

**From the Chief Pharmaceutical Officer  
Mrs Cathy Harrison**



Department of  
**Health**

An Roinn Sláinte

Máinnystrie O Poustie

[www.health-ni.gov.uk](http://www.health-ni.gov.uk)

**BY EMAIL TO**

Assistant Director of Integrated Care, Head of Pharmacy and Medicines Management, HSCB (for onward distribution to Community Pharmacies).

Head of General Medical Services, HSCB (for onward distribution to GP Practices)

Assistant Director of Integrated Care, Head of Ophthalmic Services (for onward distribution to Optometrists)

Interim Head of Dental Services (for onward distribution to Dental Practices)

From: Chief Pharmaceutical Officer  
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Date: 16 December 2020

Dear Colleague,

**RE: PREPARATION FOR THE END OF EU EXIT TRANSITION PERIOD**

From January 2021 import declarations will be required for goods moving from Great Britain (GB) to Northern Ireland (NI). These will include medicines and medical supplies.

The United Kingdom Government has set up a new Trader Support Service (TSS) to assist with the trade of goods between GB and NI. Businesses and service providers who purchase goods from GB are recommended to sign up to this free service. The TSS is providing training and support, and will be raising declarations on behalf of traders. Please follow the link below to register with TSS:

<https://www.tradersupportservice.co.uk/tss>

An XI EORI may be required in some instances to purchase goods from GB suppliers from 1 January 2021. More information on EORI numbers can be found on the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/eori>

Additional information can be found on the NI Customs and Trade Academy website. You may wish to consider attending their training on Great Britain to Northern Ireland Trade on Monday 7 December 2020 1:00 -3:00pm or 14 December 2020 1:00 - 3:00pm. If you are interested in attending this course, please follow the link below:

<https://www.nicustomstradeacademy.co.uk/training/great-britain-to-northern-ireland-trade/>

Please note the Department of Health and a number of bodies (Annex A) are registered under one account with the Department of Finance and therefore are not required to register with TSS. Further guidance and instruction will be issued on the use of EORI number for these organisations.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cathy Harrison". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mrs Cathy Harrison  
Chief Pharmaceutical Officer

## **ANNEX A**

### **LIST OF HEALTHCARE BODIES UNDER THE COMMON VAT REGISTRATION**

Department of Health  
Health and Social Care Board  
Public Health Agency  
Belfast Health and Social Care Trust  
Northern Health and Social Care Trust  
Southern Health and Social Care Trust  
South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust  
Western Health and Social Care Trust  
NI Ambulance Service Health and Social Care Trust  
Business Services Organisation  
Patient and Client Council  
NI Blood Transfusion Service  
NI Guardian ad Litem Agency