



T: 0131 244 8890 F: 0131 244 8940  
E: info@sasa.gov.scot

To: Licensed Seed Companies in Scotland (by email only)

Our ref: 01/25

cc: AIC Scotland, BSPB, NFU Scotland, SSTA, APHA Defra, Welsh Government and DAERA

May 2025

## Closure of Movement Assistance Scheme

The Movement Assistance Scheme (MAS) was introduced in 2021 to assist traders moving agrifood goods from Great Britain to Northern Ireland, by ensuring that they did not pay for inspections, certificates or other costs incurred due to the introduction of the Northern Ireland Protocol and subsequently the Windsor Framework.

The UK Government have confirmed that after previous extensions MAS will finally close on 30 June 2025. This means that costs incurred on movements of goods to Northern Ireland will not be reimbursed or waived if movement takes place after 30 June 2025. One exception will be certain fees, including cost of production of a phytosanitary certificate, as set out in [The Plant Health \(Export Certification\) \(Scotland\) Order 2018](#) (Article 4A). These fees will continue to be waived in advance of new legislation being brought in later this year.

For movement of seed to Northern Ireland under OECD seed scheme rules and regulations, charges currently being covered by MAS including cost of labels, sampling, seed testing and certificates will be borne by the exporter from 1 July 2025.

Previous Seed Certification Letters provide more information on MAS, and the use of the Northern Ireland Plant Health Label scheme (under which seed marketing requirements must still be met).

<https://www.sasa.gov.uk/document-library/seed-certification-letter-166>

<https://www.sasa.gov.uk/document-library/seed-certification-letter-174>

<https://www.sasa.gov.uk/document-library/seed-certification-letter-176>



If you wish further information please contact SASA at [seeds@sasa.gov.scot](mailto:seeds@sasa.gov.scot)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Parker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**MICHAEL PARKER**  
***Head of Seed Certification***

T: 0131-244 8853

E: [mike.parker@sasa.gov.scot](mailto:mike.parker@sasa.gov.scot)