Defra - Avian Influenza Latest Situation - 7 November 2022

From: "SM-Defra-EDC.outbreak.comms (DEFRA)" <EDC.outbreak.comms@defra.gov.uk>

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To: "SM-Defra-EDC.outbreak.comms (DEFRA)" <EDC.outbreak.comms@defra.gov.uk>

Dear Stakeholder.

Avian Influenza Prevention Zone (AIPZ) including housing comes into force across England

- Mandatory housing measures for all poultry and captive birds came into force for the whole of England from 00:01 on Monday 7 November 2022 until further notice.
- The housing measures legally require all bird keepers to keep their birds housed and to follow stringent biosecurity measures to help protect their flocks from the disease, regardless of type or size (partial exemptions apply to zoos and a limited number of other species).
- These measures were introduced following an increase in the national risk of avian influenza in wild birds to very high and extend the mandatory housing measures that were already in force in the hot spot area of Suffolk, Norfolk and parts of Essex to the whole of England.
- Further information of the measures that apply in the new England-wide AIPZ including housing measures can be found in the <u>declaration</u>.

New Case in England

 Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) H5N1 was confirmed in commercial poultry on 7 November 2022 at a premises near Oundle, North Northamptonshire, Northamptonshire, England (AIV2022/190). A 3km protection zone and 10km surveillance zone are in place around each of the premises (zone in for from 19:45 on the 7 November 2022). All poultry on the premises will be humanely culled.

New Case in Wales

 Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) H5N1 was also confirmed in non-commercial other captive birds on the 7 November 2022 at a <u>premises near Buckley, Flintshire, Wales</u> (AIV2022/189). A 3km Captive Bird (Monitoring) Controlled Zone is in place around the premises (zone in for from 21:00 on the 7 November 2022). All birds on the premises will be humanely culled.

Keepers can check where disease control zones and regional AIPZs are located in GB and if they are in a zone on the <u>Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) interactive map</u>, and in Northern Ireland on <u>DAERA's interactive map</u>.

High standards of biosecurity must be maintained by all keepers as good practice for the health and welfare of their birds. Good biosecurity is an essential defence against diseases such as avian influenza and is key to limiting the spread of avian influenza in an outbreak.

An Avian Influenza Prevention Zone (AIPZ) is in force across the UK. Separate AIPZ declarations have been made in each UK administration: England, Scotland, Wales and <a href="Morthern Ireland. In addition, a regional AIPZ including housing measures is in force in Norfolk, Suffolk and parts of Essex. Mandatory housing measures will be expanded to cover the whole of England from 00:01 on Monday 7th November.

- In these areas it is a legal requirement for all bird keepers (whether they have pet birds, commercial flocks or just a few birds in a backyard flock) to follow strict biosecurity measures in order to limit the spread of and eradicate the disease.
- In addition, in areas where mandatory housing measures are in force, it is a legal requirement for all bird keepers to keep their birds indoors.
- Definitive requirements are set out in the relevant AIPZ Declarations.
- Biosecurity guidance and a biosecurity self-assessment checklist have been published by Defra to assist all bird keepers in instigating and maintaining good biosecurity including compliance with the

mandatory AIPZ measures which, together with further updates on the latest avian influenza situation, can be found via https://www.gov.uk/government/news/bird-flu-avian-influenza-latest-situation-in-england

Keepers must keep a close watch on their birds for any signs of disease, and seek prompt advice from a vet if they have any concerns. Clinical signs indicative of avian influenza must be reported in England to Defra Rural Services Helpline on 03000 200 301. In Wales, contact 0300 303 8268. In Scotland, contact to the <u>local Field Services Office</u>. Failure to do so is an offence.

For further information on these cases and details of the measures that apply in the disease control zones currently in force see:

England: https://www.gov.uk/animal-disease-cases-england
Wales: https://gov.wales/avian-influenza-bird-flu-latest-update

Scotland: https://www.gov.scot/publications/avian-influenza-bird-flu/
Northern Ireland: https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/avian-influenza-ai

To receive immediate notification of new cases and updated zones in GB please sign up to the APHA's Animal Disease alert subscription service further details can be found at https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apha-alert-subscription-service

Outbreak Case Summary

In summary, the following cases of avian influenza have been confirmed in the UK:

- England
 - 97 cases of HPAI H5N1 in 2022/2023
 - 134 cases of HPAI H5N1 in 2021/2022
- Scotland:
 - 6 cases of HPAI H5N1 in 2022/2023
 - 11 cases of HPAI H5N1 in 2021/2022
- Wales:
 - 3 cases of HPAI H5N1 in 2022/2023
 - 7 cases of HPAI H5N1 in 2021/2022
- · Northern Ireland:
 - 1 case of HPAI H5N1 in 2022/2023
 - 6 cases of HPAI H5N1 in 2021/2022

This is now the largest ever UK outbreak of avian influenza (prior to this the largest number of cases was 26 cases in 2020/2021 and 13 cases in 2016/2017).

APHA publish a report (updated weekly) on <u>findings of HPAI in wild birds in Great Britain</u> and further information on reports of avian influenza in wild bird in Great Britain and across Europe are available via APHAs <u>outbreak assessments</u>. With guidance on wild bird incidents available through the <u>Mitigation Strategy for Avian Influenza in Wild Birds in England and Wales</u>

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	Kind	regard	s,
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Dr Lara Harrup

Dr Lara Harrup

Exotic Disease Policy Response Team (EDPRT) Outbreak Communications Cell

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)

Seacole Building, <u>2 Marsham Street</u>, <u>Westminster</u>, <u>London SW1P 4DF</u>, **UK** <u>edc.outbreak.comms@defra.gov.uk</u>



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