

This would facilitate efforts to contain the spread of the disease as well as offer vital financial protection to poultry farmers' livelihoods.

Defra's recent policy change announcement does not go far enough. Farmers cannot afford to wait any longer for this matter to be resolved; they, and the industry generally, are facing economic catastrophe now.

2. **Expand the regional housing measures on a national basis to reflect the increase in the levels of risk across the country.**

Housing measures can significantly reduce the risk of transmission of the disease from wild birds to poultry. While no free-range poultry farmer wishes to restrict outdoor access to their flock, housing measures on a GB wide scale present



