

Cattle Passport Changes

On 1 August 2011 the cattle passport will change to a single page, double sided, sheet of paper. The new passport will contain all the same information as the cheque book style passport and there are no changes to the rules. The change is being introduced as the electronic services for cattle reporting – CTS Online, the self service phone system and web services - prove increasingly popular. With more than 80 percent of transactions now being reported electronically.

This move means that we will no longer be supplying movement cards, and keepers that currently report movements using paper will need to find alternative methods.

A number of alternatives for reporting movements are available, including the CTS Online website and the self service telephone line which is helpful for those without broadband internet access. Farm software packages can also report movements for farmers as they update their records. RPA is also working with livestock markets and abattoirs to encourage them to offer a reporting service for their clients.

The cheque book style and old blue/green passports are still valid and can still be used in the normal ways. There is no need to return old passports to be issued with the new ones. Passports that are returned for re-issue because the movement history is full or for amendment will be re-issued as a new style passport.