

---

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Regulations.)*

These Regulations amend the Plastic Materials and Articles in Contact with Food Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1998 (“the 1998 Regulations”) in implementation of Commission Directive [1999/91/EC](#) amending Directive [90/128/EEC](#) relating to plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs.

The Regulations—

- (a) update the lists of monomers and additives which can be used in the manufacture of plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with food (regulations 10 and 11 and Schedules 1 and 2);
- (b) impose restrictions and specifications in respect of some of those monomers and additives (regulations 5(a), 6, 8, 10, 11 and 12 and Schedules 1, 2 and 4); in particular, a new type of restriction is introduced (maximum permitted quantity of the substance in the finished material or article expressed as mg per 6 dm<sup>2</sup> of the surface in contact with food);
- (c) bring products obtained by bacterial fermentation within the scope of the 1998 Regulations and impose restrictions and specifications for such products (regulations 4, 5(b), 7 and 12 and Schedule 3);
- (d) include a transitional provision (regulation 9); and
- (e) make some consequential amendments (regulations 3 and 13(a)) and a drafting correction (regulation 5(a)), and correct two errors in the 1998 Regulations (regulations 10(d) and 13(b)).