



General Licence information for Wales as of the 1st January 2021

Natural Resources Wales released a new set of General Licences for Wales that came into effect on the 1st January 2021. Be aware that there are separate licences for operating in both England and Scotland.

The **three main** Welsh Licences are GL001, GL002 and GL004.

You do not have to apply for the General Licences but you do have to read, understand and adhere to the conditions contained in them. It is important that you understand under which licence each species can be controlled and why.

Each licence has specific rules about its use on or near listed protected sites. Each listed European Protected site has a buffer zone around it, and you must comply with additional conditions if you are using a licence on a European site or in its buffer zone. The list of the protected sites, the additional conditions and their buffer zones can be seen in Annex 1 which is contained in all of the licences.

Species Control at a Glance:

Licence	GL001 To Prevent:				GL002		GL004
	Damage to:		Spread of Disease to:		To Preserve:	To Prevent:	Conservation
Control Purpose	Damage to Livestock	Foodstuff for Livestock	Livestock & Foodstuffs for Livestock	Crops, Vegetables & Fruit	Public Health	Spread of Human Disease	To Conserve the eggs or chicks of Wild Birds. Listed in Annex 1 in the licence.
Carrion Crow	Yes		Yes		No	No	Yes
Magpie	Yes		Yes		No	No	Yes
Rook	No		No		No	No	No
Jackdaw	Yes		Yes		No	No	No
Jay	No		No		No	No	Yes
Wood Pigeon	Yes		Yes		No	No	No
Feral Pigeon	Yes		Yes		Yes	Yes	No
Canada Goose	Yes		Yes		No	No	No

GL001

<https://cdn.cyfoethnaturiol.cymru/media/690848/general-licence-001-english-final-version.pdf?mode=pad&rnd=132212401340000000>

This Licence allows you to kill or to take certain wild birds to prevent serious damage to livestock, foodstuffs for livestock, crops, vegetables or fruit or to prevent the spread of disease to livestock, foodstuffs for livestock, crops, vegetables or fruit.

The Licence has a table of conditions, Notes and Definitions for its use which you must read understand and adhere to.

GL002

<https://cdn.cyfoethnaturiol.cymru/media/690883/general-licence-002-english-final-version.pdf?mode=pad&rnd=132224395830000000>

This Licence allows you to kill or take certain wild birds for the purpose of preserving public health and safety.

The Feral Pigeon is the only bird contained in this licence.

GL04

<https://cdn.cyfoethnaturiol.cymru/media/690850/general-licence-004-english-final-version.pdf?mode=pad&rnd=132212402110000000>

This Licence allows you to kill or take certain birds for the purpose of conserving certain listed wild birds.

The list of the Wild Birds that this licence can be used to conserve can be found in Annex 1 of the licence.

Protected Sites

None of these licences authorise the taking of any action within the protected sites listed in Annex 1 of each licence, or within an identified 300m buffer area surrounding the listed site (500 meters in the case of the Dyfi Estuary SSSI/SPA).

Protected site information can be found at:

<http://lle.gov.wales/catalogue/item/GeneralLicencesExcludedAreasWhereBespokeLicenceRequired?lang=en>

To recap

General Licences do not have to be applied for but, you need to read and understand which licence is specific to the pest control operation that you are carrying out. You must adhere to all of the terms and conditions of the relevant licence in the links above. Authorised persons intending to carry out activities under this licence are advised to print, sign and date out the relevant licence and keep it with you to show that you have read and understood how the licences work.