

Action card	Avian FLU OUTBREAK In hours (for onsite swabbing)
1	<p>This agreement describes the procedures and processes that will be followed within NHS Cornwall and Isles of Scilly ICS to manage any incident that requires the implementation of special arrangements by the system to manage an outbreak of Avian Flu.</p> <p>This plan should be used with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHS Cornwall and Isles of Scilly ICB Incident Response Plan • Animal Health Plan (DCIoS LRF) 14/03/2019 and • Contingency plan exotic notifiable diseases of animals in England (DEFRA) 05/11/2019 <p>https://collaborate.resilience.gov.uk/RDService/home/8680/Animal-disease-plans</p> <p>Managing the human health implications of avian influenza - guidance for health protection teams (publishing.service.gov.uk)</p> <p>Reminder for health professionals on recognising possible human cases of Avian Influenza and accessing testing - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p> <p>NOTE: Once a protection zone has been declared in an area DEFRA will not test further and any dead birds MUST be assumed to contain the avian flu strain that brought in the protection zone. There will be no further notifications of potential cases either.</p> <p>Notifications of possible outbreaks may be received from the Council of the Isles of Scilly and Cornwall Council; APHA, DEFRA, UKHSA.</p>
	<p>In Hours Only – On site swabbing (7 days a week 9am – 5pm)</p>
2	<p>Cornwall</p> <p>Notification received via telephone from UKHSA or Public Health to the dispatch lead at Kernow Health CIC – 07731 998755 (or 01872 224042 if mobile not answered) of outbreak of avian flu and requirement to swab symptomatic staff at site.</p> <p>NHS Cornwall and Isles of Scilly ICB Director on Call receives a call from Kernow Health CIC, via Bodmin switchboard (01208 251300), with a request to activate Cornwall Ambulance Service (CAS) to site to undertake mass swabbing at scene.</p> <p>They will provide details given by UKHSA (including HPZ number).</p> <p>The Director on Call agrees the activation of CAS mobile testing unit to collect swabs from notified individuals. (Please ensure that CAS is given the HPZ number as needs to go on the microbiology form).</p>

	<p>CAS/Kernow Health CIC to liaise with point of contact for affected people to arrange an appointment time for staff requiring swabbing.</p> <p>Staff to be deployed to the site with all equipment to obtain swabs. The swabber to be in full PPE inc. fit tested FFP3 masks and eye protection.</p> <p>2X 5 sets of swabs suitable for avian flu, including packaging will be held (1 set each) on the Isles of Scilly and at Kernow Health CIC, complete with a sheet of instructions on use.</p> <p>The swabbing process is the same as for COVID-19 – i.e., nose and throat swab, but there may also be a requirement for conjunctival swabbing. The swabs can be returned via a priority post box or via a courier (arranged by the HPT).</p> <p>Working with the UKHSA, CAS will ensure that all swabs carry the relevant HPZ reference and have the bio secure avian influenza packaging. Microbiology will advise on kits and where they can be sourced from. Further kits can be accessed via the HPT at the time of an incident (via courier).</p> <p>The clinician taking the swab will need to contact UKHSA in or out-of-hours on 0300 303 8162.</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>Isles of Scilly</p> <p>The GP practice on the islands issue prescriptions for either pre or post exposure antivirals. The local pharmacy holds a small stock and can order more via the wholesale supplier. (They are not currently commissioned nor expected to hold stock of antivirals).</p> <p>If mobile swabbing is required this service the following process should be followed:</p> <p>Notification received via telephone from UKHSA, Public Health or the Council of Isles of Scilly to the dispatch lead at Kernow Health CIC – 07731 998755 (or 01872 224042 if mobile not answered) of outbreak of avian flu and requirement to swab symptomatic staff at site.</p> <p>Kernow Health CIC to ascertain whether the GP practice on the islands has been contacted and is able to prescribe (where the issue of pre-emptive antivirals are deemed appropriate). Kernow Health CIC to call the NHS Cornwall and Isles of Scilly ICB Director on Call for authorisation to activation CAS.</p> <p>NHS Cornwall and Isles of Scilly ICB Director on Call receives a call from Kernow Health CIC, via Bodmin switchboard (01208 251300), with a request to activate Cornwall Ambulance Service (CAS) to site to undertake mass swabbing at scene. CAS have agreed, in principle, that they will deploy to the islands if needed.</p> <p>The initiating requestor will provide the details given by UKHSA (including HPZ number).</p>

The Director on Call agrees the activation of CAS mobile testing unit to collect swabs from notified individuals. (Please ensure that CAS is given the HPZ number as needs to go on the microbiology form).

CAS/Kernow Health CIC to liaise with point of contact for affected people to arrange an appointment time for staff requiring swabbing.

Staff to be deployed to the site with all equipment to obtain swabs. The swabber to be in full PPE inc. fit tested FFP3 masks and eye protection.

Swabbing protocol

- Ideally TWO nose and throat swabs (just for clarity that means one swab used for nose and throat, then another swab used for taking another nose and throat sample). But if you can only get one nose and throat sample, that's ok.
- Transport Packaging for UN 3373 Substances.
- Any packaging for biological substances must include three components:
A primary receptacle: the tube, vial or other container typically made of glass or rigid plastic (including the stopper, cap, or other closure elements) that is in direct contact with the specimen.
A secondary packaging (including cushioning and other materials) that fully encapsulates the primary receptacle.
An outer packaging for shipping or transit.
- Components must meet specific requirements, including being capable of passing specific test procedures based on receptacle or packaging type. In addition, compliance with the regulations is based, in part, on overall performance; so, there can be no substitutions of a component from one manufacturer with a similar – but untested – component from another manufacturer.
- The postal swab kits that are used by HPT and PHL are compliant – 5 swabbing kits are pre-located at Kernow Health CIC and on the Isles of Scilly, in case of need. (Category B packaging).
- The PHL has agreed that if courier transport is required from Cornwall or Isles of Scilly to the lab, they would be willing to pay the costs.

Working with the UKHSA, CAS will ensure that all swabs carry the relevant HPZ reference and have the bio secure avian influenza packaging.

Further kits can be accessed via the HPT at the time of an incident (via courier).

The clinician taking the swab will need to contact UKHSA in or out-of-hours on 0300 303 8162.

4	The cost of activation has been agreed through Medicines Optimisation and the Director on Call should sanction the deployment, if requested.
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	<p>Activation will be between 9am and 5pm 7 days a week, although calls seeking permission to activate may be received out of hours. Kernow Health CIC will complete and send the referral form and CAS will action the following morning.</p> <p>The current price on a page (for Cornwall) is to supply a qualified swab technician, all insurances, all PPE, and all clinical equipment required. This quote will also include mainland travel to and from the airport. For deployment to the Isles of Scilly there will be additional costs, as detailed below: Parking fees, return transport fees to the island, travel around the island, accommodation/subsistence (if required), and carriage costs/insurance of samples back to the mainland. In addition, in the event of bad weather, we will continue to claim the same day rate until the staff member can return to the mainland. These will all be included on the invoice from CAS sent to the ICB.</p>
5	<p>Prescriptions will be made on either an FP10 or Patient Specific Directive (PSD).</p>
6	<p>Community pharmacy should be the first choice for supply of medication. <i>“A list of pharmacies routinely carrying limited stock can be found here: NHSE Specialist Medicines Service list Other pharmacies may have stock available and should be able to obtain supplies from their wholesaler on a next working day basis if required.”</i></p> <p><i>Wholesaler emergency ordering is paid for by NHS Cornwall and Isles of Scilly ICB – submit claims to C IOSICB.prescribing@nhs.net</i></p> <p>The acute hospital holds a small stock of medication for dispatch in extremis, should stock not be available from the above in a timely manner.</p>
7	<p>Pharmacies can make an emergency wholesale order for a fee, which the On Call Director may be asked to approve. Details of this should be sent to C IOSICB.prescribing@nhs.net</p>
8	<p>A PSD – Out of Season – cannot be used in community pharmacy and supply would need to come from the nearest acute hospital. The charge for this will be processed by NHS Cornwall and Isles of Scilly ICB Medicines Optimisation Team after the event C IOSICB.prescribing@nhs.net as will any activation fee for the stand up of CAS which should be sent to C IOSICB.EPRR@nhs.net</p> <p>The Director on call to ensure that they notify medicines optimisation and EPRR of the detail of the activation, by email ASAP after activation request granted. Please copy ciosicb.headofipc@nhs.net and louise.dickinson2@nhs.net into the email.</p> <p>The completed PSD should be sent to the organisation that will dispense it (such as a community pharmacy or a hospital pharmacy). Where circumstances mean that it will not arrive promptly an electronic copy can be used to give advance notice of the supplies required, but the signed original must also be sent.</p>