

# Consultation on proposed registration requirements for all bird keepers in Great Britain

Closes 31 May 2023

Opened 7 Mar 2023

## Contact

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## Overview

We are seeking your views on our plans to make it compulsory for all **poultry**<sup>[1]</sup> and **other captive bird**<sup>[2]</sup> **keepers**<sup>[3]</sup> to register their bird(s) with the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA).

It is currently mandatory for a person who is a keeper of 50 or more poultry at any single premises to register their birds on the Great Britain Poultry Register by providing specified information on the birds. The information on the register enables the government to communicate with poultry keepers quickly, to manage any potential disease outbreak and carry out outbreak-related activities effectively.

[1] "Poultry" means all birds that are reared or kept in captivity for the production of meat or eggs for consumption, the production of other commercial products, for restocking supplies of game or for the purposes of any breeding programme for the production of these categories of birds.

[2] "Other captive birds" in England and Wales means any bird kept in captivity which is not poultry and includes a pet bird and any bird kept for shows, races, exhibitions, competitions, breeding or for sale; or

In Scotland "other captive bird" means any bird, other than poultry, kept in captivity including any bird kept for shows, races, exhibitions and competitions (such as ornamental birds and racing pigeons).

[3] "Keeper" means the person with day-to-day responsibility for poultry or other captive birds at any premises.

# Why your views matter

The purpose of this consultation is to seek views on the government's proposals to require all keepers of **poultry and other captive birds** to register their birds. There are three options under consideration including a do-nothing option.

The proposed changes will amend the current poultry registration requirements for keepers with 50 and more poultry and extend this to **all bird keepers**. The consultation proposals take forward the recommendation from the [2018 Dame Glenys Stacey Review](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/764286/farm-inspection-regulation-review-final-report-2018.pdf) ([https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/764286/farm-inspection-regulation-review-final-report-2018.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/764286/farm-inspection-regulation-review-final-report-2018.pdf)) that was conducted for England and lessons identified from the 2021/2022 highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) H5N1 (also known as bird flu) outbreak and previous HPAI outbreaks.

Whilst animal health policy is a devolved matter, the UK government, the Scottish government and the Welsh government have agreed to work together to ensure adequate information on all bird premises is captured across Great Britain. The specific amendments proposed in this consultation will have effect only in Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales).

Your responses will be used to help refine proposals and inform policy decisions on how the UK government, Scottish Government and Welsh Government proceed with any subsequent legislative change.

## Give us your views

[Online Survey](https://consult.defra.gov.uk/poultry-register/all-birds-registration2023/consultation/) > [\(https://consult.defra.gov.uk/poultry-register/all-birds-registration2023/consultation/\)](https://consult.defra.gov.uk/poultry-register/all-birds-registration2023/consultation/)

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