## A blue and white logo Description automatically generated

## NPA/AHDB notifiable disease contingency plan

## ASF virus pic

## This template has been designed to assist commercial producers\* in the case of a notifiable disease outbreak affecting pigs in the UK. In these scenarios the situation can change quickly, and it can be a stressful time whether the disease is present on your farm or not.

## Therefore, it is important to have certain information easily accessible. All pig units should be able to contact relevant suppliers and onward supply chain, and all staff should know what is required.

## Consider where you will keep this document, both hard copy and/or digital. It is recommended that you keep it up to date and review it regularly with your vet. This document should also be part of new staff induction.

## \*The principles of this contingency plan are applicable to other pig farmers. The Farm Animal Genetic Resources Committee (FAnGR) contingency plan may be more appropriate for keepers of rare breeds. The link to the FAnGR plan can be found here: [FANGR: Breeds at risk - contingency plan guidelines for potential derogation from culling (publishing.service.gov.uk)](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a81db22e5274a2e8ab5631e/fangr-culling-derogation-guidelines.pdf)

## If you suspect a notifiable disease in your animals, LEGALLY you must report it immediately by calling the Defra Rural Services Helpline on 03000 200 301. In Wales, call 0300 303 8268. In Scotland, contact your local Field Services Office. Failure to do so is an offence.

**What happens when you report a notifiable animal disease**

1. When you call, you will speak to a duty vet from the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) who will ask you about your animals.
2. If the APHA duty vet cannot rule out a notifiable disease on the phone, APHA will need to investigate further. A veterinary inspector will usually need to visit your premises.
3. The duty vet will tell you what restrictions you must follow before the veterinary inspector arrives. For example, you may need to stop moving animals susceptible to the disease on or off your premises. You may also have to stop moving anything that can transmit the disease, like meat products, equipment or vehicles.
4. When the veterinary inspector visits your premises, they may take samples for testing if they cannot rule out a notifiable disease. For some diseases, they may need to cull the animal to take samples.
5. The veterinary inspector may put restrictions on your premises. You must follow these restrictions, or you could be breaking the law.
6. A temporary control zone may be put around your premises, or wider, depending on the suspected disease. This restricts the movement of animals susceptible to the disease and helps to stop it spread.

Restrictions will continue until the investigation is complete. If a notifiable disease is ruled out, the restrictions will end.

**If a notifiable animal disease is confirmed**

APHA will carry out further investigations at your premises to assess:

* how long the disease has been present
* where the disease came from
* whether it has spread

APHA will put restrictions on any premises the disease is likely to have spread from or to (for example when animals have been moved). APHA may also introduce restrictions in a wider area, depending on the risk of the disease spreading. These are called disease control zones.

APHA may:

* cull susceptible animals
* carry out initial cleansing and disinfection of your premises
* introduce strict rules on restocking
* limit activities that could spread disease, such as exports, hunting and animal gatherings (such as fairs, markets, shows, sales, exhibitions and some premises used for dealing or internet sales).

APHA will tell you if there are actions you need to take.

## Farm information

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Farm** |  |
| **CPH number** |  |
| **Farm coordinates/What 3 Words (farm entrance)** |  |
| **Visitor book** | *Location* |
| **Contingency plan lead** | *Name and contact number* |
| **Owner of premises** | *Name and contact number* |

## Contact information

*Include key relevant information including key contact, telephone number, address, email address, opening hours*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **APHA (24/7)** | 03000 200 301 |
| **Local APHA** |  |
| **EA/NRW** |  |
| **Vet** |  |
| **Haulier** |  |
| **Feed supplier** |  |
| **Abattoir** |  |
| **Bedding supplier** |  |
| **Consultant/nutritionist** |  |
| **NPA** | 02476 858 780 |
| **AHDB Bureau Service (9-5 Monday-Friday)** | 0844 335 8400 |
| **Farm Assurance** |  |
| **Processor** |  |
| **Fallen stock collector** |  |
| **Other contractors** | *Pest control*  *Electrician*  *Plumber* |
|  |  |
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|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date plan written** |  |
| **Date plan revised** |  |

## Farm maps

***Map of farm including What 3 Words for farm entrance***

***Regional map- other premises in area (including other species, when known)***

***Map of unit including sheds, stores, yard***

*Indicate:*

*Surfaces – hardcore, tarmac, concrete, grass etc.*

*Access roads*

*Footpaths*

*Fencing, hedges and gates, perimeters*

*Staff facilities - showering/changing, welfare areas*

*Dwellings on farm and staff accommodation*

*Resources – gas/power/water input*

*Overhead cables*

*Slurry stores/manure*

*Loading areas*

*Drainage systems including water storage*

*Feed storage*

*Straw storage*

*Other stores*

***Second map of unit with proposed resources/amenities***

*This may include:*

*Vehicle washing facilities location, drainage, water source*

*Storage areas for PPE, chemicals etc.*

*Welfare areas*

***Sources of maps:***

[*https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/osmaps/*](https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/osmaps/)

[*http://www.magic.gov.uk*](http://www.magic.gov.uk)

## Training

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Staff induction** | *Training carried out by:* |
| *List of documents/materials used and key farm contacts in case of queries*  *Herd health plan*  *Notifiable diseases*  *Clinical signs*  *On-farm protocols*  *PPE – what is available and where it is located*  *Chain of command*  *Training log location*  *Contingency plan and control strategy and where it is located* |
| **Ongoing training/**  **annual refresh** | *Notifiable diseases*  *Clinical signs*  *On-farm protocols*  *PPE*  *Chain of command*  *Training log location* |

## Protocols

Consider what protocols you already have on farm and any gaps. Protocols should be written down and in an easily accessible place for staff. Ensure that all staff members know where to find written protocols and what their individual responsibilities are.

### Core

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Chain of command** | *Organogram/communication flow chart*  *Map who is responsible for notifying who and at what stage i.e. staff to notify unit manager, unit manager to contact vet and APHA* |
| *Organogram here* | |
| **Vehicle access** | *Security – is unit secure, is it necessary?*  *Vehicle biosecurity – entrance and exits, parking, vehicle washing facilities*  *Entry and exit logs*  *Deliveries*  *Procedure for stock and other deliveries to farm (feed, bedding etc.)* |
| **People** | *Access to whom and when (traffic light system)*  *Contact with pigs – on and off farm*  *Shower facilities*  *Boot dipping*  *PPE – what is available and where it is located*  *Protocols between sheds*  *Visitor book and copies – information collected and how long it is retained for, where located* |
| **Biosecurity** | *Location of on-site hygiene facilities including showers, hand-washing, foot dips etc.*  *Record of disinfectants including dilution rates and expiration dates*  *Clean and dirty zones*  *Isolation facility and isolation protocols* |
| **Other** | *Pest control and records*  *Record keeping protocol – who is responsible for what record keeping and where are the records kept?* |

### Infected Premises

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| --- | --- |
| **Chain of command in crisis** | *Key points of contact and where contact points are – APHA case officer, staff, communications etc.*  *PR plan – key points to communicate and channels, instructions for staff, NPA will provide support for statements and training, PR for returning to business as usual, consider other enterprises affected.* |
| **Records** | *Specific information on all livestock on farm – numbers, sheds/pens/field and capacity, stage of production, where it is kept and how to access it. Including:*  *Movement records of livestock onto and off the farm for the previous 12 months*  *Production records for the previous 12 months*  *Feed and water intake*  *Weight gain figures*  *Mortalities (dates included)*  *Veterinary medicines usage – current and previous batch*  *Specific information on affected livestock* |
| **Tracers** | *Links in industry to other units*  *e.g. pigs, staff, fallen stock* |
| **People** | *Protocols for staff contact with pigs/ family members*  *Footpaths*  *Visitor book*  *Movement records for staff*  *PPE training*  *PPE*  *Biosecurity training*  *Shower facilities*  *Dwellings on farm – restrictions* |
| **Other enterprises on the farm** | *Livestock - impact at different stages of production*  *Other enterprises, their location and link into the business e.g. arable, shoot, access, deadstock management*  *Comms issues for other enterprises*  *Feed*  *Short and long-term impact*  *Access to machinery stores* |
| **Neighbouring farms** | *Other pig units within the zones and any links*  *Other farms with links to other enterprises*  *Known smallholders with pigs* |
| **Vehicle access** | *Approved vehicles (including loading and disposing vehicles)*  *Vehicle biosecurity protocols*  *Chemicals required for biosecurity*  *Entrance and exit route*  *Security fencing (if necessary) – where to hire from, quantity required*  *Licences required for movement including vehicle registration* ***AND*** *trailer ID*  *Dwellings on farm – service access (fuel etc.)*  *Refer to farm maps* |
| **Chemical store** | *Sufficient for required chemicals and backup*  *Warning signs for chemical store and rest of site*  *Rodent control –measures and companies* |
| **Secondary C&D** | *Who will have responsibility for putting together the plan and liaise with APHA*  *Staff skillset and expertise on unit*  *Deficit of skill and labour*  *C&D protocol*  *Companies to approach*  *Product list and supplier*  *Extra fuel requirements* |
| **Slurry/manure** | *Removal of slurry or manure*  *Labour required*  *Equipment required*  *Equipment C&D*  *Disposal options*  *Permits required* |
| **Dirty water storage (hazardous waste)** | *Tanks available*  *Tank hire companies*  *Dispersal of dirty water* |
| **Bedding** | *Disposal* |
| **Other waste** | *Disposal of hazardous waste – contaminated PPE* |
| **Feed** | *Is disposal necessary?* |
| **Exit strategy** | *Restocking*  *Sampling – company/lab to use* |

### Things to consider

Take the time to consider these potential issues below and ensure you have plans in place should your farm get caught under movement restrictions. The tables on the follow pages are for you to fill out according to your farm’s contingency plan. Restriction zones can remain in place for a few months depending on the scale of the outbreak so do consider what capacity you will have to keep pigs on farm.

1. **How close are you to the IP?**

This will affect the likelihood of your stock already being or getting infected and being culled out. APHA will test any animals within the immediate vicinity of the IP as a priority.

• Be aware that you may be culled out as a dangerous contact – read advice given for an IP and prepare.

• Watch for clinical signs of the disease and monitor mortality levels – alert your vet if you are at all concerned.

• Make sure your staff are aware of what to look for and any precautions that need to be taken for their own safety.

If your herd is culled out as a dangerous contact (i.e. too close to the IP and expected to become positive or as a contiguous cull (culled in an effort to prevent further disease spread) you will be financially compensated by government for the stock lost.

1. **What accommodation do you have?**

• How long before your accommodation becomes unsuitable for the size of the pigs?

• Do you have anywhere that you could put sows due to farrow when farrowing accommodation is full?

• Do you have any spare land on which to build temporary accommodation?

• Can you get hold of sufficient feeders, water pipe, troughs and bales to make up temporary accommodation?

You are permitted to move pigs within buildings on the same holding and between contiguous pieces of land (joined) even if separated by a public road before the minimum time has elapsed, but only after agreement with APHA. Other movements may be possible but these will need to be specially licensed – speak to your APHA contact as soon as possible to work out a strategy before welfare becomes a problem.

1. **Feed**

• How many days feed do you have left? You will need licences from APHA before any feed can be delivered to your unit.

• Can you change the ration to slow the pigs growth? Most dietary options only offer short term benefits however.

• If feed lorries are able to do multiple drop offs is there a possibility for accepting bagged feed dropped outside the farm rather than the lorry having to come onto the unit?

1. **Welfare slaughter**

You will NOT be compensated by Government for pigs that are slaughtered under any welfare scheme that may be set up. It is crucial therefore that you consider the growth stage of your pigs at the time the zone is imposed, the cost of feeding them and the options for moving them. If you are carrying end of batch finishers at full capacity with no option to move when a zone is imposed, you may need to consider culling some of them earlier to reduce your overall inevitable loss. If you have culled your herd or it has gone to slaughter you will not be permitted to restock until the restrictions in the zone have been lifted.

1. **Other stock**

Other livestock kept on farm will also be restricted. They can be moved under licence at any stage of the outbreak but will be subject to conditions that ensure such moves will not spread disease.

### Traced Premises

Consider the impact at different stages of production while under restrictions, this includes alternative spaces, buildings, all inputs (feed, water, bedding etc.) and how slurry/manure and dirty water can be managed.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Stage of production** | **Feed** | **Water** | **Housing** | **Bedding** | **Slurry/manure** | **Dirty water** |
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|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Other considerations** | *Dead stock*  *Links to other units*  *Alternative markets to designated market – impact planning for different scenarios* |
| **Other enterprises on the farm** | *Livestock - impact at different stages of production*  *Feed*  *Other enterprises, e.g. shoot, arable etc. impact on access* |
| **Neighbouring farms** | *Other pig units within the zones and any links*  *Other farms with links to other enterprises*  *Known smallholders with pigs* |
| **People** | *Protocols for staff – pig contact*  *Footpaths through the farm*  *Visitor book*  *Movement records for staff*  *Dwellings on farm – restrictions* |
| **Vehicles** | *Temporary restrictions*  *Vehicle washing*  *Dwellings on farm – service access (fuel etc.)* |

### Protection Zone/Surveillance Zone

Consider the impact at different stages of production while under restriction, this includes alternative spaces, buildings, all inputs (feed, water, bedding etc.) and how slurry/manure and dirty water can be managed.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Stage of production** | **Feed** | **Water** | **Housing** | **Bedding** | **Slurry/manure** | **Dirty water** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| --- | --- |
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### Appendix: Useful resources

You should have signage at all entry points with contact phone numbers for delivery drivers and visitors to contact you when they arrive

APHA Animal Disease Alert Subscription: [APHA animal disease alert subscription service - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apha-alert-subscription-service). This service will alert you by email or text message if there is an outbreak of a notifiable disease. Ensure you have your permissions set to allow APHA to contact you.

AHDB African Swine Fever web pages: [African swine fever | AHDB](https://ahdb.org.uk/african-swine-fever)

AHDB biosecurity SOPs and resources: [Biosecurity on pig farms | AHDB](https://ahdb.org.uk/knowledge-library/biosecurity-on-pig-farms)

AHDB biosecurity checklist: [Biosecurity checklist for pig farms | AHDB](https://ahdb.org.uk/knowledge-library/biosecurity-checklist-for-pig-farms)

AHDB resources and posters (includes ASF resources, do not feed the pigs, foot dip signs etc.): [AHDB Forms - AHDB Pork order form](https://forms.ahdb.org.uk/ahdb-pork-order-form?_gl=1*12l8zuu*_ga*NjAxNDg3MjIuMTY2MTUxMzE0Mw..*_ga_SGVNLVJRVM*MTcyMTg5OTkwOS43MjYuMC4xNzIxODk5OTc0LjYwLjAuMA..)

NPA African Swine Fever guidance and advice: Can be downloaded from the Members’ Area ‘Hot Topics’ and Publications sections online: [Members Area (npa-uk.org.uk)](https://www.npa-uk.org.uk/Members_Area.html)

Government Disease Control Strategy for African and Classical Swine Fever in Great Britain: [Disease Control Strategy for African and Classical Swine Fever in Great Britain (publishing.service.gov.uk)](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5e83488686650c743e9c7b3b/disease-control-strategy-csf-2020a.pdf)

Defra ASF guidance: [African swine fever: how to spot and report the disease - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/african-swine-fever)

Defra Disinfectants Approved for use in England, Scotland and Wales: [Defra, UK - Disinfectants](http://disinfectants.defra.gov.uk/DisinfectantsExternal/Default.aspx?Module=ApprovalsList_SI)

FAnGR Breeds at risk – contingency plan guidelines for potential derogation from culling: [FANGR: Breeds at risk - contingency plan guidelines for potential derogation from culling (publishing.service.gov.uk)](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a81db22e5274a2e8ab5631e/fangr-culling-derogation-guidelines.pdf)