

Defra has re-introduced mandatory housing measures for poultry and captive birds in England from November 6, 2025, due to rising avian flu cases. This requires all keepers of more than 50 birds to house them, and those with fewer than 50 who sell products or live birds must also house them. A Great Britain-wide [Avian Influenza Prevention Zone \(AIPZ\)](#) is also in place, mandating strict biosecurity measures for all keepers, including disinfection of footwear and equipment, and keeping records.

Mandatory housing order (England)

- **Who:** All keepers of poultry and captive birds in England.
- **What:** If you have more than 50 birds, you must house them. If you have fewer than 50 birds but sell eggs, meat, or live birds, you must also house them.
- **Why:** To protect birds from the disease following an increase in confirmed cases in kept and wild birds.
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[Avian Influenza Prevention Zone \(AIPZ\)](#) (England, Scotland, and Wales)

- **Who:** All bird keepers in Great Britain.
- **What:** A GB-wide AIPZ is in place, requiring enhanced biosecurity measures regardless of flock size.
- **Required measures include:**
 - Keeping feed and water indoors or under a protective net.
 - Disinfecting footwear, equipment, and vehicles before and after entering premises.
 - Keeping records of bird movements, deaths, and disposal.
 - Restricting access to areas where birds are kept.
- **Note:** Wales declared its own AIPZ on January 30, 2025, with similar biosecurity measures.
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Other restrictions

- Bird gatherings such as fairs and markets are banned across England, Scotland, and Wales.
- Game birds caught during the open season have restrictions on movement