



European Commission

PROTOCOL ON IRELAND/NORTHERN IRELAND CUSTOMS

21 February 2022

What would the European Commission do to facilitate trade from Great Britain to Northern Ireland?



Trusted Traders



Super-reduced dataset



Express lane

To further facilitate trade from Great Britain to Northern Ireland, the European Commission has suggested:

- To widen the scope of beneficiaries who are exempt from customs duties when moving goods to Northern Ireland that are 'not at risk' of entering the EU market;
- To implement unique, far-reaching facilitation measures when it comes to customs formalities and processes.

These solutions must be accompanied by adequate assurances and preconditions to protect the integrity of the EU's Single Market and Customs Union as detailed in the Commission's non-paper of 13 October 2021¹.



'UK Trader Scheme' for Trusted Traders

More businesses to benefit from simplified processes

Expanding the benefits of the UK Trader Scheme:

- To businesses established in Great Britain and not only Northern Irish businesses;
- To more manufacturing sectors in Northern Ireland, in particular covering SME's, including when the goods are returned to Great Britain after processing.



Data requirements

'Super-Reduced Dataset'

For Trusted Traders moving 'goods not at risk':

- Substantial reduction of customs requirements based on a super-reduced data set:
 - Reducing the requirement for customs data from 80 to 30 key data elements;
 - Simplifying the commodity code – from 10 to 8 digits – to be provided to describe the goods, meaning the right code is easier to determine.



Customs forms

Simplified in number and time

For Trusted Traders moving 'goods not at risk':

- A single simplified form per load. No more supplementary declarations needed; OR
- A single simplified monthly form with transaction-based customs information registered in the trusted traders' internal records.

1 Protocol on Ireland and Northern Ireland - Non-Paper - Customs https://ec.europa.eu/info/files/protocol-ireland-and-northern-ireland-non-paper-customs_en