



**SCOTTISH HEALTH PROTECTION NETWORK**  
Promoting and Supporting Good Practice



## External Guidance Addendum

This guidance has been approved for use in Scotland by the Scottish Health Protection Network Guidance Group (SHPN-GG). The guidance should be used in conjunction with the addendum outlined below.

<b>Guidance name:</b>	Public Health England: Bovine tuberculosis: guidance on management of the public health consequences of tuberculosis in cattle and other animals (England), 2014
<b>Name of sponsor SHPN-Topic/ Coordination Group:</b>	SHPN GIZ/RIG
<b>Name of individual/s providing addendum information:</b>	Dominic Mellor and Gill Hawkins, HPS
<b>Date of guidance sign-off by SHPN-GG:</b>	21/11/17
<b>Addendum required:</b>	<p>This guidance has been adopted in Scotland as it provides a very clear guide to a measured and consistent response and course of action in the event of notification of animal TB incidents to Health Boards in Scotland by the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA, formerly the Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency [AHVLA]). It has been confirmed verbally with APHA that they would notify animal TB incidents to Health Boards in Scotland in exactly the same way as described in this guidance. Reviewers from Scotland contributed to the original production of the guidance and are very confident about the accuracy and rigour with which it has been developed.</p> <p>At the current time, animal TB incidents are rare occurrences in Scotland, though a small number are identified each year. As a result, Scotland enjoys <i>Officially TB Free</i> (OTF) status based on current incidence in cattle herds, this being below a very low threshold agreed at EU level. This doesn't mean that there are never any cases, but these occur infrequently and can almost always be traced to imported animals from higher risk areas elsewhere (usually England, Wales or Ireland). For cattle to be imported from higher risk areas in these countries, they have to come from herds not currently under any disease restrictions (including TB) and the cattle have to be clear on pre- and post-movement TB testing (though, of course, false negatives do occur from time to time).</p>

	<p>As the guidance has been produced for England &amp; Wales, there are a number of places in which the specific terminology is inappropriate for Scotland and some replacements or translations will be needed so as to avoid confusion in Scotland, including in sample letters. Specifically, there are numerous references throughout the text and appendices to FSA (FSS is the relevant body in Scotland), PHE (HPS and NHS board health protection teams are the relevant bodies in Scotland), PHE Centres (NHS board health protection teams in Scotland), TB and EIZ teams at PHE Colindale (HPS in Scotland). In addition, what the document refers to as AHVLA throughout, is now called the <a href="#">Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA)</a>.</p> <p>In addition, legislation in relation to the sale of raw milk is different in Scotland to that in England &amp; Wales. The Advisory Committee on the Microbiological Safety of Food (ACMSF) advise that pasteurisation is the key critical control point in the prevention of milk borne disease and completely inactivates <i>M. bovis</i>. The requirements for raw drinking milk vary across the UK but, in Scotland, it is illegal to place raw milk or cream on the market for direct consumption in Scotland. The ban was introduced in 1983 to prohibit the sale of raw cows' drinking milk but was extended to drinking milk from all farmed animals in 2006. The ban does not apply to dairy products made with unpasteurised milk.</p> <p>The Food Law Code of Practice provides comprehensive guidance on enforcement measures in Scotland and can be accessed <a href="#">here</a>:</p>
--	--