General licence to arrange a fair, market, show, exhibition or other gathering involving the collecting together of captive birds in Scotland

A veterinary risk assessment has been carried out in accordance with:

- Article 1(1) and Annex 1 of Commission Decision 2005/734/EEC (as amended); and
- article 4(2) of the Avian Influenza (Preventive Measures) (Scotland) Order 2007 ("the Order").

The veterinary inspector is satisfied that, under the conditions of this licence, captive bird gatherings and the transit of those birds to and from gatherings will not significantly increase the risk of transmission of avian influenza virus.

This general licence permits, subject to the conditions in the attached schedule, the gathering of captive birds with the exception of:

- galliforme birds (including pheasants, partridge, quail, chickens, turkey, guinea fowl);

- anseriforme birds (including ducks, geese, swans); and

- 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

The veterinary inspector revokes the Bird Gatherings General Licence issued on 16 April 2015, and grants the following licence under article 4(1) of the Order and Article 2b(2) of Commission Decision 2005/734/EEC, subject to the conditions set out in the Schedule.

This licence may be varied, suspended or revoked at any time.

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1 This general licence is not available for persons arranging any fair, market, show, exhibition or other gathering that involves poultry 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.
Definitions:

“gathering” means an occasion at which birds are brought together for any purpose and includes:

i). a fair, market, show, sale or exhibition; and

ii). the collection of pigeons from different lofts on a vehicle for pigeon racing.

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

"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; and

"premises" includes any land, building or place.

Coming into Force:

This licence will come into effect at 11:30 hours on 20 December 2016.

Colin Macaldowie, Deputy Chief Veterinary Officer (Scotland), and Veterinary Inspector, 20 December 2016

Animal Health & Welfare Division
Directorate for Agriculture, Food and Rural Communities
Scottish Government
P Spur
Saughton House
Edinburgh
EH11 3XD
Schedule

1. The person arranging the gathering is the licensee and is responsible for ensuring the conditions in this licence are complied with.

2. The licensee must take all reasonable steps to prevent the spread of avian disease onto, within and off the premises during a gathering.

3. The licensee must distribute biosecurity advice at the event to any participant, and must have in place written contingency arrangements that explain what should happen if there is a notifiable disease incident at or near the event.

4. The licensee must notify the Inverness Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA), (irrespective of where the gathering is being held in Scotland) at least 7 calendar days prior to the event. Notification must include date, location, details of the event organiser (full name and full contact details) and anticipated numbers and type(s) of birds. Contact details for APHA are:

   APHA Field Services (Inverness)
   Longman House
   28 Longman Road
   Inverness, IV1 1SF

   Telephone: 01463 728800
   Fax: 01463 711495
   Email: APHAScotlandShows@apha.gsi.gov.uk

5. Any changes to the information provided that occur between notification and the event itself must also be notified to the APHA Inverness office as soon as possible.

6. The licensee must make a record of all people who bring captive birds to a gathering or take such birds from a gathering and keep the record for at least three months following the end of the gathering. The record must include at least the following information:
   (i) Full name
   (ii) Home address
   (iii) Telephone number
   (iv) Number and type(s) of birds
   (v) Details of the locations that birds came from and went to, after the gathering

7. The licensee must not allow any cage or crate onto premises being used for a gathering that is visibly contaminated with bird droppings, bedding or other material of bird origin other than that from, or provided for, the birds brought to the gathering and must make this requirement known in advance to all those bringing birds to the gathering.
8. The licensee must:

(i) ensure that a veterinary surgeon is available during the whole time that birds are present at the gathering and they are consulted if birds show signs of ill-health or welfare problems; and

(ii) report any signs suggestive of avian notifiable disease to APHA: no birds should be allowed to leave the premises until APHA have confirmed this can be permitted; and

(iii) ensure that any feed to which captive birds had access, and all bedding, droppings, other material of bird origin and other contaminants derived from birds at the gathering and which are left on the premises when the gathering has ended are:
   (a) destroyed; or
   (b) treated so as to remove the risk of transmission of disease; or
   (c) disposed of so that birds do not have access to them; or
   (d) disposed of as Category 2 material under the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (Scotland) Regulations 2013.

(iv) where practicable, cleanse and disinfect those parts of the premises contaminated by such materials; and

(v) ensure that any cages, crates, baskets or other containers not removed from the premises by those attending the gathering are cleansed and disinfected as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of the gathering and in any case before they are used again.

9. Where a gathering is held on a vehicle (for example, to transport racing pigeons to the start of a race), the licensee must ensure that condition 8 above is applied to the vehicle.
Notes

(These notes do not form part of the licence)

1. This licence permits the gathering of captive birds (not poultry), which include:
   i). *Columbiformes* (including doves and pigeons)
   ii). *Passerines* (including finches, budgerigar, canary)
   iii). *Psittaciformes* (including parrots, macaws, cockatiels)
   iv). *Falconiformes* (including hawks, harriers, buzzards, eagles)
   v). *Strigiformes* (including owls)

2. The poultry and other captive birds that may not benefit from this general licence, gatherings of which are therefore prohibited in accordance with regulation 4(1) of the Preventative Measures (Scotland) Order 2007, are:
   i). birds of the family *galliforme* (including pheasants, partridge, quail, chickens, turkey, guinea fowl)
   ii). birds of the family *anseriforme* (including ducks, geese, swans)
   iii). 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

3. Article 13 (racing pigeons) of the Diseases of Poultry (Scotland) Order 2003 requires that:

   "(1) An organiser of a show or race which takes place wholly or partly in Scotland shall ensure that all racing pigeons entered for the race or show have been vaccinated against paramyxovirus 1 in pigeons.

   (2) Every person who owns or keeps racing pigeons shall keep a record of every race or show for which any such racing pigeons are entered."

4. Article 14 (cleansing and disinfection) of the Diseases of Poultry (Scotland) Order 2003 requires that:

   "(1) Any person in charge of premises on which poultry or racing pigeons are or have been exposed for sale or exhibited shall thoroughly cleanse and disinfect those premises, their fittings and any receptacle used for the exposure or exhibition of such birds as soon as practicable after use and in any event before they are used again.

   (2) A veterinary inspector or an inspector of a local authority may, by notice served on the person in charge of any premises or vehicle on or in which any birds are or have been, require that person to cleanse and disinfect the premises or vehicle and any fittings or receptacle in such manner as that inspector may require and may prohibit the movement into the premises or
vehicle of birds until the cleansing and disinfection has been completed to the satisfaction of the inspector.

(3) Without prejudice to the bringing of proceedings under the 1981 Act, where a notice under this article is not complied with, any person authorised by the Scottish Ministers or the local authority may enter the premises or vehicle to which the notice relates and carry out the work of cleansing and disinfection required and the cost of such work shall be recoverable as a debt from the person on whom the notice was served.

(4) For the purposes of this article "cleansing" includes the disposal of all litter, droppings and other matter in a manner which does not present a risk of the spread of disease."

5. Disinfectants approved for use against poultry diseases in Great Britain are listed at:
   http://www.gov.scot/Topics/farmingrural/Agriculture/animal-welfare/Diseases/15721/2960

6. Anyone in possession of any bird or bird carcase that they suspect may be infected with avian influenza virus, paramyxovirus 1 or Newcastle disease must immediately notify the local APHA office. Contact details can be found on the Scottish Government website at:
   www.gov.scot/Topics/farmingrural/Agriculture/animal-welfare/News

7. In the event of disease outbreak, gatherings of poultry and other captive birds are not permitted in a Protection or Surveillance Zone, and this general licence does not apply within those zones. Poultry and other captive birds originating from a Protection or Surveillance Zone are not permitted to attend gatherings.

8. Contact your local APHA office or local authority for further advice on biosecurity measures and any other legislation that may apply.

9. Non-compliance with this licence may constitute an offence under section 73 of the Animal Health Act 1981 and may render a person liable to a term of imprisonment not exceeding six months and/or a £5,000 fine on conviction.

10. It is your responsibility to ensure that APHA has been notified of the event.