

Airport wildlife control officer

Airport wildlife control officers support an aerodrome's wildlife-risk programme within defined training and authority. This is different from being a wildlife biologist or an air traffic controller. Some airports combine the function with wider airfield operations. This guide explains employment preparation only: it contains no wildlife-control technique, weapon instruction or operational response procedure.

Other titles to compare: Wildlife control officer - airport, Bird control officer where employer duties align. Titles alone do not establish equivalent duties.

What the role does

- Observe and communicate wildlife-related information within assigned airport duties.
- Maintain accurate records and follow the aerodrome's authorised management arrangements.
- Coordinate with colleagues and specialists within the limits of training and authority.

Where the work happens

Airfield and associated airport facilities; shift work, outdoor conditions and site permissions may apply.

Employer example 1

Exeter and Devon Airport Limited • United Kingdom • Wildlife Control Officer - person specification

Standing role description not a vacancy • Checked 2026-10-27 [EMP1]

Category	What this employer states
Essential in this source	Full driving licence; ability to hold the stated firearm certifications; IT skills. Clear communication, calm judgement, teamwork, accuracy and adherence to procedures; shift and short-notice availability.
Desirable in this source	Five GCSEs or equivalent at grade C or above in the stated subjects; existing firearm certificates; relevant airside, aviation or safety-critical experience.
Other stated conditions	Employer colour-perception assessment is listed; no personal medical assessment is made here. Specification last reviewed 6 April 2023; no current vacancy is established.

Selected conditions from this employer and role only; not a complete eligibility checklist or worldwide rule.

Supporting employer context

Norwich Airport • United Kingdom • Airfield Operations Officer - nominated wildlife-control function

Standing role description not a vacancy • Checked 2026-10-27 [EMP2]

Category	What this employer states
Essential in this source	IT capability, current DVLA driving licence and ability to maintain airside driving permission and the stated firearm certificates.
Desirable in this source	Airfield experience, including wildlife/habitat work; English and mathematics GCSEs or equivalent.
Other stated conditions	Lists specialist airfield, driving and wildlife/habitat courses without making clear which must predate recruitment. Broader combined role, not a separate wildlife-only vacancy.

Selected conditions from this employer and role only; not a complete eligibility checklist or worldwide rule.

PREPARE AND VERIFY

Separate requirements from preparation

UK aerodrome guidance; specific legal permissions unresolved: CAA guidance concerns an aerodrome's wildlife-risk management arrangements. Employer requirements to be capable of obtaining certificates are not the same as already holding them, and neither grants permission to act. Exact wildlife, firearms, airside and occupational requirements must be confirmed with the relevant authorities and employer. No control action is taught or authorised here. [REG1, EMP1, EMP2]

Still to verify: One dedicated-role employer specification is verified; Norwich is a supporting combined-role comparison. Both are standing historical descriptions, not confirmed openings. Full statutory and task-authorisation applicability remains unresolved.

Explore a realistic entry route

- Identify whether a vacancy is a dedicated control-officer post, a biologist role or combined airfield operations. These may have different education, experience and authorisation pathways; do not combine them into one supposedly universal qualification.
- Build reliable observation, record-keeping and teamwork through safe supervised activities. Compare essential and desirable criteria precisely; the Exeter specification does not make its preferred school grades or existing certificates compulsory entry conditions.
- Ask about employer-provided training, supervised practice, assessments, airside permissions and responsibility boundaries. Do not seek to practise wildlife-control techniques independently or buy specialised equipment as a substitute for an authorised training pathway.

Build evidence of your skills

- Prepare a fictional observation log using invented time, location and uncertainty fields. Check whether another reader can distinguish an observation from an assumption; do not enter an airfield or approach wildlife for this exercise.
- Write a concise non-operational handover for a school or office task, including unfinished work and who should review it. Demonstrate traceability without inventing safety experience.

Prepare for an interview

Reflection prompts only, not questions claimed to be used by an employer.

- Preparation prompt: describe a genuine time you followed a procedure carefully while noticing something unexpected. Explain how you communicated uncertainty and sought appropriate help.
- Prepare questions about training, supervision, work conditions and the difference between qualification, site permission and authority to carry out a specific task. These are not reported employer interview questions.

Investigate possible next roles

Research supervisory wildlife-risk work or broader airfield operations. A wildlife-biologist or programme-design position can involve different scientific qualifications; operational experience does not automatically supply them.

Sources and scope

[EMP1] [Exeter and Devon Airport Limited Wildlife Control Officer - person specification](#)

Standing role description not a vacancy. United Kingdom. Checked 2026-10-27.

[EMP2] [Norwich Airport Airfield Operations Officer - nominated wildlife-control function](#)

Standing role description not a vacancy. United Kingdom. Checked 2026-10-27.

[REG1] [UK Civil Aviation Authority CAP 772 - Wildlife Hazard Management at Aerodromes](#)

Guidance for aerodrome wildlife-risk management plans within safety management. Official landing page labels version 2, dated 20 October 2017, Current at the check date. The guidance is not a personal licence or a substitute for current wildlife, firearms and local operational authorisations. Checked 2026-10-27.

Educational requirements guide, not operational training, a professional approval or an employment guarantee. Verify current requirements with the relevant authority and employer. Selected employer conditions are not worldwide eligibility rules. Read the complete current vacancy and competent authority requirements before choosing training or applying. No personal medical, immigration or employment eligibility assessment is made. No job guarantee.