Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Scottish Government
Welsh Government

Avian Influenza Prevention Zone (AIPZ) self-assessment checklist

In response to an increased risk level in October 2022, and to mitigate the risk of infection to poultry and other captive birds by wild birds, an Avian Influenza Prevention Zone (AIPZ) was introduced throughout Great Britain. Regional mandatory housing measures were also introduced across Norfolk, Suffolk and parts of Essex, due to the heightened risk of avian influenza incursion in those areas.

This self-assessment form will assist 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, in order to protect their birds.

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

**Part 2** should be completed by keepers of more than 500 poultry in addition to Part 1.

Bird keepers across **Norfolk, Suffolk and parts of Essex** 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**.

Support and advice of the keeper’s private veterinary surgeon may be necessary when completing this assessment.

The completed form should be retained and provided for inspection if requested by representatives from the Animal and Plant Health Agency (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: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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

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| 1. Are you registered on the Poultry Register of Great Britain? (if you keep more than 50 birds you must register your birds - this is a legal requirement, if you keep less than 50 birds you are encouraged to voluntarily register birds)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/poultry-including-game-birds-registration-rules-and-forms> |
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| 1. What arrangements are in place to ensure that wild birds cannot access stored bedding, feed and water intended for your birds?
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| 1. 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? (Official inspections should carry on as required)
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| 1. What robust (written) records do you have in place relating to movements of people, vehicles and equipment into or out of your bird area?
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| 1. What robust (written) records do you have in place relating to movements of eggs and poultry or other captive birds?
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| 1. 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?
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| 1. What rodent control programmes have you put in place?
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| 1. 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 significant risk factors in the spread of avian influenza.)
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| 1. How often is the bird area inspected, particularly for signs of wild birds or rodent access and to remove wild bird droppings and other material, including wild bird carcases?
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| 1. What cleansing and disinfecting routine do you use for bird housing, cages, feed store or pathways leading to and from bird areas?
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| 1. 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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| 1. 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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| 1. 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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| 1. Changes in bird 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 intake

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 |  |
| 1. If your birds have access to an outdoor area –which reasonable steps will be taken to make sure that the range area is not contaminated with feathers and faecal material from wild birds?
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| 1. Provide details of your veterinary surgeon.
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| 1. How would you arrange for the removal of any wild bird carcases from the range?
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| 1. Have you fenced off or netted any ponds, standing water or waterlogged land in the range to prevent access by poultry or other captive birds?
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| 1. Have you checked that there is no possibility for direct contact between your birds and poultry or other captive birds on neighboring premises?
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| 1. What steps will be taken to prevent unnecessary or accidental access by people to your birds’ area? Do you have any signage in place?
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| 1. 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.
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| 1. Is dedicated disinfectable 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?
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| 1. Record below the locations of your disinfection points and how they are maintained?
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# Part 2: To be completed by keepers of more than 500 poultry

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| 1. Is your premises divided into a poultry (live-bird) part, a private (ancillary use) part; and a restricted access (biosecure barrier) part?
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| 1. Do you have signage at the entry and exit points to each zone on your premises?
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| 1. Is access to a live-bird part restricted to essential authorised personnel only? (Official visits and inspections should carry on as required.)
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| 1. Which measures are taken at the entry to the live-bird part in the hygiene area?
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| 1. Are only essential vehicles and equipment entering the live-bird area?
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| 1. Is the exterior of any vehicles and foot wells of vehicles cleansed and disinfected (focusing on wheels and wheel arches) both at entry and exit of the live-bird area?
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| 1. For vehicles only entering the private (ancillary use) part of your premises, is the exterior of any vehicles and foot wells of vehicles cleansed and disinfected (focusing on wheels, wheel arches and the foot well inside the vehicle)?
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| 1. At the end of production cycle, is the housing and equipment thoroughly cleansed and disinfected according to industry best practice?
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| 1. Where do you store your waste and fallen stock? How frequently is it collected, checked?
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| 1. Which records are in place to demonstrate that egg room floors, and farm production area entrances are cleaned daily with approved disinfectant, at the current dilution to minimise any possible foot transition?
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| 1. How do you dispose of your waste or surplus eggs? Do you keep records of this?
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| 1. Which records are in place to record the removal, storage and spreading of poultry manure?
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**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 (only applicable to bird keepers across Norfolk, Suffolk and parts of Essex where mandatory housing of bid is required)**

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| Is the entire outdoor area fully enclosed with wire mesh, netting (a maximum size of 25mm mesh) or other material that is capable of preventing ingress of wild birds? |
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| 1. 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.)
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| 1. 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?
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| 1. 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?
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| 1. Have you checked that there is no possibility for direct contact between your poultry or other captive birds on neighbouring premises?
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| 1. What steps will be taken to prevent unnecessary or accidental access by people to your birds area? Do you have any signage in place?
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|  |
| 1. 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.
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| 1. Where is the feed and water provided for your birds? Is it under cover where wild birds cannot gain access?
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