

# Notifying authorities of high-risk food and feed imports

Importers must pre-notify authorities before high-risk food and feed arrives in Great Britain.

It is essential to pre-notify authorities in Great Britain (GB) before [high-risk food and feed](#), including [products of animal origin](#), arrive from EU and non-EU countries. The only exception is imports from the Republic of Ireland.

Importers and import agents must use the online [import of products, animals, food and feed system](#) (IPAFFS) to do this.

Pre-notification is essential as it:

- helps streamline the sampling process, as part of risk-based checks of certain commodities at the border
- improves the Food Standards Agency (FSA) and inland local authorities' ability to trace commodities, should they be linked with a food safety incident
- provides important information on compliance with GB food safety requirements

The [Border Operating Model](#) describes all the controls the FSA applies at the border, including pre-notification.

## Northern Ireland

Importers moving high-risk food and feed, including all products of animal origin, into Northern Ireland should contact the [competent authorities](#) (as PDF) at the appropriate Border Control Post for further information on import requirements.