



Control Point (CP) Designation

Joe Robbins, APHA BCP Designation and Audit team



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Introduction

- Introduction to CPs
- CP requirements
- Additional information
- How to apply and designation process
- Questions



Acronyms and glossary

A

AA – Appropriate Authority

A public body with legal power to approve designation of Border Control Posts. In England this is Defra, in Scotland this is the Scottish Government, and in Wales this is the Welsh Government.

A

APHA – Animal & Plant Health Agency

The **Competent Authority** for audit and assurance of functions at BCPs handling plants and plant products, products of animal origin and live animals in England and Wales, and for BCPs handling products of animal origin and live animals in Scotland. APHA Inspectors advise successful EoI applicants on the infrastructure and operational requirements for the BCP to be formally designated. APHA also provides expertise to conduct checks at BCPs.

A

Applicant

The company or body seeking to create a BCP or expand existing BCP facilities. These may include Port Operators or Commercial Cargo Handling companies.

B

BCP – Border Control Post

The designated inspection facilities at a border 'Point of Entry' (port, airport, rail terminal), where biosecurity checks are carried out on SPS goods imported to Great Britain from any other country in the world, including the EU. BCPs and their functions are set out in UK legislation (the Official Controls Regulation or **OCR**).

BCPs must be located at the import **Point of Entry**, or the nearest suitable location to it.

BCPs are only responsible for SPS import checks, though Border Force and HMRC facilities can be located at BCP sites and carry out customs and related control measures there.

B

Biosecurity

Controls and processes to protect the people, animals, plants and environment of a country or region from disease and contamination, including from living organisms, pests, bacteria and viruses, chemical contaminants and toxins.

C

CA – Competent Authority

A public body legally delegated to carry out **OCR** functions and duties on behalf of the relevant Appropriate Authority. For BCPs, these bodies include **APHA, SASA, FSA, FSS, FC** and relevant **Local Authorities**.



What is a CP

- Inland inspection points which operate under customs controls
- Part of the UK's border infrastructure together with BCPs
- Must provide the same biosecurity safeguards as a BCP



Who can apply?

- Any business, but there are eligibility criteria which must be met
- CPs must meet the same minimum requirements as BCPs



CP requirements

- CP requirements are defined in legislation.
- Your application will be assessed on a range of factors including the likely number of checks which are to be performed at the prospective facilities and of which commodities
- It is not possible to set precise thresholds given the range of different factors which will be taken into consideration



CP minimum requirements

Sufficient staff
numbers

Appropriate
premises and
facilities

Cleansing and
disinfecting
equipment

Equipment to
enable the
performance of
checks

Arrangements to
prevent cross-
contamination

Equipment for
weighing
consignments



CP minimum requirements

Area for unloading
with appropriate
cover

Inspection
rooms/areas

Walls, floors and ceilings that
are easy to clean and
disinfect, adequate drainage
and adequate natural or
artificial light for unloading
areas and inspection
rooms/areas.

Storage
rooms/areas

Washing facilities



CP operational requirements

Facility must comply with a range of conditions

Needs to be bio-secure including quarantine areas

Temperature controlled zones (as appropriate), secure detention areas and strict cleaning

Operating procedures, detailing:

- Presenting consignments for inspection
- Cleaning
- Maintenance
- Contingency plans
- Consignment handling / dealing with statutory actions



Customs requirements

- CPs need to comply with customs requirements – temporary storage approval
- CPs are inland inspection sites that are customs authorized
- Consignments must enter an approved port of entry
- Transport to the CP will be under customs control



Inspections at CP's



- Plant health inspection staff will inspect goods at CPs



- If your goods are selected for inspection they need to be moved to the inspection area



- Goods are under customs control until they pass all plant health controls



Who undertakes checks at CPs?

For checks, plant health controls undertaken by APHA in England and Wales

SASA will undertake controls in Scotland

Forestry Commission is responsible for controls of wood, wood products and isolated bark in England



Additional information





Operating costs

Seasonality

Letting others use
your CP



Comparing BCP's and CP's

 BCPs 	 CPs 
Located at the point of entry	Located away from the point of entry
80 Plant/Plant Product designated facilities	34 of these locations are for CPs
Facilitated checks on all goods , not just Plant Health regulated commodities	Checks only on Plant Health regulated commodities
APHA operational cover for BCP's is being reviewed and will be communicated shortly	APHA operational cover for Control Points may not align with business operating hours
Customs authorised premises	Customs authorised premises



Application process

For Control Point applications:

- In England and Wales: email DEFRA-OCR@defra.gov.uk
- In Scotland: email BCPScotland@gov.scot
- No deadline and applications are currently open on a rolling basis - designation can take several months



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What happens after I apply?

- If accepted, an inspector is allocated
- Operator/applicant then submits building plans and supporting documents to the Competent Authorities for consideration
- Construction can start once a favourable outcome is given
- Site visits are undertaken throughout the build, appropriate to the level of infrastructure changes being made
- A final site visit will be conducted to verify compliance
- Once an operator proves they are compliant, APHA will recommend the CP is designated to Defra OCR
- All designated CPs will be listed on gov.uk and the relevant IT systems (PEACH/IPAFFS)
- Annual audits to verify compliance

Further information

- Guidance can be found on the Plant Health Portal [CP Guidance - UK Plant Health Information Portal \(defra.gov.uk\)](https://www.defra.gov.uk/plant-health/CP-Guidance-UK-Plant-Health-Information-Portal)
- Details of designated CP's can be found on gov.uk [Plant imports: authorised border control posts in the UK - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/plant-imports-authorized-border-control-posts-in-the-uk)

