



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Animal and Plant Health Agency
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www.gov.uk/apha

Our Ref: ATIC3049

[REDACTED]
{By Email}

29 March 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about National Housing Orders for Avian Influenza, which the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) received on 7 March 2023. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

The information you requested and the response is detailed below:

“I am looking for the start and end dates of each national Housing Order issued by the UK and devolved governments, mandating the housing of poultry due to Avian Influenza risk, between and including the years 2015 - 2022.

I am *not* looking to include the regional housing orders; only those applying to the whole of the UK or any combinations of its devolved regions of England, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland.”

Please note that animal health is a devolved matter and separate Avian Influenza Prevention Zone (AIPZ) declarations are made in each administration.

Between 2015 and 2022 mandatory housing measures have been utilised as a requirement of a national AIPZs during the following time periods:

- England
 - 6 December 2016 to 15 May 2017
 - 14 December 2020 to 31 March 2021
 - 29 November 2021 to 2 May 2022
 - 7 November 2022 to present (i.e. still in force)
- Wales
 - 6 December 2016 to 1 May 2017
 - 14 December 2020 to 31 March 2021
 - 29 November 2021 to 2 May 2022
 - 2 December 2022 to present (i.e. still in force)
- Scotland
 - 6 December 2016 to 1 May 2017
 - 29 November 2021 to 2 May 2022

APHA is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and also works on behalf of the Scottish Government, Welsh Government and Food Standards Agency to safeguard animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy.

- 14 December 2020 to 31 March 2021
- Northern Ireland
 - 23 December 2016 to 31 May 2017
 - 23 December 2020 to 14 April 2021
 - 29 November 2021 to 2 May 2022
 - 28 November 2022 to present (i.e. still in force)

The prevention measures introduced through the AIPZ, including addition of mandatory housing measures, are introduced in a phased and escalating manner proportionate to the escalating risk to an area and have been utilised on both a regional or national basis depending on the epidemiological situation.

In addition, during confirmed avian influenza outbreaks, housing measures are routinely applied to poultry and other captive birds within a Protection Zone. This is a 3km zone put in place by the government around infected premises, where highly pathogenic avian influenza has been confirmed, to prevent further spread of the disease.

Information disclosed in response to this FOI request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOI and the government's Transparency Agenda, this letter and the information disclosed to you may be placed on GOV.UK, together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context. No information identifying you will be placed on the GOV.UK website.

An Annex is attached which explains the copyright that applies to the information being released to you and contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact the Access to Information Team at the email address below or postal address at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely

ACCESS TO INFORMATION TEAM

Email: enquiries@apha.gov.uk

Annex

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Complaints

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request, you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision under section 17(7) of the FOIA or under regulation 11 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to the Access to Information Manager at the address at the top of this letter or email enquiries@apha.gov.uk and the team will arrange for an internal review of your case.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, section 50 of the FOIA and regulation 18 of the EIRs gives you the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Please note that generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted APHA's own complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Please click [here](#) for further contact details.