

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Scottish Government

Welsh Government

Avian Influenza Prevention Zone biosecurity self-assessment checklist

In response to the increased risk level, and to mitigate the risk of infection to poultry and other captive birds by wild birds, an Avian Influenza Prevention Zone (AIPZ) has been established in Great Britain.

It is advised that this biosecurity self-assessment form is completed by all keepers of poultry and other captive birds to provide assurance that they are compliant with the required measures that apply within the zone. The required risk mitigation measures should be considered as the minimum necessary. All keepers are encouraged to exceed this where possible.

All keepers of poultry and other captive birds (including game birds and pet birds) are encouraged to complete **Part 1** of the form below.

It is recommended that keepers of 500 and more poultry and other captive birds complete **Part 2** in addition to Part 1.

Those keepers who, following the assessment, have bird species that cannot be permanently housed for welfare reasons, and intend to allow their birds to remain outside with additional risk mitigation measures should consider also completing **Part 3**.

It is encouraged that this assessment form is completed with the support of the keeper's private veterinary surgeon.

The completed form should be retained and provided for inspection if requested by representatives from APHA or Local Authorities.

Details

Farm/premises name:	
Address:	

Contact Tel / Mobile No.:	
CPH ref. (if applicable)	

Completed by:

Name: _____ Date: _____

Please print in block capitals

Signed: _____

Veterinary surgeon *:

Name: _____ MRCVS No: _____

Please print in block capitals

Signed: _____

* optional

Following assessment we have decided that the poultry or other captive birds in our care will be: (Please indicate by placing a tick in the relevant boxes)

Housed only	
Allowed controlled access to outside areas	

Part 1: To be completed by ALL keepers of poultry and other captive birds

<p>1. Are you registered on the Poultry Register of Great Britain? (if you keep more than 50 birds it is mandatory, but it is recommended that all birds keepers register)</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/poultry-including-game-birds-registration-rules-and-forms</p>
<p>2. What arrangements are in place to ensure that wild birds cannot access stored bedding, feed and water intended for your birds?</p>
<p>3. What steps have you taken or are in place to reduce movements of people, vehicles or equipment into or out of the areas where birds are kept? (Inspection visits and official visits who are authorised by law to be on premises should carry on)</p>

4. What written records do you have in place relating to movements of people, vehicles and equipment into or out of your bird area?
5. What robust (written) records do you have in place relating to movements of eggs and poultry or other captive birds?
6. Please detail the precautions you have put in place to avoid the transfer of possibly contaminated material into or out of your bird area, and how do you ensure the effective cleansing and disinfection of all personal protective equipment, vehicles and machinery entering your bird site?
7. What vermin control programmes have you put in place?
8. What cleaning and disinfecting routine do you use for bird housing, cages, feed store or pathways leading to and from bird areas?
9. Is your disinfectant Government approved? Are you using the correct disinfectant concentration in your boot dips (when applicable)? For the list of disinfectants please check: http://disinfectants.defra.gov.uk/DisinfectantsExternal/Default.aspx?Module=ApprovalsList SI

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10. If you keep domestic waterfowl (ducks, geese etc.) and poultry (chickens, turkeys, guinea fowl etc.) – how do you keep them separate?

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11.State the frequency of how often you check the integrity of the building where birds are kept for any defects that would allow water ingress or other contamination?

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12. Changes in birds’ health, feed or water intakes should be closely monitored, as they could provide early signs of disease. Things to look out for include, but are not limited to:

- Drops in egg production of 5% or more over a three day period
- Changes in colour and / or consistency of your birds’ faeces
- Decrease in water or feed intakes

If you see any of the above signs, it is recommended that you consult your private veterinary surgeon immediately.

Do you monitor your birds health, feed and water intakes?

Health	Yes		No	
Feed	Yes		No	
Water	Yes		No	

13. Provide details of your veterinary surgeon.

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14. Is dedicated disinfectable or single use disposable footwear and clothing available for use to access the poultry or other captive bird area? Have all who are required to access such areas been made aware and instructed in their use?

15. If you keep more than 50 poultry or other captive birds, record below the locations of your disinfection points and how they are maintained?

16. What facilities do you have available to house your birds?

17. How will you identify and address any specific welfare concerns associated with housing?

18. What enrichment will you add to your housing? Further guidance available here:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/poultry-on-farm-welfare>

19. How will you cover any permanent openings in your bird housing to prevent access by wild birds?

Part 2: To be completed by keepers of more than 500 poultry

1. Is your premises divided into a poultry (live-bird) part, a private (ancillary use) part; and a restricted access (bio-secure barrier) part?
2. Do you have signage at the entry and exit points to each zone on your premises?
3. Is access to a live-bird part restricted to essential authorised personnel only? (Inspection visits and official visits who are authorised by law to be on premises should carry on)
4. What measures are taken at the entry to the live-bird part in the hygiene area?
5. Are only essential vehicles and equipment entering the live-bird area?
6. Is the exterior of any vehicles cleansed and disinfected (focusing on wheels, wheel arches and where appropriate foot-wells) both at entry and exit of live-bird area?

7. For vehicles only entering the private (ancillary use) part of your premises is the exterior of any vehicles cleansed and disinfected (focusing on wheels and wheel arches)?
8. At the end of production cycle what cleaning and disinfecting procedures are in place?
9. Where do you store your waste and fallen stock (dead birds)? Who collects the fallen stock and how frequently?
10. What records are in place to demonstrate that egg room floors, farm production area entrances are cleansed daily with a suitable approved non-tainting disinfectant to minimise any possible foot transmission?
11. How do you dispose of your waste or surplus eggs? Do you keep records of that?

12. What records are in place to record the removal, storage and spreading of poultry manure?
13. Have all staff been briefed and trained on the need for increased biosecurity and no contact with other birds?

Part 3 -To be completed by keepers who have bird species that cannot be permanently housed for welfare reasons and intend to allow their birds to remain outside with additional risk mitigation measures

1. Is the entire outdoor area fully enclosed with wire mesh, netting or other material that is capable of preventing ingress of wild birds?
2. What steps have you taken or are in place to ensure that wild birds are not attracted to the vicinity of the outdoor area, in particular to permanent puddles, ponds or other standing water? (Note that flooding or access to shared water sources are a significant risk factor in the spread of avian influenza.)
3. What reasonable steps will be taken to ensure that the range area (any outdoor areas where the birds have access) is not contaminated with feathers and faecal material from wild birds? How often is the bird area inspected, particularly for signs of wild birds or vermin access and to remove wild bird droppings and other material?

4. Have you fenced off or netted any ponds, standing water or waterlogged land on the range, to prevent access by poultry or other captive birds?
5. Have you checked that there is no possibility for direct contact between your poultry or other captive birds on neighbouring premises?
6. What steps will be taken to prevent unnecessary or accidental access by people to your birds area? Do you have any signage in place?
7. If access of people is essential, how will you assess the risks associated with entry, and what mitigation measures will be taken? For example, rights of way across premises or outdoor bird areas.
8. Where is the feed and water provided for your birds? Is it under cover where wild birds cannot gain access?