

Devon, Somerset and Torbay Trading Standards Service



What does Trading Standards cover?

- We have a wide variety of roles:
 - Fair Trading, Food Standards, Product Safety, Safety at Sports Grounds.
 - “Rogue” doorstep traders
 - Scams prevention / education
 - Animal Health & Welfare and Agriculture
 - Explosives & Petroleum safety
 - Weights and Measures
 - Business Support as well as enforcement
 - Buy With Confidence Approval Scheme

How you can help your community to stand up against scams:

1. Visit www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk
2. Do the online training
3. Pledge to be a “Friend Against Scams” by spreading the message



Animal Health Disease Control



**By Nicola Pearce
Trading Standards Officer**



Devon, Somerset and Torbay Trading Standards Service



Why?

Legislation

Civil Contingencies Act 2004

- Local Authorities to put in place emergency arrangements
- sets out clear expectations and responsibilities to ensure preparedness to deal effectively with a full range of emergencies, including a serious outbreak of notifiable animal disease.

Animal Health Act 1981

- places statutory duties upon Local Authorities to respond in the event of a confirmed notifiable disease situation
- gives powers for the Minister to make orders for preventing the spread of notifiable animal diseases.
- Animal Health Act 2002 also provides for the slaughter of diseased animals, animals suspected of being diseased and animals that have been exposed to disease.

The Disease Control (England) Order 2003

Sets out the requirements to prevent and eradicate disease.

What is a “Notifiable Disease”?

‘Notifiable’ diseases are animal diseases that you’re legally obliged to report to the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA), even if you only *suspect* that an animal may be affected.

Notifiable diseases can be:

- endemic – already present in the UK, such as bovine TB
- exotic – not normally present in the UK, such as foot and mouth disease.

Some endemic and exotic diseases are zoonotic which means they can pass between animals and humans, such as rabies and avian influenza.

Why are some diseases made notifiable?

Because of the effects they could have on:-

- International Trade
- Public Health
- Animal Welfare
- Wider Society

Also having regard for:

- Cost to the community
- Availability of appropriate solutions

Why Is Animal Health Contingency Important?

- 2001 foot and mouth epidemic highlighted how the farming industry has evolved.
- This was a steep and costly learning curve and cost the economy £8 billion.
- Since then we have dealt with smaller outbreaks of the disease, as well as major avian influenza outbreaks.
- By using our Contingency Plans and livestock tracing systems they were controlled very effectively.
- The UK was declared “disease free” in July 2017

What are the current threats?

African Swine Fever

- Since the last Defra report on the 23rd August, there have been several outbreaks in large commercial pig farms in Romania and Poland. In addition, Bulgaria has reported the first outbreak in backyard pigs in Varna region.
- The big issue is that the disease is in the wild boar herds in those countries and is being spread around.
- Because of this the UK's risk has been raised to Medium for the likelihood of this disease entering the UK

Question: Do we have wild boar in Devon & Somerset?

Rabies

- In the UK the last human death from indigenous rabies occurred in 1902, and the last case of indigenous animal rabies was in 1922. **Help us to keep it this way**
- Most cases of rabies in the UK now occur in quarantined animals, or in people infected abroad.
- Since 1946 there have been *22 deaths* in the UK of people infected with rabies whilst abroad.



Rabies and Tapeworm Threats

Pets/Rescue Pets:

- Anyone who rehomes a rescue pet from abroad needs to have a passport for the animal. (this includes animals coming from the Republic of Ireland)
- If it is coming straight to your home from abroad you need to notify APHA, giving 24hrs advance notice.
- The pet must stay on your property for 48hrs.
- You must register the microchip with a UK database.
- Puppies/Kittens must be more than 15 weeks of age to be here legally.

Newcastle Disease

A disease found in poultry, both commercial / domestic and game.

Recent cases in Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg have led to Defra raising the risk to the UK Flocks from Low to Medium.

Most birds are vaccinated against the disease.

Encourage people to feed/water their birds under cover to minimise the risk of contamination from wild birds.

Avian influenza (bird flu)

- The risk of this disease is greater during the migration period as it is mainly carried by wild birds in to the UK
- Last declared case in domestic flock in the UK was 2017.
- Although we had confirmed cases of AI in 2018 it was only ever confirmed in wild birds. So the UK could continue to trade.
- In 2016/17 most confirmed cases were in **the backyard flocks**.

How you can help?

- Help to raise awareness in the community of legislation like Prevention Orders or Housing Orders,
- The importance of good bio-security & feeding/watering under cover.
- If you have poultry, sign up for disease notifications on .GOV website.
- http://animalhealth.system-message.co.uk/AH_subscribe_index.php

How disease control works

1. Vet/Farmer calls Duty Vet at Animal Health and Plant Agency.
2. They visit and if the symptoms can not be negated samples are taken. Restriction Notice is served on the premise.
3. Text notification of “Suspected disease” is sent to the relevant Local Authority.
4. When/if confirmed a Minister declares an Order.
5. Protection Zone and Surveillance Zones are then put in place. Animal (&human) movements are then restricted around these zones.

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If a disease is confirmed then the chain of command will be as follows:-

- Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) – they will mainly focus on the infected premise.

They are assisted by:

- Local Authority
- Police
- Local Resilience Forum – provides a link to Public Health and other services which might be needed.

Local Authority's Role

- First task is to arrange for road signs to be erected on roads in protection & surveillance zones.
- Gather information on stock in the areas, via foot patrols.
- Investigate and Enforce movement breaches
- Raise awareness on what steps everyone needs to take to keep the outbreak to a minimum.
- The community's help is very important to work with us to get guidance to the right people and allay any fears.

Main ways the community can help

- keep up to date with the latest disease situation by listening to national and local updates.
- be vigilant for signs of the disease no matter how near or far away the last outbreak was. Report any signs of disease without delay to APHA.
- if certain types of movements are not allowed, it is because they pose a risk. Please observe and encourage others to obey these movement restrictions. Do not take chances.
- comply with the stringent biosecurity restrictions. Encourage others to do the same.

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Questions?

- If you are in doubt about anything or have any questions, then contact your local trading standards service or e-mail: tradingstandards@devon.gov.uk

Keep up to date via our social media:

- <https://www.devonsomersettradingstandards.gov.uk/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/tsconnected>
- <https://twitter.com/tsconnected>

**Devon, Somerset and Torbay
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Thank you all for listening

