

NewsLetter



Bird Flu National Housing Order declared

The UK Chief Veterinary Officer has ordered a mandatory housing order to cover the whole of England from Thursday 6 November 2025, following the escalating number of confirmations of avian influenza in kept and wild birds.

The new measures mean bird keepers across the whole of England must house all poultry and captive birds if they keep more than 50 or if they sell or give eggs away

A GB wide Avian Influenza Prevention Zone (AIPZ) is also in place and requires all bird keepers to:

- keep feed and bedding inside
- cleanse and disinfect clothing, footwear, equipment and vehicles
- reduce the movement of people etc to and from areas where poultry and captive birds are kept,
- carry out effective vermin control
- thoroughly cleanse and disinfect housing and concrete walkways on a continuous basis
- keep fresh disinfectant at all farm and poultry housing entry and exit points
- make premises unattractive to wild birds

Marketing of eggs and poultrymeat

Both eggs and poultrymeat from birds that are required to be housed inside as a result of the housing order may continue to be marketed as "Free Range" for the duration of the housing order.

This is due to changes in the free-range egg marketing standards and free-range poultrymeat marketing standards regulations introduced earlier this year.

Prior to these amendments, such products could only be marketed as "Free Range" for a 12 week period following the imposition of the order.

Additional information

- [The Free-Range Egg Marketing Standards \(Amendment\) \(England\) Regulations 2025](#)
- [The Free-Range Poultrymeat Marketing Standards \(Amendment\) \(England\) Regulations 2025](#)
- [Bird flu \(avian influenza\): latest situation in England](#)
- [Avian influenza \(bird flu\): current restrictions in Wales](#)
- [Avian influenza \(bird flu\) outbreaks in Scotland](#)