

Bird Flu Management

Mr GARLAND question to MINISTER for INFRASTRUCTURE and TRANSPORT

My question comes from a constituent in Ulverstone. Two days ago, two dead birds, including a magpie, were reported near the constituent's property in an area with significant coastal exposure. The constituent was advised that Biosecurity Tasmania may collect the birds for testing, but ultimately they were not collected and advice was instead provided on their safe disposal. The constituent was also told a response team was receiving hundreds of reports. Given that not every reported bird is being collected or tested, will the Minister advise whether all community reports of sick and dead birds, including species, location and date are being recorded and geographically mapped, to help identify the possible spread of H5 bird flu? Will the Government make this surveillance information publicly available, including reports where birds are not subsequently collected or tested, so Tasmanians can better understand the geographic and species distribution of suspected cases across the state?