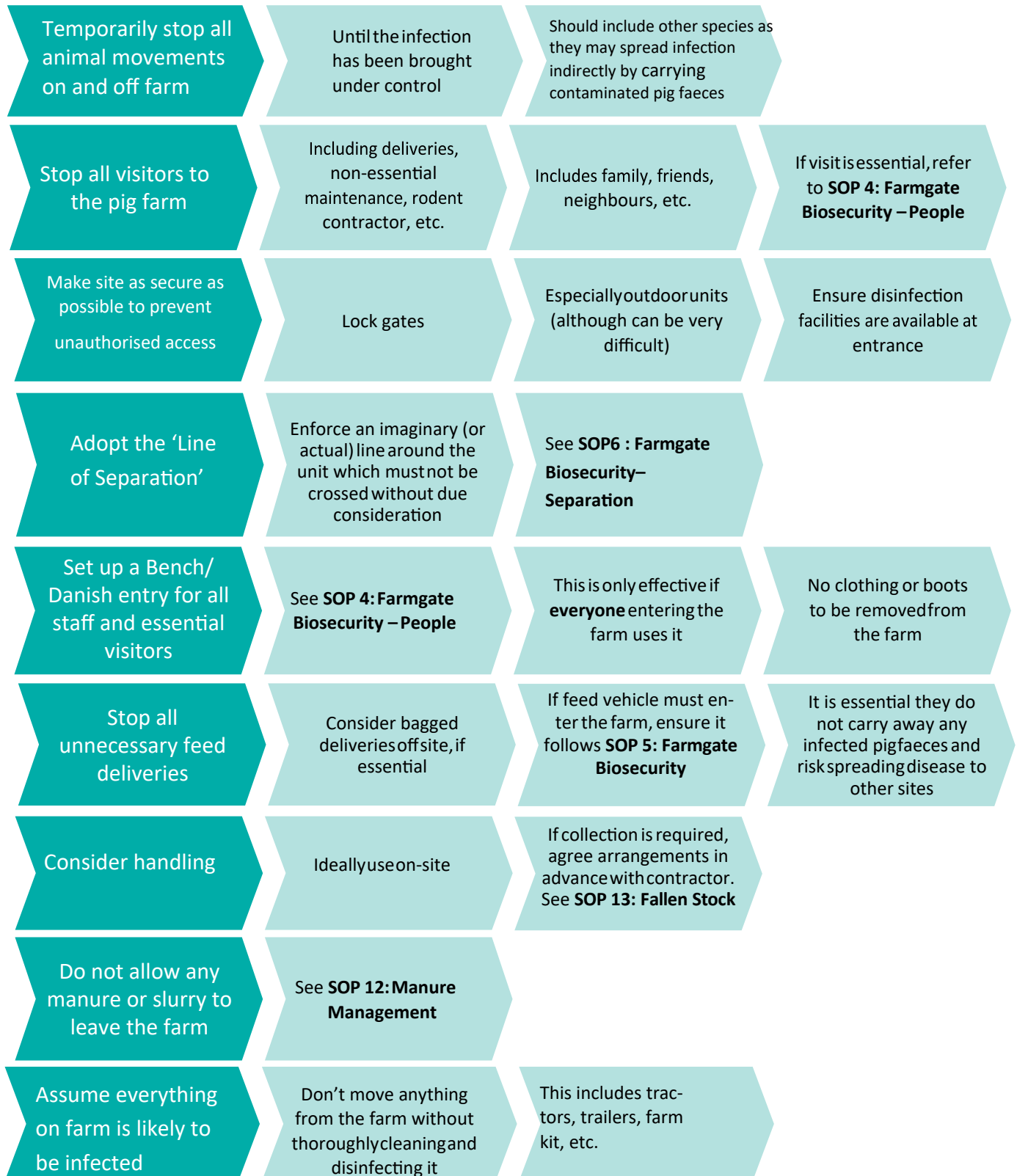


# Contain, control and eliminate

SOP 8

## Step 1: Contain the virus



## Step 2: Control the infection

### 1. Early weaning

- During an acute outbreak, the youngest pigs will be dying in high numbers (expect 100%)
- Wean piglets early (down to 10-14 days) for better survival, unless otherwise advised by your vet
- Consider additional temporary weaner accommodation
- **Do not** move pigs off site, unless agreed with farm vet, as this risks spreading PEDv beyond the farm
- Piglets will require supportive care – warmth, electrolytes and fluids
- Euthanase any piglets which are unlikely to recover
- Must have provision for storing deadstock – sealed leak-proof containers. On-site incineration is the best option but, if not possible, refer to **SOP 13** for further details.

### 2. Herd exposure

- The herd must be exposed as soon as possible after the break is confirmed
- The aim is to infect and recover all sows, gilts and boars in a short time period to produce a uniform herd immunity and stop the virus shedding
- Suckling piglets in the early stages of infection are the best source of virus – ideally within 18 hours of developing diarrhoea
- Controlled exposure should only be carried out under the strict supervision of the farm vet. The vet should refer to the PVS Guidelines on Controlled Exposure, available on the PVS website.

### 3. Farrowing room management

- The goal is to reduce infection pressure
- Set up room-specific boots and overalls, disinfectant foot dips and handwashing facilities outside every farrowing room
- If possible, allocate staff to different production areas and do not allow crossover. Use colour coding to demarcate which areas staff can and cannot enter.



Use colour coding to demarcate which areas staff can and cannot enter and assign room-specific boots, overalls and equipment.

- Farrowing rooms must be managed as 'all-in, all-out'
- Keep age groups within rooms as close as possible and do not move between rooms
- Try to ensure all piglets receive colostrum
- Stop all cross-fostering, leave all piglets with their mother or euthanase if not healthy
- By 24 hours after farrowing, euthanase weak or small piglets which are unlikely to survive, or are suspected to have had low colostrum intake
- Stop all processing of piglets (eg teeth clipping, tail docking, iron injections) until piglets are surviving to 7+ days of age
- Processing rules:
  - Handle piglets individually, do not use barrows
  - Clean needle for every litter
  - Clean gloves for every litter
  - Use two sets of teething, tailing and tattooing equipment and rotate between litters, disinfecting when not in use
- Do not step into farrowing crates (except when absolutely required at weaning)
- Record and remove all dead pigs as soon as possible to sealed, leak-proof containers
- Sows that have lost their entire litters should be left in the farrowing room until weaning. On veterinary advice, consider synchronising oestrus in these animals
- When weaning, try to move pigs individually rather than in a barrow
- Do not hold any piglets back at weaning, euthanase if not healthy
- Once farrowing room is empty, it must be **meticulously and completely** washed with a detergent, disinfected and allowed to dry (see **SOP 11**). This must include **all** equipment, room-specific boots, etc. and the hallways
- Actively heating farrowing rooms once cleaned and disinfected is also of benefit.

#### 4. Farrowing paddock management in outdoor systems

- As above (farrowing room management)
- Additional considerations for weaning outdoors:
  - Temporary accommodation required (must not move pigs off site unless agreed with farm vet)
  - Farrowing beds must be removed from paddock (this material may be used to expose pregnant animals to the virus but only under strict veterinary advice)
  - Huts should be tipped, washed and disinfected (see **SOP 11**) and then relocated in the paddock
  - Drinkers, troughs and feeders should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected (old food removed)
- Stock trailers must be cleaned and disinfected after weaning.

#### 5. General considerations

- Maintain good record-keeping, especially monitoring symptoms in sows to track spread of the virus and development of immunity. Mortality records are also important.
- Increase rodent baiting, inside and outside, to reduce the likelihood of virus being moved around by wildlife vectors. This includes bird scaring on outdoor units.
- Support teams and additional labour may be required to assist with the extra management activities on the farm.