

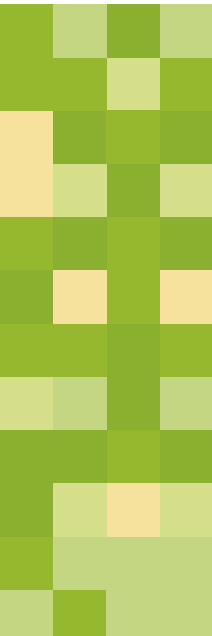
# Welfare of Animals During Transport



Advice for transporters of cattle



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Detailed guidance, forms and further advice can  
be found on the website at:

[www.wales.gov.uk/animalwelfare](http://www.wales.gov.uk/animalwelfare)

or by contacting the:

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A new EU Regulation for transporting animals applies from 5th January 2007.

If you transport cattle you should make sure you know about the new rules and procedures that affect you. These new rules are intended to improve the welfare of cattle during transport. **The rules came into force on 5 January 2007** and affect anyone transporting live vertebrate animals in connection with an economic activity.

There are a number of specific points that anyone transporting cattle needs to take account of. These are summarised in this leaflet. More detailed guidance can be found on the website at: [www.wales.gov.uk/animalwelfare](http://www.wales.gov.uk/animalwelfare)

### **Are you affected by the new rules?**

The Regulation sets out new rules for those who transport animals in connection with an economic activity. In the UK this is considered to be any transport of animals undertaken as part of a business or commercial activity, which aims at achieving financial gain, whether direct or indirect, for any person or company involved with the transport. The Regulation does not apply to:

- Transportation of animals not in connection with an economic activity.
- Transportation to or from veterinary practices or clinics under veterinary advice.



## **Exemptions**

Farmers transporting their own animals, in their own transport, up to 50km (approximately 31 miles) from their holding have limited exemption from parts of the Regulation but must still meet its **general conditions for transport** (set out on the next page).

One of the conditions is that animals are fit to travel. Fitness to travel rules do not normally allow the transport of heavily pregnant animals (past 90% gestation), new born mammals in which the navel has not completely healed or animals that have given birth within the previous 7 days. However, it is permitted for a farmer (or haulier if appointed) to transport these animals short distances under 50km (e.g. between or within farm premises) if the journey is for the purpose of improving conditions of birth. Such journeys must not cause unnecessary pain or suffering.

Further information on fitness to travel can be found on the website at: [www.wales.gov.uk/animalwelfare](http://www.wales.gov.uk/animalwelfare)

### **The Regulation requires everyone transporting animals on any journey to ensure that:**

- No one shall transport animals, or cause them to be transported, in a way likely to cause them injury or undue suffering.
- Journey times are kept to a minimum.

- The animals are fit to travel.
- Those handling animals are trained and competent.
- The vehicle and its loading & unloading facilities are designed, constructed and maintained to avoid injury and suffering and to ensure the safety of the animals.
- Water, feed and opportunity to rest are given to the animals as appropriate and sufficient floor space and height is available in the transport.
- For non-export journeys, documentation is provided which shows the following; origin and ownership of animals; place of departure and destination; date of departure and expected duration of journey (usually referred to as an Animal Transport Certificate).

**The Regulation sets out additional requirements if you transport cattle on ‘short’ journeys over 65km (approximately 40 miles) and up to 8 hours. Transporters must:**

- Hold a Type 1 transporter authorisation.
- Ensure (from 5 January 2008) that drivers, and attendants, are in possession of a certificate of competence.
- Demonstrate that they have appropriate staff and equipment to transport animals in a proper way and to have no record of serious infringements of animal welfare legislation in the preceding 3 years.

**There are in addition to the above, a number of other requirements for 'long' journeys of over 8 hours. Transporters of cattle must:**

- Hold a Type 2 transporter authorisation.
- Have any vehicle used for transporting cattle inspected and approved.
- Have contingency plans in place in case of emergencies.
- Complete a Journey Log where cattle are being exported.

## **Specific requirements**

### **Journey times**

Journey times and rest periods remain unchanged from the previous rules.

### **Maximum journey times (hours)**

	Basic Standard vehicle	Higher standard vehicle		
		Travel	Rest	Travel
Cattle	8	14	1	14
Unweaned Calves	8	9	1	9

- Journey time is from first animal loaded to last animal unloaded.
- Journey time spent on Roll-on/Roll-off (RO-RO) vessels counts towards the journey time.
- Time spent by animals in pens on specialist livestock vessels does not count towards total

journey time, provided certain conditions are met.

- Time whilst on the aircraft during air transport does not count towards total journey time.

### **Ramp angles for loading and unloading**

The Regulation stipulates a new maximum ramp angle of:

- 20°00' for calves (36.4% slope, equivalent to a rise of 4 over distance of 11).
- 26°34' for cattle (50% slope, equivalent to a rise of 4 over distance of 8).

Vehicles and trailers built and in use before 5 January 2007, which comply with ramp angle requirements set out in the previous legislation, may continue to be used **within the UK** until 4 January 2012 if it impractical or uneconomical to convert or alter to comply with new rules.

### **Separation**

Cattle must be handled and transported separately from other species\*. The following separations must also be applied:

- cattle of significantly different sizes or ages\*.
- sexually mature males from females.
- animals with horns from animals without horns\*.

\* This need not apply where animals have been raised in compatible groups, are accustomed to each other, and where separation would cause distress; females are accompanied by dependent young.

- Animals hostile to each other.
- Tied animals from untied animals.

### **Space allowances**

Space allowances for road transport remain unchanged from the previous rules.

Category	Approximate weight (kg)	Area (m <sup>2</sup> /animal)
Small calves	50	0.30 - 0.40
Medium sized calves	110	0.40 - 0.70
Heavy calves	200	0.70 - 0.95
Medium sized cattle	325	0.95 - 1.30
Heavy cattle	550	1.30 - 1.60
Very heavy cattle	>700	>1.60

### **Temperature within vehicle**

The temperature within the vehicle must not fall below 0°C during a journey of more than 8 hours.



### **Transportation of calves**

- A calf is defined by EU law as a bovine animal of 6 months of age or less.
- A calf with a navel, which is not completely healed, is considered unfit for transport.
- Calves of less than 10 days of age may only travel for a maximum of 100km (approximately 62 miles). The Regulation regards them as unfit for longer journeys.
- Calves aged 14 days or less must be accompanied by their mother on journeys of over 8 hours.
- Calves must travel on suitable bedding for thermal comfort.

### **Transport of pregnant cows and cows which have recently given birth**

- Cows in the last 10% of pregnancy (approximately 27 days), or that have given birth in the last week, are not fit for transport, and are also unfit for presentation at the market.
- Pregnant cows that have reacted positively to a bovine TB test may be moved under the supervision of the Animal Health Organisation.
- When cows “in milk” are transported without their suckling young, they must be milked at intervals of no longer than 12 hours.



## **Vehicle Partitions**

The Regulation does not define dimensions for partitions but they must:

- Be strong enough to withstand the weight of animals.
- Have fittings designed for quick and easy operation.

On vehicles used for journeys of over 8 hours, partitions must be:

- Fitted so that separate compartments may be formed.
- Adjusted to suit the specific needs of the animals being transported.

## **Vehicle Pen sizes**

The Regulation does not give maximum or minimum dimensions, but guidance for best practice continues to be:

- A suggested maximum pen length of 3.7m for adult cattle.
- A suggested maximum pen length of is 2.5m for calves.

## **Further advice**

This leaflet provides a brief overview of the requirements of the EU Regulation with regards to cattle. Other leaflets are available covering requirements for sheep, goats, pigs, horses and poultry.