

Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson Cùisean Dùthchail, Biadh agus an Àrainneachd  
Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Food and the Environment  
Ridseard Lochhead BPA  
Richard Lochhead MSP

F/T: 0300 244 4000  
E: [scottish.ministers@gov.scot](mailto:scottish.ministers@gov.scot)



Rob Gibson MSP  
RACCE Committee



11 January 2016

Dear Rob

I am writing to inform you that a suspect case of avian notifiable disease was reported on 8 January 2016 in a flock of almost 40,000 birds (broiler parent flock) in a poultry farm in Dunfermline, and is currently being investigated.

Initial test results and the symptoms shown suggest it is a mild strain of H5N1 Avian Influenza, which is less serious than other forms of the H5N1 virus that have caused concern in recent years.

Swift precautionary action is already being taken to prevent the spread of disease; the birds at the suspect premises will be humanely culled and a 1 km Temporary Control Zone (TCZ) put in place around the farm. Within this zone a range of different controls are in place to halt the spread of disease. These include restrictions of the movement of poultry, carcasses, eggs, used poultry litter and manure and restrictions on bird gatherings.

Full details of restrictions and further information about Avian Influenza are provided in the GB Notifiable Avian Disease Control Strategy ([https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/468294/avian-disease-control-strategy-2015.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/468294/avian-disease-control-strategy-2015.pdf)) and on the Scottish Government's website at [www.gov.scot/avianinfluenza](http://www.gov.scot/avianinfluenza)

I hope this is helpful.

**RICHARD LOCHHEAD**