020  
Email : [anna.davies@nfus.org.uk](mailto:anna.davies@nfus.org.uk)

### **FARMERS REMINDED TO APPLY FOR TRANSPORT AUTHORISATION**

NFU Scotland is reminding all livestock producers that new rules governing the transportation of animals came into force across Europe in January. Amongst the new rules is a requirement for any farm business transporting animals over 65 kilometres (approximately 40 miles) to secure authorisation to do so.

NFUS is issuing this reminder after SEERAD revealed that despite sending the appropriate application forms to 17,000 livestock producers in Scotland, only 4500 authorisations had been applied for.

NFU Scotland Vice-President Nigel Miller said:

“Some Scottish livestock farmers may not need authorisations. However, if you are likely to transport livestock more than 65kms in the next five years then it is in your interests to apply for your authorisation now. Whether you are taking a bull to Perth, picking up rams at Kelso or running your stock to a market or abattoir – if it is more than 65km, then you need an authorisation.

“The application process is simple, only one authorisation is needed per business and the authorisation lasts for five years. Producers should remember that the authorisation is currently free but Government is likely to introduce a charge for authorisations later in the year. It is also important to remind people that when transporting, authorisation holders need to carry the authorisations with them on the journey.”

Scottish livestock keepers received the application forms in January. Completed forms can be sent to the State Veterinary Service (SVS) either by post or faxed to 01905 768649.

It is important to note the following:

- Only one authorisation is required per farm business and this covers all drivers and vehicles within the business;
- There is no limit to the number of journeys that can be undertaken under an authorisation;
- Authorisations last five years;
- Applications are currently free;
- It is now an offence to transport animals over 65km without an authorisation or at least proof of application.

If a farmer has a query about the new rules or has not received the appropriate forms through the post, he/she should contact the SVS Welfare in Transport helpline on 0845 603 8395 or email [wit@svs.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:wit@svs.gsi.gov.uk)

The application forms are also available to download at [www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/welfare](http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/welfare)  
Ends