

# Notification requirements for working with Microbiological Agents, Blood Tissues / Fluids and Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs)

Notification pathways for working with Microbiological Agents, Blood Tissues / Fluids and Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs)

Work involves Hazard Group 3 agents as defined by [The Approved List of Biological Agents](#) and Specifies Animal Pathogen Order (SAPO) agents

Work involves Hazard Group 2 agents as defined by [The Approved List of Biological Agents](#) and Specifies Animal Pathogen Order (SAPO) agents

Work involves Hazard Group 1 agents as defined by [The Approved List of Biological agents](#) or Human blood and other human tissues / fluids

Work involves Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) as defined by [The Genetically Modified Organisms \(Contained Use\) Regulations 2014](#)

Complete a [COSHH risk assessment](#) and send a copy to the Pathogen Management Genetic Modification Safety Committee (PMGMSC) and Safety Health and Environment (SHE) office for review  
Advice can be obtained from the SHE Office [Biological safety](#)

Complete a [COSHH risk assessment](#) and send a copy to the Pathogen Management Genetic Modification Safety Committee (PMGMSC) and Safety Health and Environment (SHE) office for review and feedback.  
Advice can be obtained from the SHE office [Biological safety](#)

Complete a [COSHH risk assessment](#). The SHE Office can offer advice on [Blood-borne Viruses](#). Send the completed form to the SHE Office before commencing work.  
Advice can be obtained from the SHE Office [Biological safety](#)  
Maintain records of the project for inspection during the annual audit.

Download and complete the appropriate GMO risk assessment forms ([organism / animal](#)) and send the completed forms to the Biological Safety Officer for Genetic Modification (BSO-GM) who will send it the Genetic Modification Safety committee (GMSC) for review and approval of project class.  
Advice can be obtained from the [BSO-GM](#).

Receive comments from the PMGMSC and the SHE Office and modify risk assessment if necessary.

Receive comments from the SHE Office and the PMGMSC and modify the risk assessment accordingly.

After approval of project class by the GMSC:

- Projects approved as Class 1 GM work can start immediately.
- Projects approved as Class 2 GM work need to be notified to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) by the BSO-GM. Work can **only** commence after the HSE has acknowledged notification (usually 14 days).
- Projects approved as Class 3 GM need to be submitted to the HSE by the BSO-GM for approval. Work can **only** commence after the HSE has granted CONSENT (usually 45 days).

Any communication about GM notifications with HSE must be via the [BSO-GM](#).

Maintain records of the project for inspection during the annual audit.

Send the completed project risk assessment to the SHE Office.  
The SHE Office will complete the form [CBA1](#) and submit to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). Information about the submission can be obtained from the SHE Office [Biological safety](#)

Submit the revised project risk assessment to the SHE Office and the PMGMSC for final review. The SHE Office and PMGMSC will receive and note the final agreed version.  
Work involving [Bordetella pertussis](#), [Corynebacterium diphtheriae](#) and [Neisseria meningitidis](#) **must** be approved by the PMGMSC prior to notification by the SHE Office to the HSE using form [CBA1](#).  
Work involving these agents can **only** start after receiving confirmation of notification from the health and Safety Executive (HSE).

Commence work **only** after written notification of project approval by the HSE Biological Agents Unit (BAU). This will take a minimum of 20 days.  
Any communication about pathogen notifications with HSE must be via the SHE Office.  
Maintain records of the project for inspection during the annual audit.

Commence work **only** after submission of the finally agreed risk assessment to the SHE Office and the PMGMSC.  
Any communication about pathogen notifications with HSE must be via the SHE Office.  
Maintain records of the project for inspection during the annual audit.