

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/avian-influenza-bird-flu#AIPZ>

Avian Influenza Prevention Zone

The Avian Influenza Prevention Zone (AIPZ) requiring enhanced biosecurity (declared at 17:00 on 11 November 2020) remains in force across the whole of England. But following a reduction in the risk of avian influenza to both wild and kept birds to 'medium'. Wednesday 31 March 2021 will be the last day poultry and other captive birds will need to be housed as a requirement of the AIPZ.

Housing restrictions end at 23:59 on 31 March 2021. All other biosecurity measures in the AIPZ remain in force until further notice and are a legal requirement for all bird keepers in England (whether they have pet birds, commercial flocks or just a few birds in a backyard flock).

Further details of the measures that apply in the AIPZ can be found in the [AIPZ declaration](#). The housing measures apply from 14 December 2020 to 31 March 2021, all other AIPZ measures remain in force until further notice.

High standards of biosecurity remain essential as infection may still be present in the environment. If you intend to allow your birds outside after 31 March you must take action now to prepare the outside areas. Read our guidance on [How to prepare for when your free-range birds can be let outside again](#) (PDF, 68.4KB, 3 pages).

See our [biosecurity section](#) for further information.

The Local Authority Animal Health Function (LAAHF) situated within either the Trading Standards or Environmental Health Service of a local authority has the responsibility to ensure compliance with the AIPZ. See our [postcode tool](#) to find details of how to contact your LAAHF with any reports of non-compliance.

Failure to comply with the AIPZ Declaration may be an offence under section 73 of the Animal Health Act 1981 and subject to an unlimited fine on summary conviction and up to 6 months' imprisonment per offence.

The decision to implement the AIPZ on the 11 December 2020 and the additional housing measures from the 14 December 2020 to the 31 March 2021 was made in light of evidence from the continent and ongoing high numbers of avian influenza findings in wild bird in England and follows [risk assessments](#) containing the latest scientific and ornithological evidence and veterinary advice.