

## EXECUTIVE NOTE

### THE FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE (SCOTLAND) AMENDMENT (NO.2) ORDER 2007 SSI/2007/455

#### Introduction

The above Order is a statutory instrument made by Scottish Ministers under the Animal Health Act 1981. It is not subject to any Parliamentary procedure.

#### Background

The Foot-And-Mouth Disease (Scotland) Order 2006 came into force on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2006, and together with the companion instrument, the Foot-And-Mouth Disease (Slaughter and Vaccination) Regulations 2006, transposes the EU Foot-And-Mouth Disease Directive (2003/85/EC).

In the recent outbreak in Surrey, the Order has been used to declare a Restricted Zone in Scotland, and to apply movement controls to reduce the risk of disease transmission into Scotland while allowing the livestock industry and other sectors to operate in safe way.

During this process, the need for two minor but useful amendments became clear.

The European Community has left it to member States to decide whether or not to apply provisions to rodents when transposing the Directive. The decision was made during transposition to apply restrictions to all rodents, other than pet rodents. The main effect of this restriction in the Order is on the use and export of laboratory rodents.

#### Policy Objective

**The Foot-And-Mouth Disease (Scotland) Amendment (No.2) Order 2007 (SSI 2007/t.b.c)** amends The Foot-And-Mouth Disease (Scotland) Order 2006 (SSI 2006/44). It makes two minor changes.

The first technical amendment will alleviate pressure imposed by the restrictions on the livestock and haulage industries by allowing a more flexible cleansing and disinfection of vehicles to take place, subject to veterinary judgement which will be reflected in the terms of licences granted for movement within a restricted zone.

The second amendment removes all remaining types of rodent from the list of foot and mouth disease susceptible animals. This will allow laboratory rodents to move in zones declared under the Order, and in particular will allow laboratory rodents to move through the restricted zone without a licence. This will benefit the breeding sector and the scientific community.

#### Consultation

There has been no formal period of public consultation .

#### Impact

A Regulatory Impact Assessment has not been prepared for this Instrument.

**SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE ENVIRONMENT AND RURAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT**  
**8<sup>th</sup> October 2007**