

Important update on moving goods out of Great Britain through GVMS border locations

If you move goods out of Great Britain through border locations that use the Goods Vehicle Movement Service (GVMS), you will be aware that some of these locations require an 'arrived' export declaration to be submitted so the goods can receive customs clearance (Permission to Progress) and continue to their destination.

It is a legal requirement to notify HMRC within 15 days of the departure of goods for export directly from the UK. If no further notification is sent within 15 days of lodging the declaration, the Customs Handling of Import and Export Freight (CHIEF) system will automatically assume the goods have departed and generate a system-assigned departure code (ICS 61).

However, for some locations, this period was reduced to **5 days** in January 2021. We notified users about this at the time and updated guidance is also [available on gov.uk](#).

HMRC is aware that this reduced 5-day period is causing problems for some customers where the 'arrived' export declaration has been created more than 5 days before the crossing.

We have updated CHIEF to change the assumed departure period back to 15 days which took effect from 00:01 on 21 January 2022.

Where GVMS is being used, the embarkation notification sent to GVMS by the carrier will update the export Declaration Unique Consignment Reference (DUCR) departure state in CHIEF to ICS 60.

If a Transit Movement Reference Number (MRN) is used in the Goods Movement Reference (GMR) instead of the export DUCR, and if no further action is taken with the DUCR, CHIEF will automatically default to assumed departure after 15 days.

We would like to remind you that even though the draft GMR can be created up to 28 days in advance of the crossing, you should not create any CHIEF declarations prior to 15 days of the actual departure date. For arrived declarations, customs clearance is given in real time upon submission of the declaration.

If you create export declarations more than 15 days before departure:

- You will receive an error in the GMR and be unable to finalise it.
- Your driver will be unable to check-in and board the ferry or shuttle.
- Your goods may be delayed while new export declarations are created and entered into a valid GMR.

If you need further help or information about these requirements, you can:

- call our Customs and International Trade (CIT) helpline, which is available 7 days a week. Our customer service advisors are available to help you from 8am to 10pm Monday to Friday, and 8am to 4pm at weekends. You can contact them on **0300 322 9434**. You can also [send us your questions or contact us by webchat](#).

- speak to an adviser using the [live chat function on the UK Government's haulier website](#). The live chat service is available in five languages: English, Romanian, Polish, Bulgarian and Hungarian.
- read the UK Government's [Haulier Handbook](#) (available in multiple languages) that provides the latest guidance about all the steps you need to follow to move goods between Great Britain and the EU.

Thank you.