



SELLING OR MOVING GOODS TO NORTHERN IRELAND?

IF YOU SELL OR MOVE GOODS TO NORTHERN IRELAND FROM GB, EVEN OCCASIONALLY, YOU WILL NEED TO TAKE ACTION TO PREPARE FOR 1 JANUARY 2020.

While we don't know everything that will happen, below are practical steps that you can take now to prepare.

1. REGISTER FOR THE TRADER SUPPORT SERVICE

The [Trader Support Service](#) (TSS) will provide free training and support for businesses for customs processes that will arise for goods moving from GB to NI. The Trader Support Service can provide support in registering for an EORI number, understanding Incoterms and in making declarations for goods moving from GB to NI.

Even if you are not sure whether you will sell to a Northern Ireland business in the next year, it is worth registering just in case. There is no risk to being registered with the service, even if you do not use it.

2. GET AN EORI NUMBER

You will need both a GB EORI number and an XI EORI number to sell to Northern Ireland from January 2021. If you do not already have a GB EORI number you should apply for one now - **[get an EORI number](#)**. You can apply for an XI number at the same time. There is no risk to having an EORI number if you do not use it.

If you already have a GB EORI number and registered with the Trader Support Service, HMRC will issue an XI EORI number by 11 December. If you are not sent one automatically, you will be able to apply for one online after 11 December.

3. FIND OUT THE COMMODITY CODE FOR GOODS YOU SELL

You will need to know the commodity codes for the goods you move to Northern Ireland. You can [check the code using the Trade Tariff tool](#).

You should also check the tariffs applicable under the EU Common External Tariffs and UK Global Tariff (UKGT). Further information on tariffs will be provided when the outcome of the UK and EU negotiations is known.

4. SPEAK TO YOUR HAULIER

Ask your haulier to register for the Trader Support Service and find out whether your goods routinely move through Dublin port, as processes will be different for goods that travel via Ireland.

If your goods must move through Dublin port to get to Northern Ireland, you should consider whether you will use transit procedures. If you intend to use transit procedures you may want to consider [becoming an Authorised Consignor](#).

Your haulier will need to use the Goods Vehicle Movement Service (GVMS). They will need a Government Gateway user ID and password, and a GB EORI number to use this service.

5. CHECK YOUR GOODS MEET THE REQUIRED STANDARDS FOR THE NORTHERN IRELAND MARKET

If your goods must meet EU standards at the moment, then it is likely they will have to continue to meet those standards if you wish to continue supplying the Northern Ireland market from 1 January 2021.

This generally includes EU requirements on labelling and CE marking, but specific rules may vary depending on the product in question. These rules may differ from those applying to the GB market in future.

Further information on these requirements for the NI market from 1 January is available [here](#).

6. IF YOU MOVE AGRI-FOOD GOODS, CHECK THE LATEST GUIDANCE

Under the Northern Ireland (NI) Protocol, the UK Government agreed that, following EU exit, NI would continue to align with EU rules on the movement of animals, plants and related goods. Implementation of the NI Protocol will mean some procedural changes for moving agri-food goods from GB to NI. This may mean some additional checks and marketing standards on agri-food goods coming into Northern Ireland from GB.

The nature and extent of the checks is subject to the outcome of ongoing negotiations between the UK and the EU but the aim is for any checks to be as seamless as possible. Further information is available at: [EU Exit questions & answers | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs](#).

7. SPEAK TO YOUR CUSTOMERS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

You should speak to your customers and ensure that they are registered for the Trader Support Service. You will need to discuss which of you will be responsible for completing customs information.

Find out more about moving goods to and from Northern Ireland:
[Guidance on moving goods into and out of Northern Ireland](#)