



# PROTECT YOUR BIRDS

If you keep poultry or captive birds, they are at risk from Avian Influenza (bird flu). There are a number of steps that you can take to reduce the risk of your birds being infected by this notifiable disease.

Good biosecurity practices such as an enhanced hygiene routine are central to this.

Use the following top tips to make sure you are doing all you can to protect your birds...



Tick all of the following practices that you are already doing and think about how to implement those you are not.

## Housing

Your birds should currently be housed as part of a mandatory Government requirement



Ensure that wild birds, rats and mice cannot access the area where your birds live

Check for any leaks in the roof to prevent water getting into the area where your birds live

## Cleanse and Disinfect

Regularly cleanse and disinfect hard standing areas your birds can access

Thoroughly cleanse and disinfect all equipment, such as feeders and drinkers regularly



## Feed and Water

Do not feed or water your birds in areas which can be accessed by wild birds

Always clean up any feed spillages to discourage wild birds, rats or mice

If you feed wild garden birds, make sure you do this in a separate area, as far away as possible from your captive birds



## Water sources

Prevent your birds from sharing nearby ponds and waterways with wild birds. For example, by netting areas of standing water, such as ponds, preventing bird access



## General

Carry out effective rodent control

Limit the amount of people who have access to your birds

Speak to your vet if you are worried about the health or welfare of your birds



## Clothing and Footwear

Ensure that all clothing and footwear are washed thoroughly before you come into contact with your birds

Use specific footwear when accessing the area where your birds live - do not access the area where your birds live wearing footwear you have worn elsewhere, e.g walking the dog as this can increase the risk of cross contamination



For more information visit - [www.countrysideonline.co.uk/birdflu](http://www.countrysideonline.co.uk/birdflu)