

NEW HORSE TRANSPORT CERTIFICATES

Welfare in Animal (Transport) Order 2006

Which category do you fall into?

The Welfare in Animal Transport legislation was finally passed at the end of November 2006 and came into force on 5th January 2007.

As from January 5, many people will need a vehicle/trailer certificate and State Veterinary Service (SVS) authorisation to transport horses for up to eight hours and from January 2008 a WATO's Certificate of Competence.

BDS members who transport horses may fall into the scope of the legislation.



You WILL DEFINITELY need a Certificate of Competence if you are:

- transporting horses for hire or reward on journeys of over 65km or up to 8 hours
- transporting someone else's horses for payment
- transporting horses for sale or to an abattoir for slaughter
- transporting horses as part of their business

You WILL NOT need a Certificate of Competence if you are:

- transporting horses not in connection with an economic activity
- farmers moving their own horses in their own vehicles for seasonal migration between pastures for a distance of less than 50km from their holding
- transporting horses directly to or from veterinary practices or clinics under the advice of a vet.
- An individual transporting their own horse in their own vehicle for a non-economic activity on a journey of less than 65km or under 8 hours
- A 'hobby breeder', where the income from the hobby does not significantly exceed the expenditure
- A person transporting their own horse in their own vehicle to a show or other event for the purpose of pleasure or recreation – the winning of minor prize money DOES NOT constitute an 'economic activity'.
- A person transporting another person's horse in their vehicle for 'petrol money', providing no profit is involved.

Owners of Registered horses (those registered in studbooks or with organisations managing competitions) being transported to competition and meets are exempt from keeping journey logs, on watering, feeding, rest intervals and journey times. However transporters will still need the WATO's Certificates of Competence if the journey is in connection with an economic activity.

Equines with BDS passports are Registered horses.

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Welfare of Animals During Transport Regulations - Equine related case studies

[CLICK HERE](#) to read answers to specific questions regarding the new regulations

Documents and Information

For more information to help you decide whether or not you fall into the scope of the legislation, please read: (Note: these files are in PDF format).

- [The Welfare in Animal \(Transport\) Order 2006 statutory instrument No. 3260](#)
- [Welfare of animals during transport Consultation on the implementation of EU Regulation 1/2005](#)
- [British Driving Society response to consultation on Welfare in Animal Transport 2006](#)

Visit DEFRA's website www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/welfare

Certificates of Competence

The BDS is currently one of only three DEFRA approved awarding bodies for the **Certificates of Competence** and you can get further information on how to apply from the BDS office.

[CLICK HERE](#) to see a letter from DEFRA giving the BDS authority to award certificates for competence.

The syllabus of the WATO Certificate of Competence can be downloaded from this website. Please click below:

Welfare in Animals (Transport) (Horses) Certificate of Competence

[Syllabus for Driver's Certificate - NVQ LEVEL 3](#)

[Syllabus for Attendant's Certificate - NVQ LEVEL 2](#)

Note: these files are in PDF format.

[DEFRA - Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs](#)

