

Commercial vs Non-Commercial Pet Travel

There are different requirements for the commercial and non-commercial movement of pet dogs, cats and ferrets.

A **non-commercial movement** is defined as ‘any movement which does not have as its aim either the sale or the transfer of ownership of a pet animal’. For example, an owner travelling on the ferry to Guernsey with their pet dog is classed as a non-commercial movement.

Movements of dogs, cats, and ferrets, which do not fall within the definition of ‘non-commercial movement’ are classed as **commercial imports**. This includes all rescue charities that import dogs for rehoming in the Bailiwick. Such movements are highly regulated because this is classified as trade.

Non-Commercial EU Pet Movements

The Pet Travel Scheme (PETS) defines a ‘pet animal’ as a dog, cat or ferret, accompanied by their owner or a natural person responsible for the animal during their movement, not intended to be sold or transferred to another owner. These movements can occur using **approved carriers and approved routes** and entries into importing countries have to pass through ‘travellers points of entry’ (TPE).

A maximum of **five pets** at a time can accompany an owner under PETS rules. An authorised person can accompany the pets but the owner has to be reunited with their pets within 5 days of both the owner and pet travelling.

An [animal import notification](#) must be made for all animal movements from the EU to the Bailiwick.

Commercial Pet Movements

As well as meeting the PETS requirements there are additional requirements for commercial movements.

- Commercial pet movements from the EU must comply with and be accompanied by an ‘export health certificate’ (EHC). This will include:
 - departure from a holding registered with the EU Member State of origin;
 - a clinical examination within 48 hours of dispatch from the holding which is carried out by a vet authorised by the competent authority who certifies that the animals are free of contagious disease and are fit and healthy to travel;
 - import into a destination address (not necessarily registered).
- The authorities in Guernsey need to be forewarned of the import. The notification must be made through prior completion of an [import permit application](#) for EU commercial pet movements and an [animal import notification](#) for **commercial pet movements from the UK**.
- When you transport animals commercially by sea, air or road in the British Islands you must have a British Islands transport authorisation. Persons commercially transporting animals must comply with animal welfare during transport regulations in all countries that movement occurs through.



- When you transport animals commercially by sea, air or road in the EU, you must have an EU transport authorisation. For this reason UK and CI transporters travelling to the EU must apply for EU transporter authorisation that will then be accepted in all EU countries. Travel authorisations are required for:
 - the persons undertaking the journey
 - the vehicle/ aircraft / vessel
 - the journey plan and contingencies

- Commercial animal imports to the EU cannot ordinarily be processed at a TPE so when entering an EU country it must be via a Border Control Post. When entering the Bailiwick from the EU, you must enter via an approved route and on an approved carrier, e.g. on Condor from St Malo.