

Rural Affairs, Islands and Natural Environment Committee

32nd Meeting, 2022 (Session 6), Wednesday, 30
November

Avian flu in Scotland

1. The [Cabinet Secretary first wrote to the Committee in relation to the avian flu outbreak on 24 November 2021](#) and the Committee has corresponded with the Scottish Government since then to monitor the situation.
2. The [Convener wrote to the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands on 17 November 2022](#). This follows the increase in the number of cases of avian flu in domestic flocks in recent months; the UK Government's decision, on 7 November 2022, to impose mandatory housing for all poultry and domesticated birds in England; and strong concerns expressed by the NFUS and the Scottish poultry sector over the Scottish Government's decision that similar restrictions are not required in Scotland.
3. The [Cabinet Secretary responded on 23 November 2022](#).
4. The Committee agreed on 23 November 2022 to invite Scotland's Chief Veterinary Officer, Sheila Voas, to provide an update on the current situation regarding avian flu in Scotland.
5. Following the evidence session, the Committee may wish to consider whether it wants to take any additional evidence in relation to avian flu.

**Rural Affairs, Islands and Natural Environment Committee clerks
November 2022**