

[Press release: Interim Housing Ombudsman](#)

David Connolly will act as the interim Housing Ombudsman from 5 June 2017.

David Connolly will act as the interim Housing Ombudsman whilst recruitment for a permanent post-holder takes place. This will be effective from 5 June 2017 when the current Housing Ombudsman, Denise Fowler, leaves to take up her new role.

[News story: Use the Charity Commission website to answer your query](#)

Our online guidance and services are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

How to change your correspondence or email address

Use our online service to [change your charity's details](#).

How to request a new password

If you are an established, registered charity you can request a [new or replacement password online](#). You'll need to enter your charity number and the password will be emailed to the address we have on file.

If you are applying to register a charity and need a new password, you can request it through our [online service](#)

How to get a copy of a governing document

You should contact the charity first. Some charities may provide governing documents on request or through their website.

If you are a trustee, professional advisor or a member of the charity you can ask for a copy of the governing document. All members of the trustee body should be given a copy as part of normal governance processes.

If you can't get a governing document from the charity you can use our [general enquiry form](#) to request one.

How to submit an annual return

The annual return service for the financial period ending in 2017 will be available on this website in the summer.

You can read our guidance to help you [submit your annual return](#).

Response times for general queries

If you have sent a query to the Charity Commission we will aim to respond within 15 working days.

Our [contact information and opening times](#) are available on the homepage.

[Press release: New air quality plan published for consultation](#)

Options open for consultation to reduce nitrogen dioxide in our towns and cities.

The government today published a draft plan to improve air quality by reducing nitrogen dioxide levels in the UK.

The options now open for [consultation on reducing nitrogen dioxide in our towns and cities](#) are designed to reduce the impact of diesel vehicles, and accelerate the move to cleaner transport.

Local authorities are already responsible for improving air quality in their area, but will now be expected to develop new and creative solutions to reduce emissions as quickly as possible, while avoiding undue impact on the motorist.

The government is consulting on a range of measures that could be taken to mitigate the impact of action to improve air quality.

In line with the timetable directed by the Courts the government is seeking views on these proposals in advance of preparing its final plan for publication by 31 July. All final decisions will be taken by the incoming government.

This consultation will run until 15 June.

News story: Invitation to an IIAC meeting on 6 July 2017

The aim of the meeting is to give members of the public, their representatives, and people with a professional interest in occupational diseases, the opportunity to learn and ask questions about the council's work.

The meeting will be at:

Manchester Conference Centre & Pendulum Hotel
Weston Building
Sackville Street
Manchester
M1 3BB

The meeting will include:

- an explanation of the council's role in making recommendations to ministers about the industrial injuries scheme
- a discussion about the council's work in the past year
- an opportunity to contribute views and ideas on the council's future work

The council welcomes any questions in advance of the meeting, where they will respond.

It may not be possible to accept all applications if the number of requests is higher than expected.

The Industrial Injuries Advisory Council (IIAC) provides advice to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions and the Department for Communities in Northern Ireland on matters relating to the industrial injuries scheme. In particular they give advice on which diseases, and the jobs that cause them, should be included in the scheme.

The council is formed of medical, scientific and legal experts, and representatives of employers and employed earners.

The council does not represent the Department for Work and Pensions and has no involvement in individual claims or decisions.

[News story: Avian flu confirmed at a farm near Thornton, Wyre, Lancashire](#)

H5N8 avian flu has been confirmed at a farm near Thornton, Wyre, Lancashire.

The UK's Chief Veterinary Officer has confirmed H5N8 avian flu in a small backyard flock of chickens at a farm near Thornton, Wyre, Lancashire.

A 3 km Protection Zone and a 10 km Surveillance Zone have been put in place around the infected premises to limit the risk of the disease spreading. We have published [full details of the controls in place](#).

The flock is estimated to contain around 30 birds. A number have died and the remaining live birds at the premises are being humanely culled. A full investigation is under way to determine the source of the infection.

Public Health England advises that the risk to public health from the virus is very low and the Food Standards Agency is clear that bird flu does not pose a food safety risk for UK consumers.

[Read the latest advice and information on avian flu in the UK](#), including actions to reduce the risk of the disease spreading, advice for anyone who keeps poultry or captive birds and details of previous cases. Journalists with queries should contact [Defra press office](#).