

Avian Influenza Strikes, National Protection Zone Announced.

As of 5pm on 3/11/2021 the Government introduced a National Avian Influenza Protection Zone (AIPZ) which covers England, Scotland and Wales, in response to confirmed cases of High Path H5N1 in Worcestershire (England), Wrexham (Wales) and Angus (Scotland).

Members are requested to be vigilant and report any dead captive or wild birds to the DEFRA Rural Services Helpline on 0300 020 0301. In Wales contact 0300 303 8268, failure to do so is an offence.

The AIPZ means all bird keepers in Great Britain (whether they have pet birds, commercial flocks or just a few birds in a backyard flock) are required by law to take a range of biosecurity precautions. These will apply to anyone with overwintered game birds on their premises.

Separate AIPZ declarations have been made in each Great Britain administration. Details of the measures that apply and further information on Avian influenza can be found at the following links:

- [England](#)
- [Scotland](#)
- [Wales](#)
- Advice on avian influenza in Northern Ireland can be found [here](#).

Confirmed cases

Avian Influenza (highly pathogenic H5N1) has been confirmed in birds at a centre near Droitwich Spa, Wychavon, Worcestershire, [control zones](#) have been implemented.

Avian Influenza (highly pathogenic H5N1) has been confirmed at a premises near Chirk Wrexham, in Wales. Control zones that straddle the border of [England](#) and [Wales](#) have been implemented.

Avian Influenza (highly pathogenic H5N1) has today (4/11/2021) been confirmed in birds at a premises in the Angus constituency in Scotland. [Control zones](#) have been implemented.

[Further information of the latest government updates can be found here.](#)

[Check if you are in a disease control zone on Animal and Plant Health Agency's interactive map here.](#)

Further advice on how bird keepers can protect their premises can be found [here](#)

Shooting is not currently restricted in any of the control zones and nor is the collection / removal of shot birds. However, sensible and practical precautions should be taken to minimise the risk of spreading the infection. If in doubt seek veterinary or government advice on biosecurity measures relevant to your situation.

Poultry Register

It is a legal requirement to register if you keep 50 or more birds, even if only for part of the year. Poultry includes chickens, ducks, turkeys, geese, pigeon (bred for meat), partridge, quail, guinea fowl and pheasants. [Read more here.](#)