



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



The Scottish
Government

Consultation on the Review of The Non-Commercial Movement of Pet Animals Order 2011 (as amended)

September 2016



© Crown copyright 2016

You may re-use this information (excluding logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence v.3. To view this licence visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/ or email PSI@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication (Version 1.1) is available at www.gov.uk/government/publications

Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to us at

Defra

Pet Travel Policy Team
Area 5B
Nobel House
17 Smith Square, London
SW1P 3JR

Email: PetOrderReview.Consultation@defra.gsi.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/defra

Version Control	
Version 1.0	Published 15 September 2016
Version 1.1	Published on 23 September 2016. Minor corrections to text spelling and formatting. Additional wording to question 6.7(iv) at page 16 to clarify that student veterinarians or student veterinary nurses may only fit microchips to pet animals if they are acting under the direction of a veterinary surgeon.

Contents

Summary of consultation	1
Part A: Background	4
1. Purpose of the consultation	4
2. The Non-Commercial Movement of Pet Animals (as amended) Order 2011	5
3. Aims, objectives and assumptions of the 2011 Order	8
4. Key facts and figures	9
Part B – Tell us what you think	11
5. Scope of this consultation	11
6. Consultation questions	12
7. Who will be interested in responding?	17
8. Next steps	18

Summary of consultation

Purpose	<p>Defra is carrying out a review of The Non-Commercial Movement of Pet Animals Order 2011 (as amended by The Non-Commercial Movement of Pet Animals (Amendment) Order 2014). The review will fulfil our statutory commitment to Parliament to review the effectiveness of the Order.</p> <p>The Order sets out the detail of how the European Union (EU) pet travel scheme Regulation (EU No. 576/2013) operates in Great Britain.</p> <p>This consultation seeks views to help us gather evidence to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• consider if the Order has met its objectives;• assess whether the Order’s objectives remain appropriate; and if so• explore whether the Order’s objectives could be achieved in a less burdensome way.
Geographical context	<p>The Non-Commercial Movement of Pet Animals (as amended) Order 2011 applies across England, Scotland and Wales. Northern Ireland has its own separate regulations regarding pet travel.</p> <p>The statutory commitment to Parliament is to review the effectiveness of the Order in relation to its application in Great Britain, and therefore views from pet stakeholders across England, Scotland and Wales are invited.</p>
Audience	<p>This public consultation is open to anyone, but it will be of particular interest to pet owners, veterinarians, pet carriers and transport companies, approved quarantine premises, Local Authorities and animal welfare charities and others involved in pet travel.</p>
Format	<p>The consultation document is divided into sections covering: why a review is necessary; what the objectives of the Non-Commercial Movement of Pet Animals (as amended) Order 2011 are; and key areas that we would like to hear your feedback on.</p> <p>Questions are included throughout the document and are then summarised again at the end of the document.</p>

	Your responses to these questions will assist Defra in determining how effective the Order has been.
Duration	This consultation will run for 6 weeks from 15 September 2016 to 27 October 2016.
How to respond	<p>To submit your consultation response, please use Citizen Space (our on-line consultation tool) at: https://consult.defra.gov.uk/exotic-disease-control/petorderreview</p> <p>Alternatively, you can request a hard copy of the questionnaire (to complete and return to us by post) by contacting us using the details shown below.</p>
Enquiries	<p>If you have any enquiries, or wish to receive hard copies of the consultation documents, please contact:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Andrew Crawford Pet Travel Policy Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Area 5B Nobel House 17 Smith Square London SW1P 3JR</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Or email: PetOrderReview.Consultation@defra.gsi.gov.uk</p>
After the consultation	<p>We will summarise all responses and place this summary on our website at www.gov.uk/defra. This summary will include a list of names of organisations that responded. It will not list people's personal names, addresses or other contact details (for either organisational or individual responses).</p> <p>We will retain a copy of responses so that the public can see them; copies will be made available on request. Also, members of the public may ask for a copy of responses under freedom of information legislation.</p>
Confidentiality and Data Protection	Information provided in response to this consultation document, including personal information, may be subject to publication or release to other parties or to disclosure in accordance with the access to information regimes – these are primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA) and

	<p>the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.</p> <p>If you want information that you provide to be treated as confidential please be aware that, under the FOIA, there is a statutory Code of Practice with which public authorities must comply and which deals, amongst other things, with obligations of confidence.</p> <p>In view of this, it would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided in your response as confidential and so do not want it to be disclosed. If we receive a request for disclosure of the information we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the Department.</p>
<p>Compliance with the Code of Practice on consultation</p>	<p>This consultation is issued in line with the principles of consultation issued by the Cabinet Office. These can be found at https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/consultation-principles-guidance.</p> <p>If you have any comments or complaints about the consultation process, please address them to:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Defra Consultation Co-ordinator Room 629, Millbank 17 Smith Square London SW1P 3JR</p> <p>Or email: consultation.coordinator@defra.gsi.gov.uk</p>

Part A: Background

1. Purpose of the consultation

- 1.1. Defra, the Scottish Government and the Welsh Government are inviting views from stakeholders with an interest in the EU Pet Travel Scheme to inform a statutory review of the Non-Commercial Movement of Pet Animals Order 2011 (as amended by the Non-Commercial Movement of Pet Animals (Amendment) Order 2014), herein referred to as “the 2011 Order”.
- 1.2. The 2011 Order is a domestic piece of legislation that sets out the delivery and enforcement arrangements within Great Britain for implementing the EU pet travel scheme, commonly known as the ‘Pet Passport Scheme’. The EU pet travel scheme is now provided for in Regulation (EU) No. 576/2013 on the non-commercial movement of pet animals and repealing Regulation (EC) No. 998/2003. The 2011 Order also links to other pieces of EU legislation that set out import protection measures against certain diseases and parasites in pets.
- 1.3. The primary purpose of the 2011 Order is to create a mechanism to facilitate the non-commercial movement of pet animals (dogs, cats and ferrets) into and out of Great Britain, without the need for quarantine, while protecting Great Britain from the threat of disease, specifically rabies and the *Echinococcus multilocularis* tapeworm.
- 1.4. Article 22 of the 2011 Order establishes a mandatory requirement that the Secretary of State complete a review of the 2011 Order within five years of it coming into force. To fulfil this statutory commitment to Parliament, a report must be laid before Parliament that:
 - considers if the 2011 Order has met its objectives;
 - assesses whether those objectives remain appropriate; and if so
 - explores the extent to which the objectives could be achieved in a less burdensome way.
- 1.5. The Government’s agreed approach to developing the evidence to inform such a report is to undertake a post-implementation review (PIR). A PIR may include an element of consultation with interested organisations and individuals to help gather evidence and information to inform the review report. This is why we have launched this public consultation.
- 1.6. We welcome your comments on the 2011 Order. Your feedback will help us understand whether the Order is delivering the results intended, whether there have been any unintended effects and determine how well it is working in practice. This

will help support the Government's decisions on the next steps for this piece of legislation, which are:

- Renewal;
- Amendment;
- Removal; or
- Replacement.

2. The Non-Commercial Movement of Pet Animals (as amended) Order 2011

Historical context

- 2.1. From 1 January 2012, the UK was under a legal requirement to align its import requirements with those applied by other Member States under the EU pet travel scheme, which was previously provided for in Regulation (EC) No. 998/2003 on the animal health requirements applicable to the non-commercial movement of pet animals and amending Council Directive 92/65/EEC.
- 2.2. Between 2004 and 2012, the UK relied on a derogation (an exemption) under the EU-wide pet travel scheme allowing more stringent rabies import conditions to pets. The derogation enabled the UK to require that pets from Member States and listed third countries (e.g. Australia, Canada) could only enter (or re-enter) the UK without quarantine provided that they met certain criteria (microchip, rabies vaccine, blood test) and underwent a six month waiting period before entering the UK. Under the EU pet travel scheme, no blood tests were required and there was a much shorter waiting period after rabies vaccination of 21 days before an animal could enter a Member State. The UK's rabies derogation expired on 31 December 2011.
- 2.3. The UK also had a second derogation that allowed it to apply additional import conditions on pet cats, dogs and ferrets to protect against introducing ticks and tick-borne diseases, and the tapeworm *Echinococcus multilocularis*. This derogation also had an expiry date of 31 December 2011.
- 2.4. It was recognised that advances in the effectiveness of rabies vaccines and the very significant reduction in the incidence of rabies across EU Member States meant that it was appropriate to revise our rabies import rules. The EU pet travel scheme had proved itself to be successful in preventing the spread of rabies, with not a single case of rabies associated with the legal movement of pets recorded since the EU scheme was launched in 2004. Therefore, after careful consideration of the risks, available evidence and potential benefits to pet owners (in terms of reduced costs and waiting times) and in light of our legal obligations under Regulation (EC) No.

998/2003, we fully harmonised with the rabies requirements in the EU pet travel scheme from 1 January 2012.

- 2.5. We initially pursued retaining both elements of the second derogation, i.e. that pets must receive both tick and *Echinococcus multilocularis* tapeworm treatment, beyond 1 January 2012. However, only tapeworm treatment was found to provide the necessary compelling evidence of public health benefit to justify to the EU Commission that the UK should keep this control. An evaluation of the benefits of continued tick treatment controls determined that there was insufficient justification to retain tick controls on animal health grounds. Consequently, the UK retained the tapeworm treatment requirement (for dogs only), but did not pursue mandatory tick treatment controls beyond 31 December 2011.
- 2.6. In order to apply the revised EU pet travel scheme rules from 1 January 2012, the Government created The Non-Commercial Movement of Pet Animals Order 2011 to implement the scheme within Great Britain (Northern Ireland has its own pet travel scheme legislation). Amendments were also made to the Rabies (Importation of Dogs, Cats and Other Mammals) Order 1974 in order to set out the measures available for handling pet animals that do not comply with the rabies vaccination requirements of the EU pet travel scheme.
- 2.7. The 2011 Order revoked and replaced existing pet legislation in England and Scotland (equivalent legislation was not in force in Wales) and also provided for the administration and enforcement of other EU health measures designed to protect against the risk of other diseases entering the UK via pet movements, namely:
 - Highly pathogenic avian influenza (pet birds);
 - Nipah disease (dogs and cats from Malaysia);
 - Hendra disease (cats from Australia); and
 - Monkey pox virus (prairie dogs from the USA and rodents and squirrels from the African sub-Saharan region).
- 2.8. The 2011 Order and an Explanatory Memorandum can be viewed online at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2011/2883/article/16/made>

2014 changes

- 2.9. A number of other EU countries harmonised with the EU pet travel scheme rules in 2012, creating a single set of pet travel requirements across the EU. The EU Commission therefore decided to review and consolidate the pet travel regime, which had been amended several times since it came into effect in 2004.
- 2.10. We were fully involved in these consolidation negotiations and a new (and still current) EU pet travel scheme under Regulation (EU) No. 576/2013 came into effect on 29 December 2014. Many of the fundamental requirements of the EU pet travel

regime were unaffected by these changes. However, the new scheme introduced a series of measures that were designed to create greater consistency across the EU, improve security of the pet travel regime and also enhance traceability of the pet passport.

2.11. Consequently, the 2011 Order was amended by the Non-Commercial Movement of Pet Animals (Amendment) Order 2014 (“the Amendment Order”) to include those changes that were relevant to our domestic legislation. Key changes to the 2011 Order that were introduced by the Amendment Order were:

- **Updating EU pet travel scheme references** – to refer to the new Regulation no. 576/2013;
- **Amending Article 5 (Controls on rabies and certain other diseases of mammals) to dis-apply the Rabies (Importation of Dogs, Cats and Other Mammals) Order 1974** – to allow the non-commercial movement of rabies-susceptible ‘Part B’ pet animals (e.g. rabbits and rodents) from Member States into Great Britain;
- **Inserting a new Part 2A (microchipping of pet animals) section** – to lay down minimum qualifications required for persons, other than veterinarians, who are permitted to implant microchips for the purposes of preparing a pet for overseas travel;
- **Amending Article 11 (approval of carriers)** – to update definitions and exclude European Union carriers from the requirements to be approved to carry recognised assistance dogs that travel by sea or inland waterway (this provision already existed for such movements by air);
- **Amending Article 13 (enforcement authority)** – to make local authorities responsible for enforcement of the revised model pet travel identification documents;
- **Amending Article 16 (offences)** – to make it clear that existing offences for pet passport or health certificate infringements also apply to declarations made by pet owners’ who wish to travel with more than five pets for the purposes of attending a show, competition or sporting event (or training for such an event);

2.12. Other legislative changes introduced by the Amendment Order were:

- **Amending the Rabies (Importation of Dogs, Cats and Other Mammals) Order 1974** – to insert a new maximum quarantine period of four months for “Part A” pet animals (dogs, cats and ferrets) that have satisfied all preventative health measures other than those required in relation to rabies;

- **Amending the Trade in Animals and Related Products Regulations 2011, the Trade in Animals and Related Products (Wales) Regulations 2011 and the Trade in Animals and Related Products (Scotland) Regulations 2012** – to provide clarity on the circumstances when trade import requirements apply to pet animals.

2.13. The Amendment Order and an Explanatory Memorandum can be viewed online at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2014/3158/introduction/made>. It did not amend the date that a statutory review of the 2011 Order must be completed by, which remained at 31 December 2016.

3. Aims, objectives and assumptions of the 2011 Order

- 3.1. The objective of the 2011 Order was to continue to protect public and animal health and ensure that our domestic legislation was fully up to date, consistent with EU law, fit for purpose and cost effective.
- 3.2. Our key policy aim was to make it cheaper and easier for UK citizens to travel abroad with their pet dogs, cats and ferrets and return to the UK, whilst at the same time ensuring that appropriate safeguards were in place to minimise disease risks to human and animal health. The changes that were introduced were, on the whole, de-regulatory.
- 3.3. Full details of the anticipated costs and benefits of the 1 January 2012 changes can be found in the original policy Impact Assessment that was published alongside the 2011 Order. This can be viewed at: http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2011/2883/pdfs/uksifia_20112883_en.pdf.
- 3.4. A summary of the key objectives and assumptions that underpinned the 2011 Order are outlined below.

Objectives

- To make it easier and cheaper to travel with pet dogs, cats and ferrets.
- To protect human and animal health from rabies, the *Echinococcus multilocularis* tapeworm and other diseases that could enter the UK via pet movements, such as highly pathogenic avian influenza, Nipah and Hendra disease, and the Monkey pox virus.
- To make pet import rules simpler.
- To provide a mechanism for the proper administration and enforcement of the EU pet travel scheme and other relevant EU health measures.

Assumptions

- That the standard EU pet travel scheme had been successful in preventing the spread of rabies so current UK controls were no longer proportionate.
- That the incidence of rabies across Europe was decreasing and rabies vaccinations had become much more effective.
- That compliance levels with all pet travel regulations would be at about 90%.
- That the number of pet movements into and out of the UK would be likely to increase from the 100,000 level previously seen before 2012 due to import rules becoming simpler.
- That incidences of the *Echinococcus multilocularis* tapeworm were on the rise across continental Europe and that predicted future public health costs of dealing with UK cases of Alveolar echinococcosis in humans (caused by the *E. multilocularis* tapeworm) were significant.
- That the risk level for the introduction and long-term establishment of the 'Brown Dog Tick' *Rhipicephalus sanguineus* in the UK was negligible, although the risk of it becoming established short-term in UK households and kennels would be non-negligible and possibly low.
- That there would be reasonable opportunities for re-employment amongst the quarantine sector.

4. Key facts and figures

- 4.1. Figure 1 and Tables 1 and 2 provide some high-level information on implementation of the EU pet travel scheme by the 2011 Order in Great Britain in recent years.
- 4.2. *Rabies*: There have not been any cases of rabies in the UK associated with the legal (or illegal) movement of pets since the UK harmonised with the EU scheme in 2012. Indeed, there has never been a case of rabies in the UK connected to the legal (or illegal) movement of pets since the UK first launched its own pet travel scheme in 2000 (this was a precursor to the EU pet travel scheme that was formally launched in 2004).

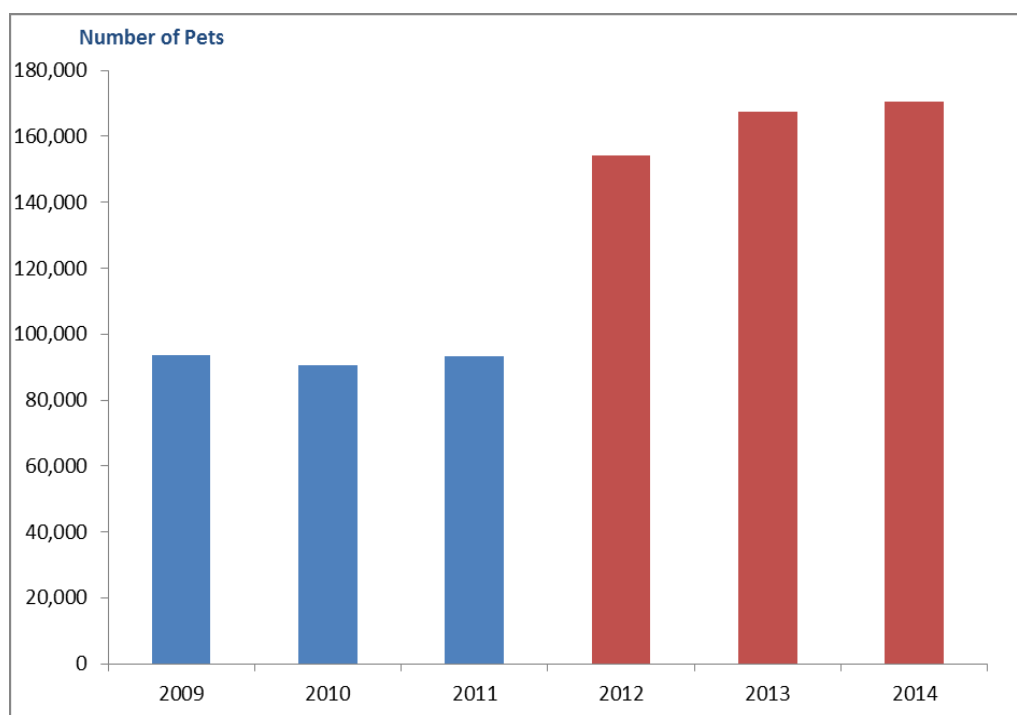


Figure 1 – Number of pets entering Great Britain via the EU pet travel scheme before (blue) and after (red) UK harmonisation on 1 January 2012 (Source: Animal and Plant Health Agency)

- 4.3. *Echinococcus multilocularis*: Since 2012, the UK has been carrying out annual *Echinococcus multilocularis* tapeworm surveillance across the UK (as required by EU Legislation). This has not detected the tapeworm's presence and the UK continues to have *Echinococcus multilocularis* disease-free status.

Table 1 – Number of pets entering Great Britain via the EU pet travel scheme and the non-compliance rate (Source: Animal and Plant Health Agency)

Year	Dogs		Cats		Ferrets	
	Total	% Non-compliance	Total	% Non-compliance	Total	% Non-compliance
2009	90,331	4	7,189	6	80	24
2010	85,561	4	8,390	6	75	15
2011	88,123	3	8,451	5	77	12
2012	143,413	3	14,828	2	95	2
2013	157,802	3	14,411	2	86	1
2014	160,713	3	15,451	2	72	4

Table 2 – Number of pets entering Great Britain via the EU pet travel scheme licensed into quarantine because they were found not to comply with the pet travel requirements. (Source: Animal and Plant Health Agency)

Year	Dogs	Cats	Ferrets
2009	142	87	2
2010	92	59	0
2011	97	45	1
2012	235	73	0
2013	378	83	0
2014	399	99	0

Notes: i. Pets entering by rail and sea are checked for compliance prior to embarkation and if found non-compliant are refused travel into Great Britain, i.e. they are not licensed into quarantine. ii. Figures in Table 2 include pets licensed into quarantine for not meeting the rabies/tapeworm requirements set out under EU Regulation No. 576/2013 after entering Great Britain under the commercial (trade) provisions set out in European Council Directive No. 92/65/EEC.

Part B – Tell us what you think

5. Scope of this consultation

- 5.1. Your input and feedback will be vital to help us conduct our post-implementation review of the 2011 Order. We need to assess how effective the 2011 Order has been at facilitating the EU pet travel scheme within Great Britain and the evidence you supply will help us establish whether, and to what extent, this domestic legislation has achieved its original objectives.
- 5.2. We are particularly interested in hearing from pet owners who have used the EU pet travel scheme to travel to/from the UK and pet owner representative groups. If you are a pet transport carrier, veterinarian or other body directly involved in the operation of the scheme, we welcome your views on your practical experience of complying with the requirements set down in the 2011 Order or helping pet owners prepare their animals for travel.
- 5.3. The review must consider whether the policy objectives that underpinned the 2011 Order are still valid, whether they are still required and whether the 2011 Order still provides the best option for achieving those objectives. We also want to determine

if the existing domestic legislative framework could be improved to reduce burdens on pet owners and other parties with an interest in pet travel.

- 5.4. It is important to note that the primary purpose of the review (and this public consultation) is to evaluate how effective our existing domestic legislation has been at delivering the EU pet travel scheme within Great Britain. The fundamental requirements of the EU pet travel scheme itself are not under review as part of this process.
- 5.5. We acknowledge that the 23 June 2016 European Union referendum decision outcome whereby the people of the UK voted to leave the EU clearly has implications for how pet travel policy will operate across the UK in future. It is for the Prime Minister to trigger Article 50 and begin negotiations to exit the EU. Until exit negotiations are concluded, the UK remains a full member of the EU and all the rights and obligations of EU membership remain in force. During this period, the Government will continue to implement the rules set out under the EU pet travel regime.
- 5.6. We need to evaluate how effective our domestic pet travel legislation has been and we therefore encourage you to focus your comments on the 2011 Order itself. This will help ensure that any future policy development can be based on robust evidence.

6. Consultation questions

- 6.1. We are interested in collecting the following information from those responding to the consultation:
 - Your name and whether you are responding on behalf of an organisation.
 - Whether you are a pet owner, vet, representative of an animal welfare charity, Local Authority or employee of a transport company (you can select more than 1 category).
 - If you have ever taken your pet abroad to another EU Member State and, if so, your experience of preparing your animal for travel and the pet checking process.
 - If you travel internationally with your pets, i.e. beyond the EU, information on how you found the process for travelling with your animals.
 - If you are a frequent traveller, your observations and experiences of how the current pet travel rules compare to those you experienced before 1 January 2012.
- 6.2. We have identified some key questions below that we would be particularly interested in hearing your views on. You are also welcome to add ideas not covered by the questions if you feel they should be included in our review.

6.3. You do not have to answer all of the questions if you do not wish to do so, or do not think a particular question is relevant to you. Where indicated, please provide justification to support your answers.

6.4. **General questions**

- i. **Based on your experience and/or understanding, how would you rate the effectiveness of the 2011 Order at:**
 - **Making it easier for pet owners to travel with their pet cats, dogs and ferrets?**
 - **Making pet travel less expensive for pet owners?**
 - **Protecting human and animal health against the risks of rabies and other animal diseases?**
- ii. **If you are a pet owner, what (if any) benefits has the 2011 Order provided to you personally over the last five years?**
- iii. **What do you perceive to be the benefits of the 2011 order for wider society over the last five years?**
- iv. **If you are a pet owner, what (if any) costs (in the widest sense, like time and inconvenience as well as monetary costs) have you personally incurred over the last five years as a consequence of the 2011 Order?**
- v. **What do you perceive to be the costs of the 2011 Order for wider society over the last five years?**
- vi. It was anticipated that the 2011 Order would:
 - Reduce the financial costs falling on pet owners undertaking non-commercial travel with their pet dogs, cats and ferrets outside the UK;
 - Protect human and animal health against rabies and other animal diseases through proportionate disease control measures (i.e. rabies vaccination and *Echinococcus multilocularis* tapeworm treatment); and
 - Result in an increase in the number of pet movements into and out of the UK due to pet travel rules becoming simpler.

Based on your experience, and considering the above, has implementation of the 2011 Order over the last 5 years:

- **Had any *positive* unintended (i.e. not foreseen) effects or consequences?**
- **Had any *negative* unintended (i.e. not foreseen) effects or consequences?**

- vii. Defra's original 2011 policy impact assessment was based on the following assumptions about the typical costs that could apply to pet owners travelling with their pet cats, dogs and ferrets under the EU pet travel scheme:

	Average cost
Rabies blood test	£75
6 month quarantine	£1,500 - £3,000
Microchip implantation	£33
Boarding kennels	£12 per day
Tick treatment – (cost if animal is infected)	£50
Tapeworm treatment – (cost if dog is infected)	£10
Rabies vaccination	£41
Tick / tapeworm treatment – (cost of preventative treatment)	£12 per year

Are these assumptions still appropriate? If not, please provide an alternative estimate for any costs that you disagree with and supply your justification.

- viii. **Have there been any additional costs of the 2011 Order (not captured previously) on small and micro businesses¹? If yes, what were they?**
- ix. The 2011 Order is designed to implement EU pet travel scheme Regulation (EU) No. 576/2013 within Great Britain. **Within the constraints of that Regulation, what refinements could be made to the 2011 Order to simplify its scope or improve its effectiveness?**
- x. **Are there any non-legislative measures (e.g. industry guidance or codes of practice) that you believe could be used to help improve compliance with the pet travel scheme rules? If yes, please list them and explain why you think such measures would be beneficial.**
- xi. **Do you believe that the 2011 Order is still required?**

¹ A 'small' business is one that employs <50 employees; a 'micro' business is one that employs <10 employees. See European Commission definition: http://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/sme-definition_en

6.5. We have also identified the following questions relating to specific aspects of the 2011 Order. These are mainly targeted at veterinarians, pet carriers and the local authorities in Great Britain who are directly involved in delivery of the pet travel scheme as set out by the 2011 Order.

6.6. Please answer only those questions that are relevant to you and ignore any questions that you do not feel you are in a position to answer.

6.7. **Specific 2011 Order questions**

- i. **Rabies vaccination:** The Non-Commercial Movement of Pet Animals (Amendment) Order 2014 amended the Rabies (Importation of Dogs, Cats and Other Mammals) Order 1974 to insert a new maximum quarantine period of four months for both “Part A” pet animals (dogs, cats and ferrets) and other non-pet rabies susceptible animals that have satisfied all preventative health measures other than those required in relation to rabies.

EU pet travel scheme Regulation (No. 576/2013) permits Member States to adopt a rabies quarantine period of up to a maximum of six months. However, following careful consideration of the available evidence on rabies incubation periods in cats and dogs and the results of a public consultation in 2014, it was decided that a four month quarantine period for animals travelling under the Pet Travel Scheme, but that have not satisfied preventative health measures in relation to rabies, was appropriate.

This also brought Great Britain’s pet animal quarantine requirements into alignment with the four month quarantine requirement that already existed for pet animals being imported into Great Britain for commercial reasons under The Trade in Animals and Related Products Regulations 2011. **Do you agree that a four month quarantine period is still appropriate for pet dogs, cats and ferrets entering Great Britain under the EU pet travel scheme but that have not satisfied preventative health measures in relation to rabies? If not, why?**

- ii. ***Echinococcus multilocularis* tapeworm treatment:** Part 2(9) of the 2011 Order sets out how pet dogs moving under the EU pet travel scheme must comply with the tapeworm preventative health measures set out in European Commission Delegated Regulation 1152/2011. This requires that pet dogs must have appropriate tapeworm treatment no less than 24 hours and no more than 120 hours (5 days) before they (re-)enter the UK.

The UK retained tapeworm treatment in 2012 because:

- incidences of the *Echinococcus multilocularis* tapeworm were increasing across continental Europe; and

- it is assumed that the tapeworm is likely to become permanently established if it should enter the UK.

Do you believe these assumptions are still appropriate? To what extent do you believe that current tapeworm controls should be retained?

- iii. **Other diseases of mammals and birds:** Part 2 of the 2011 Order also provides for the administration and enforcement of certain EU health measures to protect the UK against the risk of other animal diseases. Specifically, these are to protect against: Nipah disease, from cats and dogs imported from Malaysia (Peninsula); Hendra disease, from cats imported from Australia; and Highly pathogenic avian influenza, from pet birds. **Do you agree that these disease control measures are still justified?**

Based on your experience, are there any other ways in which these disease risks could be better addressed?

- iv. **Microchipping of pet animals:** Part 2A of the 2011 Order sets out the minimum qualifications required for persons, other than veterinarians, permitted to implant microchips for the purpose of preparing a pet for overseas travel. Those implanting microchips must be either a veterinarian, registered veterinary nurse, student veterinarian or student veterinary nurse (under the direction of a veterinary surgeon), or have attended a training course approved by the Secretary of State, Scottish Ministers or Welsh Ministers, as appropriate. An exception is also made for those who were trained on a microchipping course that contained a practical element before 29 December 2014. **Do you believe that these requirements have worked effectively?**
- v. **Pet checkers approval process:** Part 3 of the 2011 Order sets out how a transport carrier who moves a pet cat, dog or ferret into Great Britain must be approved by Government unless the movement is from the Republic of Ireland or the movement is of a recognised assistance dog from an EU Member State. The approval process requires that a carrier must undertake appropriate checks to ensure that the pets they are transporting comply with EU pet travel scheme rules. 100% of pets entering Great Britain on approved carriers are checked for compliance with the EU pet travel scheme import rules.

EU pet travel scheme Regulation (No. 576/2013) requires that Member States carry out systematic documentary and identity checks at designated entry points on pet animals that are accompanying their owner during a non-commercial movement. In practice, this involves transport carriers verifying the identification document (i.e. pet passport or third-country official veterinary certificate) of a pet animal entering Great Britain and ensuring that its details are consistent with the results of an identity check performed on the pet to establish its microchip (or other identity) marking.

Do you agree that 100% pet checks are proportionate? Why?

To what extent do you agree that the pet checking process within Great Britain for ensuring compliance with the EU pet travel scheme has been effective?

- vi. **Enforcement:** Articles 13, 14 and 15 of Part 4 of the 2011 Order set out how local authorities are the principal bodies for enforcing the EU pet travel scheme rules and the powers available to authorised officers.

To what extent do you agree that the enforcement provisions have been appropriate and effective for enforcing the EU pet travel scheme?

Do believe the enforcement provisions could be improved? If yes, please outline your suggestions.

- vii. **Offences and penalties:** Articles 16, 17 and 18 of Part 4 of the 2011 Order set out the offences and penalties that can apply for not complying with the EU pet travel scheme rules and for not complying with notices served in relation to Avian Influenza. **To what extent do you believe that the offences and penalties have been appropriate for enforcing the 2011 Order?**

If you answered 'Strongly disagree' or 'Disagree', in your opinion what sanctions could be put in place that would increase compliance with pet travel rules? Please provide evidence to justify your views.

7. Who will be interested in responding?

7.1. This is a public consultation and it is open to anyone with an interest to provide comments. The consultation should be of particular interest to pet owners, veterinarians, authorised quarantine premises, authorised carrying agents, animal welfare charities, transport companies, local authorities and others involved in pet travel across Great Britain. The 2011 Order applies to England, Scotland and Wales.

7.2. If you wish to respond, please submit your comments by 27 October 2016.

7.3. You can respond in 1 of 3 ways:

Online by completing the questionnaire at:

<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/exotic-disease-control/petorderreview>

- Email to: PetOrderReview.Consultation@defra.gsi.gov.uk
- Post to: Pet Travel Policy

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Area 5B Nobel House
17 Smith Square
London
SW1P 3JR

- 7.4. Our preferred method is online because it is the easiest way for us to collate and analyse responses.
- 7.5. Unless you specifically request your response to be treated confidentially, responses may be made publically available.

8. Next steps

- 8.1. We will summarise all responses to this consultation and place this summary on our website at www.gov.uk/defra within three months of the consultation closing date.
- 8.2. We plan to lay our review report on the 2011 Order before Parliament by 31 December 2016. The summary of responses document will also be published as a supporting annex to the review report.