

Press release: Change of British High Commissioner to Cameroon

2014 – Present FCO, Deputy Director, Head of Overseas Security 2013 – 2014 Mogadishu, Deputy Head of Mission 2010 – 2013 Special Political Adviser to UN Special Representative for Somalia 2007 – 2009 FCO, Head, South Asia Group 2004 – 2007 FCO, Deputy Head, Drugs and International Crime Department 2003 – 2004 FCO, Head of Western Mediterranean Section, EU Directorate 2002 – 2003 Kabul, Deputy Head of Mission 2001 – 2002 FCO, Afghanistan Unit, Head of Political Section 1997 – 2000 Islamabad, Head of Chancery 1995 – 1997 FCO, Head of Nuclear Policy Section, Non-Proliferation Department 1993 – 1995 FCO, Supernumerary, South-East Asia Department 1993 Joined Foreign and Commonwealth Office

News story: OCR English literature exam, 26 May 2017

Ofqual's statement about the error in OCR's English literature exam paper.

We are very disappointed to learn of the error in OCR's English literature exam paper today. Incidents of this nature are unacceptable and we understand the frustration and concern of the students who may have been affected.

We will be scrutinising how OCR intends to identify and minimise the impact on these students. We will be closely monitoring OCR's investigation of how this incident occurred and seeking reassurance regarding its other papers this summer.

Ofqual does not see exam boards' examination papers in advance of the tests being sat.

News story: Flypor 4% w/v Pour-on Solution – Product defect recall alert

Product defect recall alert for Flypor 4% w/v Pour-on Solution (Vm

00879/4008) by Elanco Europe Ltd.

We wish to make wholesalers, veterinary surgeons, pharmacists and SQPs aware that Elanco Europe Ltd has issued a recall for Flypor 4% w/v Pour-on Solution (Vm 00879/4008).

This issue impacts the following batch that has been placed on the UK market:

- Batch No: C681480
- Expiry Date: 10/2018

Some units in this batch have been reported to be leaking a small amount of product from around the cap due to the induction heat seals in some packs not being completely sealed to the bottle.

If you have any queries, please contact Elanco:

Tel: +44 (0)1256 353131 (Option 1) Email: ELANCOVETS@elanco.com

News story: VMD web services will be unavailable from 27 to 31 May

The following online application services will be unavailable:

[Special Import Certificates](#)

[Special Treatment Certificates](#)

You should obtain an import certificate in advance if you think you will need to import/use an imported medicine during this period.

In urgent cases you may purchase and use an imported veterinary medicine prior to obtaining a certificate from the VMD. This is a special dispensation which only applies to the VMD online system during this maintenance period.

You should obtain an import certificate retrospectively as soon as possible.

[Research Import Certificates](#)

[Export Certificates](#)

[Microchip Adverse Event Reporting](#)

[Animal Adverse Reaction Reporting](#)

[Human Adverse Reaction Reporting](#)

The following online information services will be unavailable:

[Product Information Database](#)

The systems should be operational again on Wednesday 31 May. The VMD apologises for any inconvenience.

News story: Bluetongue: UK farmers urged to be vigilant as cattle test positive in northern France

Farmers are being urged to be vigilant for signs of Bluetongue virus (BTV) and consider vaccinating their livestock after BTV-8 was detected in cattle in a previously disease-free area of northern France.

[Bluetongue virus](#) is transmitted by midges and can infect all ruminants, particularly sheep and cattle. It can reduce milk yield, cause sickness, reduce reproductive performance or, in the most severe cases, cause death in adult animals.

It does not affect people, and meat and milk from infected animals are safe to eat and drink.

Vaccination is the best way to protect livestock and a safe and effective vaccine is available in Great Britain. Livestock keepers—particularly those on the Kent and Sussex coastline—should discuss with their vet if vaccination is an option which would benefit their business.

The holding where the virus was detected in northern France is less than 150km from the south coast of England. Farmers across the south of England in particular should look out for clinical signs of disease, including mouth ulcers; drooling; swelling of the mouth, head and neck; fever; lameness and breathing problems. Any suspicion of disease must be reported immediately to the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) on 03000 200 301.

The [latest expert assessment, published today by Defra](#), is that the risk of an outbreak of Bluetongue virus in the UK is currently low, but will change as we move into summer. The risk of incursion via infected midges later in the summer depends on the level of disease on the continent, proximity to the UK, the vaccination status of animals in the UK and weather conditions.

UK Chief Veterinary Officer Nigel Gibbens said:

Bluetongue does not pose a threat to human health or food safety, but can have a negative impact on farm incomes, for example by

causing reduced milk yield in cows and infertility in sheep.

We have robust disease surveillance procedures and continue to carefully monitor the situation in France, where Bluetongue disease control measures are in place.

Our latest assessment shows the risk of outbreak in the UK is currently low, but the detection of the virus in northern France is a timely reminder for farmers to remain vigilant for disease and report any suspicions to the Animal and Plant Health Agency. I would also encourage farmers to talk to their vet to consider if vaccination would benefit their business.

More information about Bluetongue—including veterinary advice and information on the vaccine—is available from the [Joint campaign Against Bluetongue \(JAB\)](#).

Regular risk assessments will be published on GOV.UK and all disease control measures are kept under review based on the latest scientific evidence and veterinary advice.

Read the [latest situation assessment of Bluetongue virus \(BTV-8\) in France](#).