DECLARATION PZ and SZ

Regulation 28,29, 30 and 31 of the Avian Influenza and Influenza of Avian Origin in Mammals Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007
Regulation 12 of the Avian Influenza (H5N1 in Poultry) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe
Depairtment o' Fairmin, Environment an' Kintra Matthers
www.daera-ni.gov.uk

Ref No: AI/11/2026

Declaration of a Protection Zone and a Surveillance Zone (Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza) in County Londonderry

1. The Chief Veterinary Officer for Northern Ireland has confirmed that highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 is present in Northern Ireland and has taken into account the criteria set out in regulation 29(5) of the Avian Influenza and Influenza of Avian Origin in Mammals Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007 ("the Regulations").

2. Pursuant to regulation 28(1) of the Regulations the Department hereby declares the area described in **Annex 1** to this Declaration to be a Protection Zone in which the measures set out in Schedule 4 to the Regulations apply.

3. Pursuant to regulation 28(1) of the Regulations the Department hereby declares the area described in **Annex 2** to this Declaration to be a Surveillance Zone in which the measures set out in Schedule 5 to the Regulations apply.

4. The Protection and Surveillance Zones are marked on the map in **Annex 3**.

5. These measures apply from **17:00 on 16 November 2026** until this Declaration is withdrawn or amended by further declaration.

Brian Dooher, Chief Veterinary Officer
Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
Jubilee House
111 Ballykelly Road
Ballykelly
Limavady
BT49 9HP

Signed: Brian Dooher

Time: **17:00** Date: **16 November 2026**

Authorised by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs

Failure to comply with this Declaration may be an offence under article 52 of the Diseases of Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 1981

Copies of this Declaration and of the Regulations are available at www.daera-ni.gov.uk and from the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Jubilee House, 111 Ballykelly Road, Ballykelly, Limavady, BT49 9HP.

Annex 1 – Protection Zone (PZ)

The Protection Zone comprises that part of County Londonderry contained within the green line of radius minimum 3 kilometres on the attached map in Annex 3.

The Measures in a Protection Zone

Record of visitors

1) Subject to paragraph 5, the occupier of any premises in the zone where poultry or other captive birds are kept must make records of—

   (a) the name and address of any person visiting the premises (unless the visit is only to a part of the premises where people live and where no poultry or other captive birds are kept);

   (b) the date of the visit;

   (c) whether the person had any contact with poultry or other captive birds on the premises.

Record of poultry

2) The occupier of any premises in the zone must make a record of all poultry entering or leaving those premises as soon as reasonably practicable after the movement.

Record of poultry and egg movements

3) Subject to paragraph 5, any person who is engaged in the transport or marketing of poultry or poultry eggs in the zone must, as soon as is reasonably practicable, make a record of all poultry and poultry eggs transported or marketed by him.

Poultry movements to be recorded

4) The records referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3 above must include—

   (a) the quantity and description (including species of poultry or type of egg) transported or marketed;

   (b) in the case of a movement from premises in the zone—

      (i) the date of the movement off the premises;

      (ii) the premises of destination (if known);

      (iii) the name and address of the person to whom ownership or possession is being or has been transferred;

   (c) in the case of a movement on to premises in the zone—

      (i) the date of the movement;

      (ii) the premises from which the movement originated (if known);

(iii) the name and address of the person from whom ownership or possession is being or has been transferred;

(d) in the case of marketing without an associated movement, the identity and address of the person to whom and the date on which ownership was transferred;

Scope of record keeping duties

5) Paragraphs 1 and 3 do not apply in respect of the movement of —

(a) eggs direct to retail premises, at or from such premises or subsequent to such a movement;

(b) people to zoos, wildlife parks or (unless required by the Secretary of State) any other premises open to the public, provided the public has no access to any area where birds are kept;

(c) the following onto any premises where poultry or other captive birds are kept—

(i) any person on a public right of way or exercising any other right of access to the premises;

(ii) trespassers;

(iii) any person executing these Regulations

Isolation of poultry and other captive birds

6) The occupier of premises in the zone where poultry or other captive birds are kept must ensure that they are—

(a) housed; or

(b) kept isolated (if so directed by a veterinary inspector on the basis that housing is impractical or would adversely affect the birds' welfare to a significant degree).

Measures where birds not housed

7) If birds are kept isolated but not housed, the occupier must—

(a) ensure that they have no contact with poultry or other captive birds on other premises; and

(b) take all reasonable steps to minimise their contact with wild birds, in accordance with a veterinary inspector's instructions.

Restrictions on the movement of poultry, other captive birds and mammals onto and off premises

8) (1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), no person shall move poultry, other captive birds or mammals from or to premises in the zone where poultry or other captive birds are kept, unless the movement is licensed by a veterinary inspector or by an inspector under the direction of a veterinary inspector.

(2) Sub-paragraph (1) does not apply to pet animals which—

(a) only have access to that part of the premises where people live;

(b) have no contact with poultry or other captive birds on the premises; and

(c) have no access to any cages or areas on the premises where poultry or other captive birds are kept.

Disposal of carcases

9) The occupier must ensure that all carcases not seized or disposed of by a veterinary inspector are disposed of in accordance with a veterinary inspector's instructions (unless he licenses their use for diagnosis of disease).

Biosecurity measures

10) The occupier and any person entering or leaving premises in the zone where poultry, other captive birds or eggs are kept must—

(a) take such biosecurity measures as he considers necessary to reduce the risk of the spread of avian influenza to or from the premises; and

(b) comply with any biosecurity requirements which a veterinary inspector or an inspector under the direction of a veterinary inspector, by notice to him, imposes.

Litter, poultry manure and slurry

11) No person shall remove from premises in the zone or spread used poultry litter, poultry manure or poultry slurry unless licensed by a veterinary inspector or by an inspector under the direction of a veterinary inspector.

Gatherings of poultry

12) No person shall permit any poultry or other captive birds to be collected together at any fair, market, show, exhibition or other gathering in the zone.

Release of game

13) No person shall release game birds.

Restrictions on the movement of poultry, eggs, poultry meat and carcases

14) No person shall move any poultry, eggs, poultry meat or carcases within or out of the zone unless the movement is—

(a) set out in paragraph 16 and is—

(i) direct; and

(ii) licensed by a veterinary inspector or by an inspector under the direction of a veterinary inspector;

(b) of table eggs direct to wholesale or retail premises, or subsequent to such a movement; or

(c) within the same premises.

Transport by road and rail

15) Poultry and eggs may be transported through the zone on a major highway or railway if no stop is made within the zone.

Movements which may be licensed by a veterinary inspector or by an inspector under his direction

16) The movements referred to in paragraph 14(a) are movements of the following—

(a) poultry from premises in the zone for immediate slaughter at a designated slaughterhouse (if the requirements of paragraph 17 are met);

(b) poultry meat (if the requirements of paragraph 18 are met);

(c) poultry to a designated slaughterhouse in the zone from premises outside the zone (if the requirements of paragraph 19 are met);

(d) day-old chicks hatched from eggs produced in the zone or from eggs which came into contact with such eggs (if the requirements of paragraph 20 are met);

(e) day-old chicks hatched from eggs originating outside the PZ kept separate from eggs produced in such a zone (if the requirements of paragraph 21 are met);

(f) ready-to-lay poultry to premises or part of premises where no poultry are kept (if the requirements of paragraph 22 are met);

(g) hatching eggs from outside the zone to a designated hatchery in the zone or to designated premises for use for scientific, diagnostic or pharmaceutical purposes;

(h) hatching eggs from the zone—

(i) to a designated hatchery; or

(ii) to designated premises for use for scientific, diagnostic or pharmaceutical purposes

(if, in both cases, the requirements of paragraph 23 are met);

(i) eggs to a designated egg packing centre (if the requirements of paragraph 24 are met);

(j) eggs to an egg processing plant;

(k) eggs for disposal;

(l) carcases for disposal or diagnosis.

Requirements for the movement of poultry from premises in the zone to a designated slaughterhouse

17) Poultry must not be moved to a designated slaughterhouse unless the following requirements are met—

(a) a veterinary inspector must have examined poultry at the premises no more than 24 hours before they leave the premises; and

(b) the poultry are transported in vehicles sealed by a veterinary inspector or in accordance with his instructions.

Requirements for the movement of poultry meat from poultry sent to a designated slaughterhouse from premises within the zone

18) Poultry meat from poultry within the zone must not be moved from a designated slaughterhouse unless it meets the requirements of regulation 63(2) of the Regulations.

Requirements for the movement of poultry to a designated slaughterhouse within the zone from premises outside the zone

19) Poultry from premises outside the zone must not be moved to a designated slaughterhouse in the zone unless the poultry are kept separate from poultry originating within the zone.

Requirements for the movement of day-old chicks hatched from eggs produced in the zone or from eggs which had contact with such eggs

20) Day-old chicks hatched from eggs produced in the zone or from eggs which had contact with such eggs must not be moved unless they are transported in vehicles sealed by a veterinary inspector or in accordance with his instructions.

Requirements for the movement of day-old chicks hatched from eggs originating outside the zone

21) Day-old chicks from eggs originating outside the PZ must not be moved unless the hatchery within the PZ is operated in such a way that those eggs do not come into contact with eggs or day-old chicks from within the zone.

Requirements for the movement of ready-to-lay poultry

22) Ready-to-lay poultry must not be moved from premises within the zone unless—

(a) poultry and other captive birds at the premises have been examined by a veterinary inspector; and

(b) the ready-to-lay poultry are transported in vehicles sealed by the veterinary inspector or in accordance with his instructions.

Requirements for the movement of hatching eggs from the zone to a designated hatchery or to designated premises for use for scientific, diagnostic or pharmaceutical purposes

23) Hatching eggs must not be moved from the zone to a designated hatchery, or to designated premises for use for scientific, diagnostic or pharmaceutical purposes unless—

(a) a veterinary inspector has confirmed that he does not suspect avian influenza in the flocks from which the eggs derive;

(b) the eggs and their packaging are disinfected before dispatch; and

(c) the eggs are transported in vehicles sealed by a veterinary inspector or in accordance with his instructions.

Requirements for the movement of eggs to an egg packing centre

24) Eggs must not be moved to a designated egg packing centre unless—

(a) they are packed in disposable packaging[1]; and

(b) any person transporting the eggs complies with any biosecurity requirements laid down by a veterinary inspector, by notice or by licence condition.

Requirements at slaughterhouses

25) The occupier of a slaughterhouse to which poultry from the zone is sent must ensure that the requirements of regulation 63 of the Regulations are met.

Requirements for poultry meat from the zone

26) Poultry meat in the zone from poultry originating in the zone is subject to the requirements set out in regulation 63(2) of the Regulations.

Requirements for poultry meat from outside the zone

27) Poultry meat in the zone from poultry originating outside the zone is subject to the requirements set out in regulation 63(3)(a) and 63(4) of the Regulations.

Cleansing and disinfection of vehicles carrying anything which may be contaminated

28) A person who moves any poultry, other captive bird, meat, feed, manure, slurry, litter or any other thing which may be contaminated must cleanse and disinfect the vehicle and any equipment used to transport that thing as soon as it is unloaded, in accordance with regulation 66 of the Regulations.

Cleansing and disinfection of vehicles

29) A person who enters or leaves premises in the zone by vehicle must cleanse and disinfect without delay any part of the vehicle which may have been contaminated, in accordance with regulation 66 of the Regulations.

Access to prohibited places

30) No person shall enter any place the subject of a restriction notice under regulation 76 of the Regulations, except in accordance with that notice or with regulation 35 of the Regulations.

[1] Or packaging which can be cleaned and disinfected in such a way as to destroy the category A disease agent i.e. pulp trays or double washed and disinfected (using DAERA approved disinfectant at the recommended dilution rate) plastic trays / dividers can be used

Annex 2 - Surveillance Zone (SZ)

The Surveillance Zone comprises that part of County Londonderry on the attached map in Annex 3 beyond the green line (the Protection Zone) and within the blue circle of radius 10 kilometres

Measures in a Surveillance Zone

1) Subject to paragraph 5, the occupier of any premises where poultry or other captive birds are kept must make records of—

   (a) the name and address of any person visiting the premises (unless the visit is only to a part of the premises where people live and where no poultry or other captive birds are kept);

   (b) the date of the visit;

   (c) whether the person had any contact with poultry or other captive birds on the premises.

Record of poultry

2) The occupier of any premises in the zone must make a record of all poultry entering or leaving those premises as soon as reasonably practicable after the movement.

Record of poultry movements

3) Subject to paragraph 5, any person who is engaged in the transport or marketing of poultry or poultry eggs in the zone must, as soon as is reasonably practicable, make a record of all poultry and poultry eggs transported or marketed by him.

Poultry movements to be recorded

4) The records referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3 above must include—

   (a) the quantity and description (including species of poultry and type of egg) transported or marketed;

   (b) in the case of a movement from premises in the zone—

      (i) the date of the movement off the premises;

      (ii) the premises of destination (if known);

      (iii) the name and address of the person to whom ownership or possession is being or has been transferred;

   (c) in the case of a movement on to premises in the zone—

      (i) the date of the movement;

      (ii) the premises from which the movement originated (if known);

(iii) the name and address of the person from whom ownership or possession is being or has been transferred;

(d) in the case of marketing without an associated movement, the identity and address of the person to whom and the date on which ownership was transferred.

Scope of record keeping duties

5) Paragraphs 1 and 3 do not apply in respect of the movement of—

(a) eggs direct to retail premises, at or from such premise or subsequent to such a movement;

(b) people to zoos, wildlife parks or (unless required by the Secretary of State) any other premises open to the public, provided the public has no access to any area where birds are kept;

(c) the following onto any premises where poultry or other captive birds are kept—

(i) any person on a public right of way or exercising any other right of access to the premises;

(ii) trespassers;

(iii) any person executing these Regulations

Restrictions on the movement of poultry, other captive birds and mammals onto and off premises

6) (1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), no person shall move poultry, other captive birds or mammals from or to premises in the zone where poultry or other captive birds are kept, unless the movement is licensed by a veterinary inspector or by an inspector under the direction of a veterinary inspector.

(2) Sub-paragraph (1) does not apply to pet animals which—

(a) only have access to that part of the premises where people live;

(b) have no contact with poultry or other captive birds on the premises; and

(c) have no access to any cages or areas on the premises where poultry or other captive birds are kept.

Biosecurity measures

7) The occupier and any person entering or leaving premises in the zone where poultry, other captive birds or eggs are kept must—

(a) take such biosecurity measures as he considers necessary to reduce the risk of the spread of avian influenza to or from the premises; and

(b) comply with any biosecurity requirements which a veterinary inspector or an inspector under the direction of a veterinary inspector, by notice to him, imposes.

Litter, poultry manure and slurry

8) No person shall remove from premises in the zone or spread used poultry litter, poultry manure or poultry slurry unless licensed by a veterinary inspector or by an inspector under the direction of a veterinary inspector.

Gatherings of poultry

9) No person shall permit any poultry or other captive birds to be collected together at any fair, market, show, exhibition or other gathering in the zone.

Release of game

10) No person shall release game birds.

Restrictions on the movement of poultry and eggs within the zone

11) Subject to paragraph 12, no person shall move any poultry or eggs within the zone (other than through the zone by road or rail without stopping), unless licensed by a veterinary inspector.

Wholesale and retail distribution of eggs within the zone

12) Paragraph 11 does not apply to the movement of eggs direct to wholesale or retail premises, or subsequent to such a movement.

Biosecurity measures

13) A veterinary inspector must not grant a licence under paragraph 11 unless he is satisfied that the licensee will take appropriate biosecurity measures and the taking of such measures must be conditions of the licence.

Movement of poultry to a slaughterhouse

14) A veterinary inspector may license the movement of poultry from outside any avian influenza PZ and SZ to a slaughterhouse within the SZ and subsequent movements of the meat derived from such poultry.

Restrictions on the movement of poultry and eggs out of the zone

15) (1) Subject to paragraph 16, no person shall move any poultry or eggs out of the zone, unless the movement is—

(a) a movement set out in sub-paragraph (2); and

(b) licensed by a veterinary inspector.

(2) The movements referred to in sub-paragraph (1) are movements of—

(a) poultry for slaughter (if the requirements of paragraph 17 are met);

(b) day-old chicks hatched from eggs originating within the PZ or SZ or from eggs which came into contact with such eggs (if the requirements of paragraph 18 are met);

(c) day-old chicks hatched from eggs originating outside the PZ and SZ kept separate from eggs produced in such a zone (if the requirements of paragraph 19 are met);

(d) ready-to-lay poultry to premises or a part of any premises where no poultry are kept;

(e) hatching eggs from the zone—

(i) to a designated hatchery; or

(ii to designated premises for use for scientific, diagnostic or pharmaceutical purposes

(if, in both cases, the requirements of paragraph 20 are met);

(f) eggs to a designated egg packing centre (if the requirements of paragraph 21 are met);

(g) eggs to an egg processing plant;

(h) eggs for disposal.

Wholesale and retail distribution of table eggs

16) Paragraph 15 does not apply to a movement of table eggs direct to wholesale or retail premises or subsequent to such a movement.

Requirements for the movement of poultry from premises in the zone to a designated slaughterhouse

17) Poultry may be moved from premises in the zone to a designated slaughterhouse, but only within 24 hours of the completion of a veterinary inspection of the premises.

Requirements for the movement of day-old chicks hatched from eggs produced within the PZ or SZ or from eggs which have had contact with such eggs

18) Day-old chicks from eggs produced within the PZ or SZ or from eggs which have had contact with such eggs must not be moved unless any biosecurity measures laid down by a veterinary inspector by notice or licence condition are complied with.

Requirements for the movement of day-old chicks hatched from eggs originating outside the PZ and SZ

19) Day-old chicks from eggs originating outside any avian influenza PZ and SZ must not be moved unless the hatchery within the zone is operated in such a way that eggs from outside the zone do not come into contact with eggs or day-old chicks from within the zone.

Requirements for the movement of hatching eggs from the zone to a designated hatchery, or to designated premises for use for scientific, diagnostic or pharmaceutical purposes

20) Hatching eggs must not be moved from the zone to a designated hatchery or to designated premises for use for scientific, diagnostic or pharmaceutical purposes unless the eggs and their packaging are disinfected before they leave the premises.

Requirements for the movement of eggs to an egg packing centre

21) Eggs must not be moved to a designated egg packing centre unless—

(a) they are packed in disposable packaging[2]; and

(b) any person transporting the eggs complies with any biosecurity measures laid down by a veterinary inspector.

Cleansing and disinfection of vehicles carrying anything which may be contaminated

22) A person who transports any poultry, other captive bird, meat, feed, manure, slurry, litter or any other thing which may be contaminated must cleanse and disinfect the vehicle and any equipment used to transport that thing as soon as it is unloaded, in accordance with regulation 66 of the Regulations.

Cleansing and disinfection of vehicles

23) A person who enters or leaves premises in the zone by vehicle must cleanse and disinfect without delay any part of the vehicle which may have been contaminated, in accordance with regulation 66 of the Regulations.

[2] Or packaging which can be cleaned and disinfected in such a way as to destroy the category A disease agent i.e. pulp trays or double washed and disinfected (using DAERA approved disinfectant at the recommended dilution rate) plastic trays / dividers can be used

Annex 3 – Map showing the Protection Zone and the Surveillance Zone. Zones can be viewed on the [Avian Influenza Map Viewer]

