

General Licence

Licence No.	DAERA / AIPM / 62
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The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA), in accordance with Regulation 6 of the above legislation hereby authorises the holding of the following:

BIRD GATHERINGS (EXCLUDING PIGEON RACING OUTSIDE THE BRITISH ISLES WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE FRENCH ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION OF BRETAGNE.)

“BRITISH ISLES” for the purposes of this licence includes England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland, and Isle of Man

subject to the following conditions-

1. Gatherings must not be attended by any birds brought into Northern Ireland from outside the British Isles in the previous 4 weeks.
2. Other captive birds must be kept separate from poultry at the event.
3. A nominated person must be designated as the **event** organiser and a person responsible for keeping the records set out in condition 5.
4. The event organiser must ensure that **participants** from Northern Ireland are registered on the DAERA Bird Register.
5. A record of all participants, buyers and sellers must be kept for three months; this must include the following information: the DAERA flock registration number; full name; home address; telephone number; number and types of birds; any identifying features or individual identification of purchased birds.
6. A named veterinary surgeon must be contactable for advice and to attend in the event of any suspect disease.
7. The event organiser must ensure biosecurity advice is distributed at the event, and must have in place written contingency arrangements that explain what will happen if there is suspicion or confirmation of a notifiable avian disease at or near to the event.
8. The event organiser **must** notify the local Divisional Veterinary Office of his name, address and contact telephone number and the location, date and time of the event **at least three working days** prior to the event taking place.
9. All fixtures and fittings such as cages, and tables, which have been in contact with poultry or captive birds must be cleansed and disinfected before and after the gathering.

Additional Conditions applying to gatherings for pigeon races and pigeon training events within Northern Ireland or into Northern Ireland from the British Isles and the French Administrative Division of Bretagne.

10. Gatherings of pigeons in Northern Ireland may only take place if the birds are intended to be released from within the British Isles and the French Administrative Division of Bretagne.
11. A nominated person must be designated as the **event organiser** i.e. overall race/training organiser. This person must keep a record of details of the clubs participating in the race, for at least three months.
12. The event organiser must also ensure that at each point of gathering a responsible person keeps the records set out in condition 12.

13. The event organiser must make a record of all attendees and keep this for at least three months from the final day of the event. The record must include the following information for each: the DAERA flock registration number; full name; home address; telephone number; number of birds; name of club to which the participant belongs; ring numbers of individual birds.
14. The event organiser **must** notify the local Divisional Veterinary Office of his name, address and contact telephone number and the release location, destination location, date and time of the event **at least three working days** prior to the event taking place. Notification must include the release location and date, details of the event organiser and estimated numbers of birds.
15. For a race from outside the British Isles, all birds from such races should be isolated from other birds, and not raced again, for a minimum of one week. This should increase to 3 weeks if pigeons return home later than 72 hours after release.

Additional Conditions applying to birds of prey (falconry) events


16. Birds of prey must be kept separate from poultry at the event.

This licence revokes and replaces General Licence Number DAERA/AIPM/66 dated 06 November 2025.

This licence is effective from

Day	Date	Month	Year
Friday	15	May	2026

and shall remain valid unless amended, suspended or revoked by DAERA.

An Officer of the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs	Date
	15 May 2026