Goods Movement References needed for empty movements

From 1 February all movements through locations using the Goods Vehicle Movement Service (GVMS), including empty trailers, will need to have a Goods Movement Reference (GMR) to cross the UK border.

Hauliers at GVMS locations are required to have a valid GMR for empty movements, however, in response to feedback from carriers and to manage traffic flows in the early days of full customs controls from 1 January 2022, HMRC provided carriers with the temporary optional ability to allow empty units not under transport contract to be embarked without a GMR for the month of January.

Use of this temporary optional easement has been dropping off as hauliers adjust to new requirements. As a result, the easement will end as planned on 1 February and GMRs will be needed for all movements through GVMS locations. Any non-compliant vehicles will be unable to embark from their port of departure.

HMRC will continue to work closely with carriers and our other partners to monitor the situation on the ground closely and to provide further support as and where necessary.

To find out more about how to get a GMR go to GOV.UK