

The Management Agency's Authorised Person (AP2) inspection guidelines

The Management Agency's Operations Managers are often questioned as to how they allocate inspections, why some beekeepers are inspected, and not all others that receive a notification from the Management Agency.

Why are AP2 inspections and/or surveillance inspections necessary?

Inspections are necessary to verify beekeepers' compliance with AFB NPMP rules and (wherever relevant) compliance with the conditions of beekeepers' Disease Elimination Conformity Agreements (DECAs).

According to clause 40 ('Inspections and Audits') of the AFB NPMP, the Management Agency must:

- carry out surveillance of beehives to detect American Foulbrood
- verify beekeepers' compliance with their AFB NPMP obligations.
- investigate potential breaches to the AFB NPMP.
- verify the accuracy of any statements made by beekeepers in their ADR, COI or a notification of an American Foulbrood case.

Surveillance inspections help the Management Agency:

- identify the source of reported cases of AFB of unknown origin (i.e. beekeepers who may not be managing their AFB properly)
- determine the extent of spread of an AFB outbreak and,
- verify that AFB has been eliminated from a previously infected apiary.

How are inspections allocated?

1. AFB notification is received from a beekeeper, as per the example in the figure below (the circle is 1 km in size). The red pin being the AFB apiary, green pins being all known registered apiaries, and the blue pins are all known apiaries which are deregistered.



- 2. The Management Agency holds data on HiveHub related to all AFB and potential sources in the area.
- 3. If the AFB report states that the source of infection is unknown, we discuss the AFB finding with the beekeeper who reported the case. This is done to verify that the source of the AFB is unknown. Once we confirmed that this is the case, we enquire about unknown apiaries or potential sources of AFB that the beekeeper knows are present in the area, but that we don't have knowledge of. (These may include apiaries, storage sheds, beekeepers and beekeeping company's addresses).
- 4. Inspections are allocated to the closest apiaries (i.e. apiaries within 500m of the report), as these are the most likely source or first point of spread of AFB.
- 5. All beekeepers within 2km of the original AFB report are sent an email and text message **at 6pm on the evening of the original AFB report being verified by an Operations Manager/AP1**.
- 6. Each new AFB notification restarts this process until the AFB source is found and no further apiaries with AFB are found.
- 7. The Management Agency may conduct further inspections the area after 6 months if the AFB source was not found.

CLICK HERE for some frequently asked questions (FAQs) we receive.