

## **EXECUTIVE NOTE**

### **THE HORSE PASSPORT (SCOTLAND) AMENDMENT REGULATIONS 2007 SSI/2007/217**

The above instrument was made in exercise of powers conferred by section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972. The instrument is subject to negative resolution procedure.

#### **Policy Objectives**

The Horse Passports (Scotland) Regulations 2005 implemented Commission Decision 2000/68 amending Commission Decision 93/623 which introduced the horse passport scheme for any horses registered with recognised breed societies or with organisations that manage horses for competition purposes. Commission Decision 2000/68 extended this requirement for passports to all equidae. The objective of the legislation is to prevent horses which have been administered with medicines that have not been authorised for use in food producing animals, being slaughtered for human consumption.

Amending legislation is required to cater for passport-issuing organisations that voluntarily cease to operate. The Horse Passports (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2007 will permit members of discontinued organisations to either obtain a new horse passport or transfer their existing passport to another passport-issuing organisation. The amending legislation will also allow the Scottish Ministers to exercise specified powers and duties of a passport-issuing organisation during the transition period.

The amending legislation also corrects minor errors in the principal Regulations.

#### **Consultation**

No external consultation was required since the amending legislation is addressing a gap in the principal Regulations.

#### **Financial Effects**

The instrument imposes no financial burdens on Central Government or passport-issuing organisations. Affected horse owners will have no additional burdens placed upon them by these Regulations. No Regulatory Impact Assessment has been prepared.

**Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department**

6 March 2007