

# Pet Pig Keepers



## Have you registered?

- If you are keeping any pigs for the first time, you must contact and register their location with the relevant Rural Payments body:
  - **Rural Payments Agency (RPA)** – England
  - **Rural Payments & Inspections Division (RPID)** – Scotland
  - **Rural Payments Wales (RPW)** – Wales
- Your relevant Rural Payments body which identifies the location where your pigs are kept, will issue you with a **County Parish Holding (CPH)** number.
- You must inform the **Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA)** when you start keeping any pigs at a location for the first time – they will issue a herd mark which identifies your animals.
- You must also tell **APHA** when your circumstances change, e.g. you stop keeping pet pigs at your registered location.



## Do you walk your pig?

- If you want to walk your pet pig, you must have a walking licence from **APHA**, and your route must be pre-approved.
- Your route may not be approved by **APHA** if there is considered to be an avoidable risk of disease spread, for example if it passes near:
  - ✗ A livestock market
  - ✗ A pig farm
  - ✗ A fast-food outlet
- Remember to always carry your licence with you during the walk, and to renew it every year.

## Why is this messaging important?

- We want to ensure pet pig keepers are aware of their responsibilities and how their actions can impact **traceability** in the UK.
- This means with accurate keeper information **APHA** can take more effective actions to reduce or prevent the occurrence and spread of diseases such as **Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)** and **African Swine Fever (ASF)**.

## And remember...

If you keep pet pigs, you must follow the same rules as pig farmers.

For more information, including what you can and cannot feed your pigs, visit **Keeping a pet pig or 'micropig'** (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/keeping-a-pet-pig-or-micropig>)

