

Illegal Immigrant Instructions

ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS TO UK

The Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 in the UK states that anyone found bringing a clandestine entrant into the UK is liable for a penalty of up to £2000 per immigrant. The Prevention of Clandestine Entrants: Code of Practice states that you must perform certain checks.

You therefore need to ensure that you take all precautions and comply with the following minimum requirements, to reduce your liability.

BEFORE & DURING LOADING ON THE CONTINENT

- Ensure the canopy/curtain is not torn. (Rips exceeding 25cm in length must be repaired)
- Be present during loading, whenever possible, to ensure no unauthorised personnel access the trailer.
- Apply padlocks at the point of loading (when travelling from collection to delivery point with the load)
- Immediately after loading secure and seal the trailer and record the seal number on the consignment/CMR paperwork.
- Sealing cords must be undamaged and pass through all fastening points.
- It is suggested you keep a record of all checks undertaken on a Vehicle Security Check Form. Your Traffic Office to retain this document for a minimum of 3 months. (see Appendix 1)

DURING TRANSIT

- Check the vehicle regularly en route and definitely after rest or refuelling stops.
- Keep a record of the checks carried out together with names of any witnesses if possible.
- Plan to avoid rest breaks, or overnight stops within 150km radius of Calais, Dunkerque, Zeebrugge, or Ostend.

If any check suggests the security of the trailer has been compromised contact the local Police, or the Customs Control Authorities at the Port of Embarkation.

PRIOR TO BOARDING FERRY

- Inspect trailer for signs of tampering, damage or other signs of potential illegal entry.

- Check seals, sealing cords are intact and numbers are correct. If for whatever reason the seal has been changed then record the new number on the Security Checklist and state reason for change, e.g. seal broken at Port to check for immigrants.
- Check all other potential hiding places including under the trailer, external storage compartments, tool boxes and wind deflectors.
- Listen for any sounds that may indicate the presence of an unauthorised person.
- Avail yourself of any independent system of checking at the Port of Embarkation, e.g. CO₂ check.
- Record all checks made on a check list. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/vehicle-security-checklist>, or on the template as suggested on this site.
- More information is available from: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/secure-your-vehicle-to-help-stop-illegal-immigration>

DO NOT ALLOW YOUR VEHICLE TO BE LOADED ON TO FERRY/SHUTTLE IF YOU SUSPECT PRESENCE OF ILLEGALS.

COLLECTING UNACCOMPANIED TRAILERS

- Inspect trailer for signs of tampering, damages or other indications of illegal entry.
- Check seals are intact and number corresponds with that recorded on paperwork.
- Check padlocks and seals/sealing cords are unbroken, or for signs of repair.
- If seal number is different to that recorded on your paperwork inform your Traffic Office of the new number and that seal has been changed and await instructions.
- You should carry these instructions on preventing illegal immigration and the Vehicle Security Checklist to present to an Immigration Officer, if requested.

IF YOU SUSPECT PRESENCE OF UNAUTHORISED PASSENGER, DO NOT REMOVE TRAILER, BUT CALL UK BORDER AGENCY AT THE PORT.