

FALKLAND ISLANDS GOVERNMENT PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

17 November 2023

Second confirmed avian influenza (bird flu) case

On Monday 13 November 2023 a Southern Fulmar, was found dead on Pebble Island, and was swabbed for highly pathogenic avian influenza. A positive result was returned. Given that this is an isolated case of one single bird, a level 1 response will be followed and a full protection zone will not be declared. The area in which the bird was found will be declared as an infected place with enhanced biosecurity requirements.

The Declaration will be reviewed on Friday 1 December 2023.

Since Monday 30 October 2023, 28 suspect birds/animals have been reported, 17 have been swabbed. Two have returned positive results and 12 negative results. Three results are pending.

FIG have prepared information and guidance about bird flu and preventative measures to try and reduce the spread of the virus. This guidance can be found here: https://falklands.gov.fk/agriculture/avian-influenza

The public are reminded to **NOT TOUCH** dead or sick birds but report them to the Veterinary Services on **27366** or **55366** out of hours.

ENDS