

Poultry Show Guidance (Appleby Show 10/8/17)

WELFARE OFFICER IAN ALLONBY

Guidance

Before embarking on a poultry gathering, organisers must first notify the Animal Plant Health Agency (APHA) on 03000 200 301 at least seven days before the gathering, informing them of:

- The date, or dates the bird gathering(s) will be taking place
- The address (and CPH number if applicable) of the gathering
- Details of the licensee (full postal address and CPH number if applicable)
- Anticipated numbers and type(s) of birds entered
- Purpose of the gathering (e.g. show/sale/display)
- Any changes to the above in the build-up should be notified to APHA.

Organisers must take all reasonable steps to prevent the spread of notifiable avian disease, including the provision of biosecurity advice to participants (see the PCGB's guide: *Biosecurity Information for Poultry Gatherings Participants*).

Organisers must notify a local veterinary surgery of the gathering and request a veterinary surgeon be available to attend at short notice.

A Welfare Officer (a poultry expert) must be appointed who will be responsible for overseeing the health and welfare of all birds throughout the gathering and to notify the licensee of potential issues - such as notifiable avian disease.

The aforementioned poultry expert must visually examine all birds before permitting entry to the gathering. No person, container or bird should be permitted, that is visibly contaminated with faecal material, and birds displaying any signs of disease should not be permitted (see the PCGB's guide: *About Avian Influenza*). Birds should be visually inspected periodically throughout the duration of the gathering.

Thorough cleaning and disinfection of hard surfaces must be carried out as soon as is practical after the gathering concludes. If an area cannot be disinfected (e.g grass), then a further gathering is not permitted on that site until approved in writing by APHA.

The organisers/licensee must:

- Not permit any birds without first receiving a signed declaration from the participant, confirming they have met the conditions of the licence (See PCGB's: *Participant Declaration Form*)
- Ensure a veterinary surgeon is informed and can attend at short notice
- Ensure all birds remain isolated until after passing a visual health check
- Provide an area of isolation for any birds that fail the health inspection
- Notify APHA immediately if notifiable avian disease is suspected
- Ensure all waste material is disposed of by a licensed waste disposal operator, or disinfected to remove the risk of disease transmission
- Ensure all birds, waste and carriers are removed after the gathering
- Provide cleaning facilities, including (but not limited to) foot dips/mats, and do not permit entry to anyone that is visibly contaminated with faecal material
- Retain records of all participants' entries for a minimum of three months.
- Have in place, and make available a contingency plan, should notifiable avian disease be suspected (see PCGB's template: *Contingency Plan*).

For further information:

www.gov.uk/guidance/bird-gatherings-licences#notify-apha

Defra Rural Services Helpline: 03000 200 301