



Sending parcels to Northern  
Ireland from Great Britain

**Summary of the new arrangements**



As part of the Windsor Framework, the new arrangements for sending parcels from Great Britain (GB) to Northern Ireland (NI) will affect how both consumer and business shipments are handled, and we want to ensure you are fully prepared.

Here's a summary everything you need to know:

### Why are there new arrangements?

The changes reflect one of the outcomes of the Windsor Framework agreed between the UK and EU in February 2023 and are aimed at streamlining parcel movements between GB and NI. Depending on whether you send to businesses or consumers, you will have a different set of requirements.

## Sending parcels to consumers

If you sell or send parcels to a private individual residing in NI, goods which are for personal use will now move through an authorised carrier scheme. The good news is that DPD is already successfully authorised for this and you do not need to register additionally to continue to ship parcels to consumers after the commencement of the scheme.

### What do I have to do?

In order to compliantly carry parcels through the authorised carrier scheme, DPD will need to collect from you some additional information when you ship the parcels. Along with the usual sender and receiver address information, you will also need to tell us the following in the shipping manifest when you create the parcel label:

- That the parcel is going for delivery to a consumer (there will be a new flag in the shipping platform you can select to show this)
- A plain English description of all of the goods contained within the parcel
- The weight of the parcel
- The value of the parcel

Please also be advised that a parcel containing more than one item must not weigh more than 31.5kg.

### Do I need to do anything else?

If your business exclusively sends parcels to consumers, you do not have to register for the UK Internal Market Scheme (UKIMS). By using an authorised carrier like DPD and providing the required commercial data outlined above, you will be all set and can carry on sending parcels as you do today.

## Sending parcels to businesses

For parcels being sent to businesses, procedures will now align with existing procedures which apply to freight, and you'll need to submit declarations for these items. DPD will take care of making these declarations for you, but will require information from you in the shipping manifest in order to do so.

### What is a declaration?

A declaration is a statement clarifying whether goods are considered 'at risk' or 'not at risk' of onward movement to the European Union (EU). This helps determine applicable duties and non-monetary measures.

### How do I know if my goods are 'at risk' or 'not at risk'?

'At risk' applies to goods that meet the following criteria:

- Enter NI but may later be sold or consumed within the EU (e.g. in the Republic of Ireland)
- Are moved to NI for commercial processing (unless they can be classified in one of the approved purposes)
- Are not under UKIMS authorisation (see section below)

'Not at risk' applies to goods that meet the following criteria:

- Are not subject to EU trade remedies
- Can be classified in one of the approved purposes of commercial processing
- Are covered under UKIMS authorisation (see section below)
- Will be for sale to or final use by end consumers located in the UK, which includes NI

More information regarding this can be found [here](#).

### What is UKIMS authorisation?

In order to correctly declare your goods as 'not at risk', UK Internal Market Scheme (UKIMS) authorisation is required.

If you do not hold a UKIMS authorisation, it may be that your receiving customer does. We recommend contacting your customers in NI to check this before sending the goods to them. If they do hold an authorisation that is relevant to these goods, then you may consider asking permission to use their details in the shipping manifest and thus benefiting from access to the 'green lane'.

For you to obtain UKIMS authorisation, you must apply via the Government Gateway. You can apply online [here](#).

## What does the UKIMS application involve?

The application form will ask whether you are applying as a business with a fixed establishment in NI. To qualify, you will need to meet all of the compliance, records, systems, controls and evidence requirements. More details can be found on the application page [here](#). Additionally, the Northern Ireland Trade Academy offers useful guidance and webinars on the application process, which you can find [here](#).

## The application asks for details of my indirect customs representative. Who is this?

If you are applying as a business located in GB but without a fixed establishment in NI, you can still apply as a business based in another part of the UK. However, to meet the scheme's requirements for an established presence, you'll need to appoint an indirect customs representative located in NI.

DPD can and will act as your indirect representative when sending parcels through our services and can supply you with the necessary information to successfully complete this section. Please contact your account manager, who will be happy to share the details. Alternatively, please email [niqueries@dpd.co.uk](mailto:niqueries@dpd.co.uk).

## What are the benefits of having UKIMS authorisation?

Obtaining UKIMS authorisation will give you the following benefits:

- UKIMS authorised businesses can declare goods 'not at risk' of onward movement to the EU when importing them into NI for sale to or final use by end consumers in NI.
- 'Not at risk' goods entering NI from GB will not be charged duty.
- UKIMS authorisation grants access to the Windsor Framework green lane, streamlining the movement of goods from GB into NI. Goods passing through the green lane will undergo simplified procedures and require only a simplified dataset based on commercial information.

## I already have UKIMS authorisation. How do I use it when shipping parcels?

Once you have received your authorisation number you will need to supply this in the shipping manifest along with your EORI number each time you ship your 'not at risk' goods. DPD's shipping platforms will be updated with new data fields to allow you to enter this information.

## My customer in NI has UKIMS authorisation. Can I use this?

Either the sender or the receiver can hold UKIMS authorisation and make a 'not at risk' declaration with the parcels you send. You may therefore supply the receiver's authorisation details in the shipping manifest if that is your agreement with your customer.

## Do I need to provide my customer's EORI number?

If using your UKIMS authorisation, you only need to supply your EORI number in the manifest. If using the receiver's UKIMS authorisation, you will need to provide both the receiver's and your (exporter's) EORI.

## What information do I need to provide when shipping 'not at risk' goods?

In addition to the sender and receiver address information, the data you will need to provide in the shipping manifest is as follows:

- Tell us you are shipping to a business
- Declare the goods 'not at risk' by ticking the appropriate box in MyDPD or completing the field (API/EDI)
- Description per item
- No of items
- Value per item
- Weight per item
- Country of origin
- HS code (not mandatory/only if known)
- Exporter or importer UKIMS
- Exporter details (including EORI)
- Importer details (including EORI only if importer UKIMS used)
- The total value of parcel(s)

## Do I need to provide any additional paperwork?

For standard goods, you do not need to supply anything in addition to the above data. If your goods are subject to document controls or require licences, please contact [niqueries@dpd.co.uk](mailto:niqueries@dpd.co.uk) where one of our expert advisors will be happy to talk you through any additional steps or requirements.

## What information do I need to provide when shipping 'at risk' goods?

For goods shipped without a UKIMS authorisation, you will be required to follow the same procedures as if you were exporting to an EU destination and requiring a full customs declaration. Duty may also be applicable on these goods if they are not subject to zero tariffs, waivers or any other preferential tariff treatment. From time to time, such goods may also be subject to inspections by the authorities.

## What does shipping 'at risk' goods involve?

DPD is well placed to help you move 'at risk' goods to NI, with a fully integrated system and in-house customs service.

When shipping goods without a UKIMS authorisation, you will need to supply the following information in the shipping manifest:

- Tell us you are shipping to a business
- Declare the goods 'at risk' by ticking the appropriate box in MyDPD or completing the field (API/EDI)
- Description per item
- No of items
- Value per item
- Weight per item
- Country of origin
- HS code
- Exporter details (including EORI if known)
- Importer details (including EORI if known)
- The total value of parcel(s)

DPD will make this declaration for you using the information you provide electronically; for standard goods, you do not need to supply any additional information or documents. If your goods are subject to document controls or require licences, please contact [niqueries@dpd.co.uk](mailto:niqueries@dpd.co.uk) where one of our expert advisors will be happy to talk you through any additional steps or requirements.

## How will duty be charged (where applicable)?

In the event that a duty charge has been calculated according to the data you have submitted, DPD offers a number of flexible ways for payment to be made. These include using your duty deferment account if you have one. If you believe your goods may be subject to duty, please contact your account manager or [niqueries@dpd.co.uk](mailto:niqueries@dpd.co.uk) where we will be happy to discuss the options available.

## Useful links and government guidance

**[Check if you can bring your goods into Northern Ireland from Great Britain without paying duty](#)**

**[NI Online Tariff](#)**

**[Apply for UKIMS online](#)**

**[Moving parcels from GB to NI under the Windsor Framework](#)**

**[Declaring goods you bring into NI 'not at risk' of moving to the EU](#)**