

15 June 2026

Dear

ATISN 26975 – Gamebirds

Information requested

Thank you for your request which we received on 15 May 2026. You asked for:

1. Since 1 January 2025 until present, how many 'game' birds have been culled in Wales due to disease control measures each year? Figures to be recorded for each species (e.g. pheasant, partridge).
2. What financial compensation has the Welsh Government paid to game bird farms in Wales for the culling of pheasants and partridges due to avian influenza since 1 January 2025 until present.
3. Which body is responsible for recording details of any public funding or grants awarded to farms in Wales that breed, rear, or house pheasants or partridges for sporting purposes?
4. Where the Welsh Government is responsible for recording details of public funding or grants awarded to farms in Wales that breed, rear, or house pheasants or partridges for sporting purposes, please provide details of all such funding or grants awarded each year since 2021.
5. Please provide the annual cost to the Welsh Government associated with Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, for each year since 1 January 2022.
6. How many inspections of gamebird farms have been carried out by the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) in Wales since 1 January 2025?

Our response

Some of the information you requested is enclosed.

1. The Welsh Government does not normally hold this information. It was requested from the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) previously on your behalf. In this case, you may find it more satisfactory to contact APHA directly for the information via email at: enquiries@apha.gov.uk
2. The total compensation paid by Welsh Government to gamebird premises from January 2025 to the present day is £262,710.
3. The Welsh Government is not aware of any bodies which record funding awards for this type of activity.

4. The Welsh Government does not provide funding or grants specifically for the breeding, rearing or housing of pheasants or partridges for sporting purposes.
5. Your request is too broad to identify and locate the information you are seeking. You may wish to refine your request with the specific information you require. For example, you may wish to limit the request to specific costs, such as compensation that the Welsh Government has paid for birds culled under statutory avian influenza control measures. This will be treated as a new request and will receive a response in the specified timeframe.
6. The Welsh Government does not hold this information. However, this information may be held by the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA). You can contact them via email at enquiries@apha.gov.uk

Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff, CF10 3NQ

or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely,