

## 1. GUIDANCE

The Isles of Scilly Steamship Group is committed to ensuring the safe, humane, and legally compliant transport of livestock by sea – they are Type 2 Transporter Authorised by APHA.

This policy does not apply to domestic animals booked with passengers onboard a vessel.

## 2. WAVE HEIGHT AND VESSEL SUITABILITY

For the welfare and safety of transported animals there are limits on the weather conditions that are deemed suitable for livestock transportation. If weather is a concern for your booking, you will be informed 24 hours before the sailing.

## 3. WEIGHT LIMITS AND ISLAND RESTRICTIONS

To preserve vessel safety and cargo handling capabilities, the following limits apply:

### **For shipments to St Mary's:**

- The total combined weight of livestock and trailer must not exceed 4 tonnes.

### **For shipments to off-islands (St Agnes, Bryher, Treco, St Martin's):**

- The combined weight must not exceed 2.2 tonnes.
- Where this weight is exceeded, delivery must be arranged via the landing craft Gugh, (subject to availability).

Customers must declare weights accurately when booking and may be refused shipment if loads exceed these limits or are not pre-approved.

## 4. ANIMAL SUITABILITY FOR TRANSPORT

Assimilated Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005, Annex I, Chapter I, states no animal shall be transported unless it is fit for the intended journey, and all animals shall be transported in conditions guaranteed not to cause them injury or unnecessary suffering.

Animals that are injured or that present physiological weaknesses shall not be considered fit for transport. Cattle that are fitted with shackles to assist with movement are presenting with a physiological weakness and are not considered fit for transport.

The exception to this is an animal that requires to travel under veterinary advice – if this is the case, the veterinarian shall provide a letter giving the reasons for travel and any care required.

If deemed necessary, Isles of Scilly Steamship Group retains the right to request that a veterinarian or owner travel with the animal, at the owner's expense.

Further guidance on best practice for livestock transportation can be found here - [https://food.ec.europa.eu/animals/animal-welfare/eu-animal-welfare-legislation/animal-welfare-during-transport/animal-transport-guides\\_en](https://food.ec.europa.eu/animals/animal-welfare/eu-animal-welfare-legislation/animal-welfare-during-transport/animal-transport-guides_en)

## 5. CUSTOMER BOOKING REQUIREMENTS

### To facilitate safe planning:

- All livestock shipments must be booked at least 24 hours in advance by contacting the Freight Department. Customers must confirm the total weight of the livestock and trailer at the time of booking.
- Failure to provide accurate information may result in refusal of carriage.

### Additionally:

- All trailers must be in good working order with a fully working Jockey wheel and handbrake and deemed fit for transportation by sea.
- Trailer waste tanks must be emptied prior to shipping to minimise risk of leakage of animal waste on ship. All trailer exteriors must be clean of any animal waste
- Any trailer found to be leaking waste will be refused shipment.
- All trailer interiors to be reasonably clean and free from excessive liquid which may leak when lifted.

## 6. HOT WEATHER TRANSPORT PROTOCOL (APHA GUIDANCE)

In accordance with APHA's September 2023 guidance:

- Animals must not be transported if the temperature exceeds 30°C, or if the 'feels like' temperature indicates severe heat stress risk.

## 7. COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

Any failure to comply with animal welfare legislation may result in:

- Refusal to ship livestock for future bookings.
- Regulatory investigation and reporting to APHA and Local Authority.

## 8. DOCUMENTATION

- Animal Transport Certificates copies must be provided with the animals and travel with the animals
- Journey logs shall be provided for animals and travel with animals.