FORM AIPM 66
The Avian Influenza and influenza of Avian Origin in mammals Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
www.daera-ni.gov.uk

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

Licence No.	DAERA / AIPM / 66

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:

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)
- 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

subject to the following conditions-

1 The person arranging the bird 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 influenza virus onto, within and off the premises where the gathering is held.

3 Gatherings must not be attended by any birds brought into Northern Ireland from GB or from any other EU Member State (except the Republic of Ireland) or third country in the previous 4 weeks. Birds from NI which have gone to GB, for re-entry in NI, must comply with import requirements.

4 The licensee must distribute biosecurity advice at the event to any participant, 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.

5 The licensee **must** notify the local DAERA Direct Office **at least three working days** prior to the event taking place. Notification must include at least the following information:

a) The date the gathering will take place
b) The location of the gathering
c) Details of the licensee (including full name, contact address and telephone number)
d) Anticipated numbers and type(s) of birds.

Any changes to the information provided at (a), (b) or (c) above, which occur between notification and the event itself must also be notified to the local DAERA Direct Office as soon as possible prior to the event. Late amendments may be notified by telephone.

6 The licensee must make a record of all people who bring captive birds to a gathering or take such birds from a gathering, or change keeper of such birds (for example through a sale), and keep such record for at least 3 months following the end of the gathering. The record must be provided to an inspector if requested. The record must include at least the following information:

a) Full name.
b) Home address.
c) Telephone number.
d) Number and type(s) of birds exhibited, raced, bought or sold and details of the location the birds came from and the location the birds went to after the gathering.
e) DAERA Bird Registration number

7 The licensee must ensure that **participants** from Northern Ireland are registered on the DAERA Bird Register.

8 The licensee must not allow any cage, crate, basket or other container into a gathering which is visibly contaminated with bird droppings, bedding or other material of bird origin other than contamination arisen during the transportation of the birds being brought to the gathering and must make this requirement known in advance to all those bringing captive birds to the gathering in advertising, on entry forms or by any other means.

9 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 problem; and
ii. report any signs suggestive of avian notifiable disease to the local DAERA Direct Office: no birds or other things should be allowed to leave the premises until DAERA have confirmed this can be permitted; and
iii. ensure that any feed to which 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. treated so as to remove the risk of transmission of disease; or
    b. disposed of so that birds do not have access to them; or
    c. disposed of as Category 1 or 2 animal by-products as required under the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015, and
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.

<u>Additional Conditions applying to gatherings for pigeon races and pigeon training events within Northern Ireland or into Northern Ireland from the British Isles and mainland Europe.</u>

10. Gatherings of pigeons in Northern Ireland may only take place if the birds are intended to be released from within Northern Ireland or the British Isles and mainland Europe.
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 13.
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 DAERA Direct 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

This licence revokes and replaces General Licence Number DAERA/AIPM/62 dated 15 May 2026

This licence is effective from

Time	Day	Date	Month	Year
00:01	Thurs	19	November	2026

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

An Officer of the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs	Date
Gayle E Mairs	18 Nov 2026

Notes

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

2. The poultry and other captive birds that may **not** benefit from this general licence are:
   - *galliforme* birds (including pheasants, partridge, quail, chickens, turkey, guinea fowl)
   - *anseriforme* birds (including ducks, geese, swans)
   - 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

   Gatherings of these species are prohibited in accordance with regulation 6(4)(e) of the Avian Influenza and influenza of Avian Origin in mammals Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007.

3. Disinfectants approved for use against poultry diseases in Northern Ireland are listed at: https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/approved-disinfectants.

4. 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 DAERA Direct Office. Contact details can be found on the DAERA website at https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/contacts/daera-direct-regional-offices.

5. 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 with those zones. Poultry and other captive birds originating from a Protection or Surveillance Zone are not permitted to attend gatherings.

6. Contact your local DAERA Direct Office for further advice on biosecurity measures and any other legislation that may apply.

Definitions:

"gathering" means an occasion at which birds from different holdings 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 birds 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.

"premises" includes any land, building or place.