Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)

Avian influenza prevention zone (AIPZ): checklist for poultry and captive bird keepers

If you keep poultry or other captive birds in an avian influenza prevention zone (AIPZ), by law you must follow strict biosecurity rules to [prevent bird flu and stop it spreading](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/bird-flu-avian-influenza-how-to-prevent-it-and-stop-it-spreading).

Use this self-assessment checklist to make sure you’re meeting the minimum standards to protect them against bird flu.

Fill in:

* part 1 if you keep poultry or other captive birds (including game birds and pet birds)
* part 1 and part 2 if you keep more than 500 poultry

Talk to your vet if you need help filling in this assessment. Keep a copy of your completed checklist. The Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) or your local authority could ask for it if they inspect your premises.

### **Poultry keeper details**

Full name

Farm or premises name (if applicable)

Address (including postcode)

Telephone number

County Parish Holding (CPH) number (if applicable)

### **Vet details**

Name of vet surgery

Address (including postcode)

Telephone number

Emergency telephone number (if different to the main telephone number)

## **Part 1**

### **Your birds and prevention measures**

Are you registered on the [Kept Bird Register](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/poultry-including-game-birds-registration-rules-and-forms)? You must register within one month of keeping poultry or other captive birds at any premises. This includes any birds you keep as pets. You’re breaking the law if you do not register.

Type yes or no

How do you stop wild birds accessing your bird’s stored bedding, feed and water? [Check guidance on how to prevent contact with wild birds](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/bird-flu-avian-influenza-how-to-prevent-it-and-stop-it-spreading#prevent-contact-with-wild-birds).

How do you reduce the number of people, vehicles and equipment going into or out of the areas where you keep your birds? (Official inspections should carry on as required.)

How do you prevent unnecessary or accidental access by people to your bird areas?

If people need to access your premises (for example, on a right of way), how do you assess and reduce the risk of your bird areas becoming contaminated?

Do you keep records of the people, vehicles and equipment going into or out of your bird areas?

Type yes or no

Do you keep [records of bird movements, deaths and eggs](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/bird-flu-avian-influenza-how-to-prevent-it-and-stop-it-spreading#keep-records-of-bird-movements-deaths-and-eggs)?

Type yes or no

Do you keep records of who you’ve sold eggs or live birds to?

Type yes or no

How do you prevent possibly contaminated material going into or out of your bird areas?

How do you control rodents and other pests?

If your birds have access to an outdoor area, how do you keep the area free from contamination from wild birds’ feathers and droppings?

How do you discourage wild birds from using the space around your birds’ outdoor area (especially boggy areas, ponds or other standing water)? [Check guidance on how to prevent contact with wild birds](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/bird-flu-avian-influenza-how-to-prevent-it-and-stop-it-spreading#prevent-contact-with-wild-birds).

Have you fenced off or netted any ponds, lakes, rivers, canals, standing water or waterlogged land in the outdoor area so that poultry and other captive birds cannot access them?

How do you make sure there’s no direct contact between your birds and captive birds on neighbouring premises, if applicable?

If you keep waterfowl (such as, ducks or geese) and poultry (such as, chickens, turkeys or guinea fowl), how do you keep them separate?

How often do you check the building where birds are kept for defects that would allow wild birds, water or other contaminants to get in?

How often do you remove wild bird droppings, feathers and dead wild birds from your bird areas? [Check guidance on how to prevent contact with wild birds](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/bird-flu-avian-influenza-how-to-prevent-it-and-stop-it-spreading#prevent-contact-with-wild-birds).

How would you remove and dispose of dead wild birds?

How often do you check your bird areas for signs of wild birds or rodents, such as droppings and carcases?

**Cleansing and disinfecting**

Are you using [Defra-approved disinfectant](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/defra-approved-disinfectant-when-and-how-to-use-it)? (By law you must use Defra-approved disinfectant when there’s an outbreak of bird flu.)

Type yes or no

How do you make sure all personal protective equipment, vehicles and machinery that enter your bird areas are cleansed and disinfected?

How do you cleanse and disinfect bird housing, cages, feed stores and pathways leading to and from bird areas?

Are you using the correct disinfectant concentration in your foot dips (when applicable)?

Type yes or no

Are your foot dips covered?

Type yes or no

How often do you replace the disinfectant in your foot dips?

Have you provided dedicated clothing and footwear, or footwear that can be disinfected, for people to access bird areas?

Type yes or no

How do you make sure everyone knows how to use them?

Do you keep records of the locations of disinfection points and how often you maintain them?

### Monitoring your birds

You should closely monitor your birds’ health and how much they eat and drink. Any changes could be an early sign of disease.

Things to look out for include, but are not limited to:

* drops in egg production of 5% or more over a 3-day period
* changes in colour or consistency of your birds’ droppings
* eating less
* drinking less or drinking more

Contact your vet immediately if you see any of these signs.

How do you monitor your birds’ health?

How do you monitor how much your birds eat?

How do you monitor how much your birds drink?

Part 2: for keepers with over 500 poultry

Is your premises divided into a poultry (live bird) part, a private (ancillary use) part and a restricted access (bio-secure barrier) part?

Are there signs at the entry and exit points to each part of your premises?

Type yes or no

How do you make sure access to the live bird part is restricted to essential authorised personnel only? (Official visits and inspections should carry on as required.)

How do you prevent contamination in the live bird part?

How do you make sure only essential vehicles and equipment enter the live bird areas?

Do you cleanse and disinfect the exterior and footwells of vehicles at the entrance and exit of the live bird areas? (Pay particular attention to the wheels and wheel arches.)

Do you cleanse and disinfect the exterior and footwells of vehicles at the entrance and exit of the private (ancillary use) part of your premises? (Pay particular attention to the wheels and wheel arches.)

Do you follow industry best practice to cleanse and disinfect housing and equipment at the end of the production cycle and before you introduce new birds? [Check guidance on how to clean and disinfect housing and equipment](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/bird-flu-avian-influenza-how-to-prevent-it-and-stop-it-spreading#clean-and-disinfect-housing).

Where do you store your waste and fallen stock and how often are they collected?

Do you keep records to show that egg room floors and farm production entrances are cleansed every day with [Defra-approved disinfectant](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/defra-approved-disinfectant-when-and-how-to-use-it)? (By law you must use Defra-approved disinfectant when there’s an outbreak of bird flu.)

Do you keep records to show how you dispose of waste and surplus eggs?

Type yes or no

Do you keep records of how you remove, store and spread poultry manure?

Type yes or no