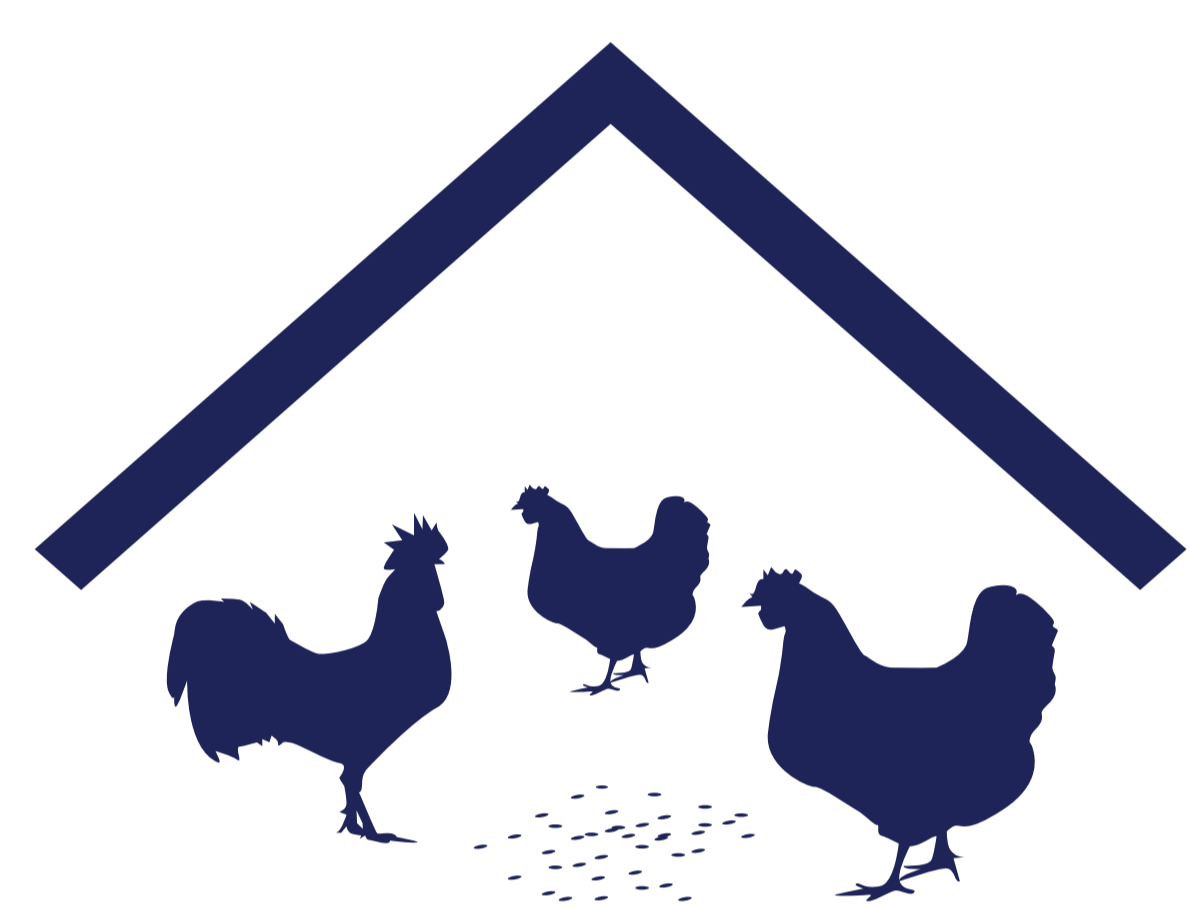
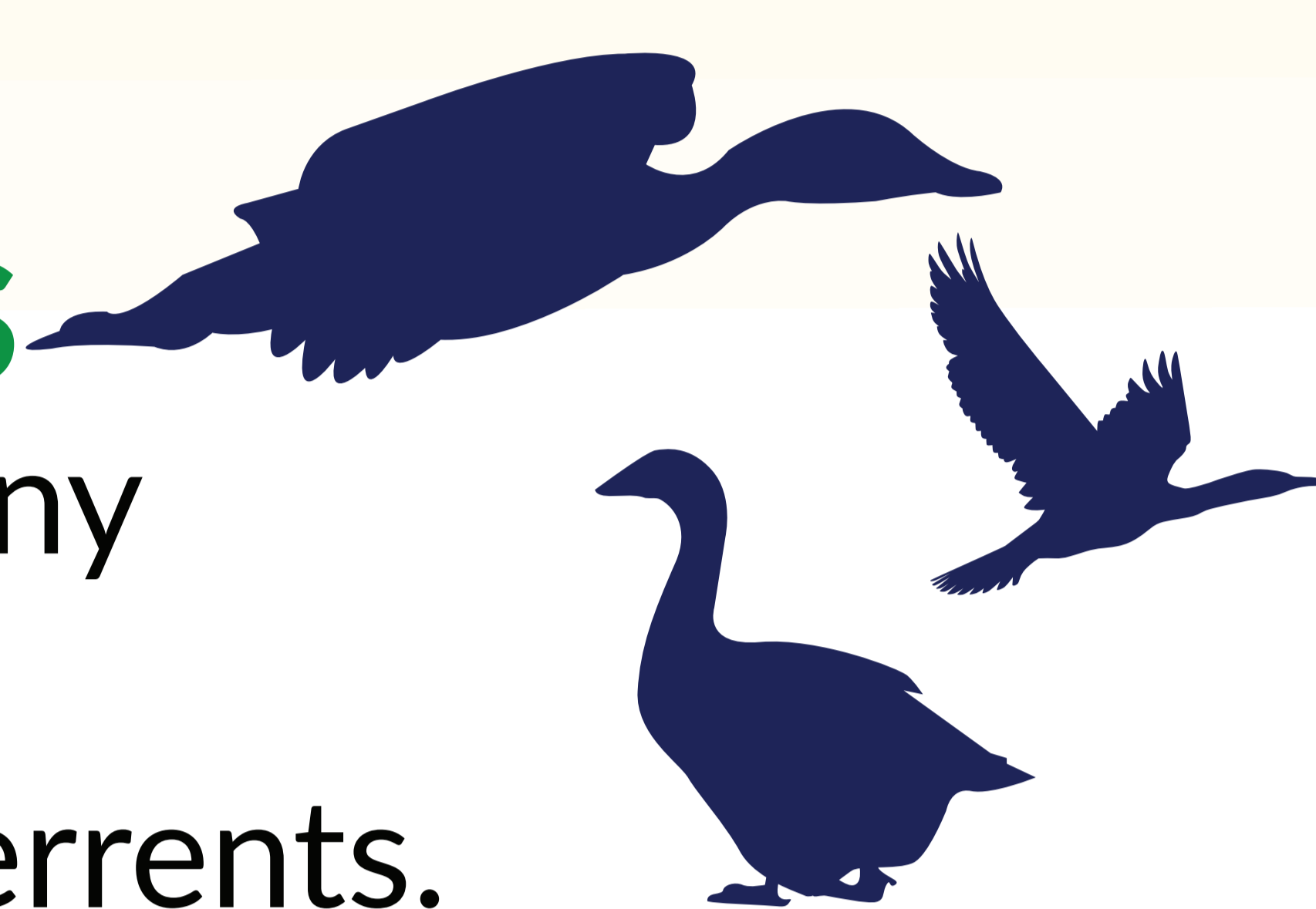


# KEEPING BIRDS SAFE from Avian Influenza

Avian influenza also known as bird flu, is a highly contagious viral disease that affects birds. There is a constant risk of introduction of bird flu to Ireland by wild birds. Bird flu can spread from wild birds to poultry, either directly or via the environment. It is important all bird keepers remain vigilant to the threat of bird flu and have good biosecurity measures in place to protect their birds.

## Prevent contact with wild birds

Discourage wild birds from your premises. Keep any ponds netted or covered, keep any outdoor areas fully fenced and consider the use of wild bird deterrents.

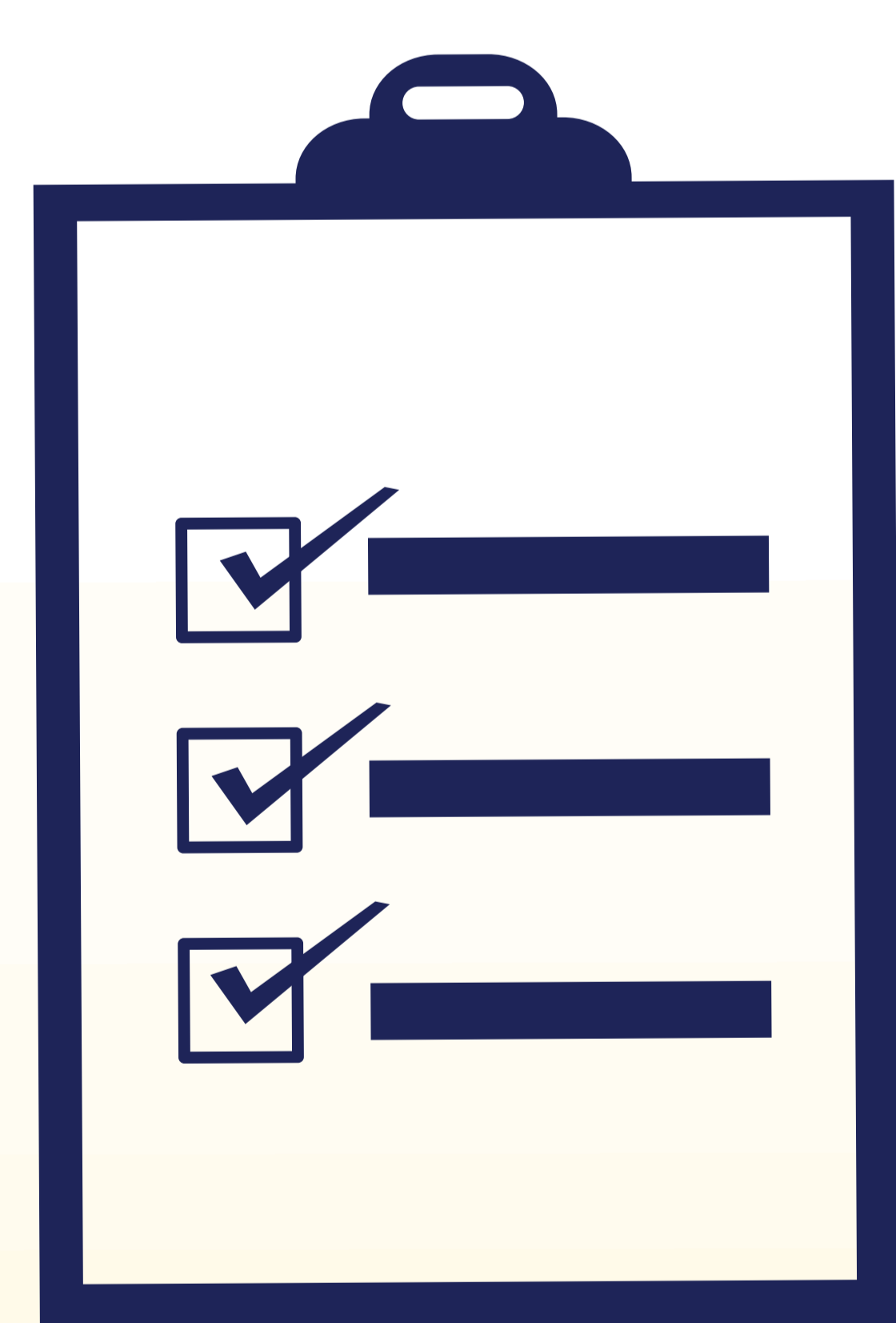


## Feed and water birds under cover

Feed birds inside or make sure feeders and water drinkers are covered and regularly cleaned. Keep bird areas clean and tidy, remove any spilled feed, and have effective vermin control.

## Good hygiene in bird areas

Prevent unnecessary persons accessing your birds, use gloves and designated footwear for attending birds, place disinfectant foot baths at entrances to bird areas, regularly clean and disinfect concrete walkways and wash hands after attending birds.



## Premises registration

Anyone who keeps or trades in poultry, even persons who keep small numbers of poultry (backyard poultry) are required to register with the Department. This ensures owners can be quickly alerted in the event of an outbreak.

## Avian influenza is a notifiable disease

If you suspect any birds may be affected you must contact your regular veterinarian or notify the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine immediately by contacting your local Regional Veterinary Office or by calling **1850 200 456**

