



January 2021

Avian Influenza (bird flu): Latest situation

New housing measures came into force in England, Scotland and Wales on 14 December.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/avian-n-influenza-bird-flu-national-prevention-zone-declared>



The Chief Veterinary Officers for England, Scotland and Wales agreed to bring in new measures to help protect poultry and captive birds, following a number of cases of avian influenza in both wild and captive birds in the UK.

Whether you keep just a few birds as pets or thousands, from 14 December onwards you are legally required to keep your birds indoors, or take appropriate steps to keep them separate from wild birds. This decision has not been taken lightly, but it is the best way to protect your birds from this highly infectious disease.

Poultry and captive bird keepers are advised to be vigilant for any signs of

disease in their birds and any wild birds, and seek prompt advice from their vet if they have any concerns. They can help prevent avian flu by maintaining good biosecurity on their premises (*follow above link for full details*).

Register your birds

We encourage all keepers to register their birds with us so we can contact you quickly if there is a disease outbreak in your area and you need to take action.

Find out [how to register your birds](#).

Poultry and captive bird keepers and members of the public should report dead wild birds to the Defra helpline on 03459 33 55 77 (option 7), and keepers should report suspicion of disease to APHA on 03000 200 301. Keepers should familiarise themselves with our [avian flu advice](#).

Public Health England advise the [risk to public health](#) from the H5N8 and H5N2 strains of bird flu is very low.

The Food Standards Agency has said that on the basis of the current scientific evidence, avian influenza poses a very low food safety risk for UK consumers. Properly cooked poultry and poultry products, including eggs, are safe to eat.

Received from DEFRA. Information correct @ 11 December 2020

**Braunton Parish
Council wishes
everyone a Happy &
Healthy New Year!**

