

## Questions and Answers from the SQS Webinar December 2021

1. Timeline is the biggest issue with this. Is there any possibility of an extension?

*Unfortunately not as the current solution was agreed with the EU following negotiations.*

2. So if NI won't recognise the SQS then this doesn't solve the Blackie export issues? Or have I missed something?

*I think that does solve the problem. It's there to facilitate or enable the movement of the sheep GB to NI, but they won't be scrapie monitored status when they arrive.*

3. Can I just confirm if SQS sheep exported to NI are eligible to go into a SMS flock?

*No they cannot join an SMS flock. SQS sheep cannot move either in Scotland or in NI to an SMS flock.*

4. With regards to the deadline, if someone puts their application in on the 31st will it be accepted, as the offices may be closed?

*Our office is open on the 31<sup>st</sup>, anything received by SRUC on the 31<sup>st</sup> will be eligible for entry.*

5. Have many applied to the qualifying scheme to date?

*40 applications to date (13/12/2021)*

6. Can I ask where we are with allowing Auction Marts to hold a sale to include SQS and SMS sheep along with non scheme sheep?

*We are currently talking to the market and the market operators' auctioneers both for cattle and for sheep. There is a bit of work yet to do but it's moving the right way. It will ultimately be an operator decision. In theory it can be done but in practice up to the operators and auctioneers decide and deliver.*

7. Regarding the test for scrapie. Can the fallen stock companies submit that for you?

*Yes, you need to be a member of national fallen stock company. On the website there is a list of their contractors that are licensed to do the sampling and submit the samples for testing for the scrapie monitoring scheme. There is quite a large number that can do that. There is a form on the National Fallen Stock Company website where you can download the form and send with the carcass and they can do the sampling and send to lab for testing. Link is here: [Scrapie Monitoring Scheme Members - TSE sampling & testing for Sheep & Goats over 18 months of age - National Fallen Stock Company \(nfsco.co.uk\)](#)*