

AOI 019 WILDLIFE HAZARD CONTROL

It is the responsibility of all employers to ensure that relevant Operating Instructions are brought to the attention of their staff. However, individuals remain responsible for their own actions and those who are in any doubt should consult their supervisor or manager.

1. Policy

- 1.1. The presence of wildlife and especially birds within the aerodrome boundary must be controlled to minimise risk to aircraft.

2. Description of task

- 2.1. As far as is practicable to ensure that all airside areas are free of wildlife activity and concentrations.

3. Qualifications and responsibility

- 3.1. Wildlife control measures are undertaken by airport personnel that have:
- a) a current airside runway driving permit;
 - b) successfully completed suitable wildlife hazard management training courses.
 - c) Remain compliant through internal competency assessments.
- 3.2. The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 protects all birds to varying degrees, although special provisions apply for bird control at aerodromes. As the operator of a licensed aerodrome, SIAL is licensed by Natural England to lethally control specified protected species. Copies of licences are held electronically by the Airside Operations Manager.
- 3.3. Bird Hazard Management training includes awareness of measures to be taken to avoid contraction of avian influenza and other avian related diseases. Protection is provided for personnel to safely dispose of bird remains.
- 3.4. Overall responsibility for the wildlife hazard control programme rests with the Airside Operations Manager who fulfils the role of Bird Control Officer (BCO).
- 3.4.1. The Airside Operations Manager is specifically responsible for:
- a) maintenance of the registered firearms dealership, in accordance with the Firearms Act 1968, to permit use of pistols and procurement of ammunition used for bird control;
 - b) Culling licence returns to Natural England

Document Name:	AOI 019 Wildlife Hazard Control	Version:	SIAL 001/20
Created:	25 th September 2020	Version Date:	September 2020
Owner:	Airside Assurance Manager	Review Due:	30 June 2024
Retention Period:	Refer to Document Control Procedure	Page:	Page 1 of 4

AOI 019 WILDLIFE HAZARD CONTROL

- 3.5. Daily operational responsibility rests with the nominated member of the Airport Fire Service management including:
- a) Staff training, qualification and competency checking
 - b) Procurement of ammunition
- 3.6. The WHM operative is responsible for:
- a) observing any actual or potential bird hazard;
 - b) initiating movement area patrols;
 - c) initiating bird control action;
 - d) notifying affected aircraft or ATC of bird concentrations and any positive controlling action taken;
 - e) recording bird concentrations and control action taken;
 - f) maintenance of the bird patrol log.

4. Frequency of task

- 4.1. Preventative measures described in 5.1 to 5.3 are continuously operated.
- 4.2. Continuous patrols shall be made during daylight hours and “bird runs” as stipulated in airport procedures on the manoeuvring area after dusk.

5. Operating procedures

- 5.1. Measures are taken on the aerodrome to avoid exposure of edible matter, waste material or activity that could be attractive to birds. The immediate environs are monitored to detect any activities that could prove attractive to birds.
- 5.2. Although areas of water exist to the east and west of the aerodrome, historically no significant resultant bird problem has been evident. Monitoring of these areas continues as part of the offsite birds monitoring schedule.
- 5.3. A “long grass” regime as specified in guidance document CAP 772, is adopted on the aerodrome. This permits growth up to 6 to 8 inches (15cm-20cm), except as where necessary to avoid shielding of signs and lighting aids, and within 3 metres of paved surfaces.
- 5.4. Wildlife and specifically bird control is accomplished by:
- a) “Digiscare” equipment attached to the Airport Fire Service vehicle;
 - b) Pyrotechnics;
 - c) Shotgun
 - d) Firearms
 - e) Bird scaring laser
- 5.5. Procedures and other provisions for storage, handling and operations of firearms and lasers used for bird dispersal are set out in AOI 020 relating to firearms.

Document Name:	AOI 019 Wildlife Hazard Control	Version:	SIAL 001/20
Created:	25 th September 2020	Version Date:	September 2020
Owner:	Airside Assurance Manager	Review Due:	30 June 2024
Retention Period:	Refer to Document Control Procedure	Page:	Page 2 of 4

AOI 019 WILDLIFE HAZARD CONTROL

- 5.6. Use of the shotgun/air rifle, to lethally control birds, is used when other dispersal methods have failed. Evidence that all other dispersal methods have failed must be recorded in the wildlife log. When using this method of bird control the following requirements will apply:
- a) the absolute minimum number of birds shall be killed in order to preserve air safety;
 - b) action is restricted to within the aerodrome boundary fence;
 - c) a summary of birds killed, including the species, is to be made and submitted to the BCO
- 5.7. During times that firearms and ammunition are stored in the bird control vehicle this vehicle is not to be taken off the airside areas and use of the vehicle is restricted to suitably qualified staff only.

6. Records

- 6.1. Records shall be maintained in a current state for the following:
- a) Live ammunition;
 - b) Number of rounds fired;
 - c) Number of birds killed, including species
 - d) Location, duration and direction of dispersion equipment usage
- 6.2. Bird strike reports must be made to the European Co-ordination Centre for Accident and Incident Reporting Systems (ECCAIRS) on <http://www.aviationreporting.eu/>
- Bird strike reports are submitted by Airside Operations and must be submitted within 72 hours of the strike.

7. Follow up action

- 7.1. The Airside Operations Manager is to submit a record of all birds killed to Natural England. This must be submitted at the end of January each year, covering the previous twelve month period. Specific licences with shorter validity must be reported on within 2 weeks of their end date.

8. Audit

First Level	-	AFS staff, continuous assessment process.
Second Level	-	Airside Operations Manager, monthly check on ammunition stock and records. Review of this Instruction when necessary to incorporate national changes to criteria, procedures or legislation.
Third Level	-	Operations Director to review the provisions of this instruction every 3 years

Document Name:	AOI 019 Wildlife Hazard Control	Version:	SIAL 001/20
Created:	25 th September 2020	Version Date:	September 2020
Owner:	Airside Assurance Manager	Review Due:	30 June 2024
Retention Period:	Refer to Document Control Procedure	Page:	Page 3 of 4

AOI 019 WILDLIFE HAZARD CONTROL

Document Name:	AOI 019 Wildlife Hazard Control	Version:	SIAL 001/20
Created:	25 th September 2020	Version Date:	September 2020
Owner:	Airside Assurance Manager	Review Due:	30 June 2024
Retention Period:	Refer to Document Control Procedure	Page:	Page 4 of 4