



## FALKLAND ISLANDS GOVERNMENT PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

29 January 2024

### Confirmed case of avian influenza (bird flu) – New Island

On Thursday 25 January 2024 swabs were taken from a dead Skua on New Island and returned positive for HPAI. Swab results from one further dead skua are pending. 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(s) was found will be declared as an infected place with enhanced biosecurity requirements.

The Declaration will be reviewed on Monday 19 February 2024.

Since Monday 30 October 2023, 72 suspect birds/animals have been reported, 43 sets of swabs have been taken. Seven have returned positive results and 35 negative results. Two sets of swab results are pending (several follow up swabs from Steeple Jason and 1 swab from the second dead skua on New Island).

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.