Avian Influenza, commonly referred to as bird flu, is a contagious viral infection that primarily affects birds, including chickens, ducks, and wild birds. The virus can occasionally spread to humans, leading to severe health concerns. In Northern Ireland, UK, guidance on Avian Influenza is provided by the Department of Agriculture, Environment, and Rural Affairs (DAERA). This guidance outlines measures to prevent the spread of the virus, such as biosecurity measures for poultry keepers, monitoring and reporting any signs of infection in birds, and restrictions on the movement of poultry to prevent further transmission. It is crucial for both poultry keepers and the public to stay informed and follow these guidelines to protect both bird populations and public health.

Further information on avian influenza (bird flu) including symptoms, diagnosis, management and epidemiology is available through following UKHSA website: <u>Avian</u> influenza: guidance, data and analysis - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

For the latest Northern Ireland situation please visit:

<u>Latest Situation | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (daerani.gov.uk)</u>

For the latest guidance on wild birds and advice visit:

<u>Wild Birds and Advice for the Public | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (daera-ni.gov.uk)</u>

To report a dead wild bird please use the DAERA online tool: Report dead wild birds - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

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