



## FALKLAND ISLANDS GOVERNMENT PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

21 February 2024

### Update on confirmed case of avian influenza (bird flu) – Surf Bay

On Tuesday 6 February 2024 swabs that were taken from a sick Gentoo penguin on Surf Bay were tested and returned positive for HPAI. Given that this was an isolated case of one single bird, that is more than 1km from poultry or a colony, a level 1 response was enforced.

**The restrictions on Surf Bay have now been lifted.** However, the public are encouraged to remain vigilant and report any sick or dead birds in the area.

Since Monday 30 October 2023, 95 suspect birds/animals have been reported, 55 sets of swabs have been taken within the Falkland Islands. Eleven have returned positive results (some are repeat sets from known outbreaks) and 41 negative results. Three sets of swab 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.