

## Veterinary Attestations - what pig keepers need to know

From 13th December 2023, all animals sent for slaughter that may end up in product exported to the EU must come from a farm that has regular vet visits. If you are an assured producer of pigs (either QMS or Red Tractor), participation in these schemes will cover you for this requirement - your assurance number will be communicated to your abattoir or market on your eAML2 licence, and they will see this as proof of having regular visits.

If you send any of your pigs to slaughter (or via market to slaughter) that are not covered by Red Tractor assurance and product may end up exported to the EU, the movement licence will need to be accompanied by a Veterinary Attestation number (VAN). The VAN will be issued by your private vet as the result of a farm visit. The visit need not be solely for the purposes of obtaining a VAN and can be for any species on farm. If you have recently had a farm visit, your vet may be able to issue you with a VAN retrospectively.

eAML2 and Pig Hub have been updated to fulfil this requirement. For Farm to Market and Farm to Slaughter licences, there is a box for you to record the VAN for the departure site. If you enter the VAN against your site on Pig Hub rather than eAML2, the VAN will automatically pull through on future licences. If you are not sure if you need a VAN, speak to your abattoir or Market before you plan to send your pigs as you may need to arrange a vet visit. The VAN rules apply to other species too, but a single VAN applies to all species on a holding.

The letter issued by Defra outlining the detail can be read here: [link](#)

Defra have also issued some Q&As in relation to attestations that can be read: [here](#)

The British Pig Association have also published an update to inform non-assured producers [here](#).