EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations, which extend to Scotland only, implement Commission Decision 2004/665/EC concerning a baseline study on the prevalence of *Salmonella* in flocks of laying hens (O.J. No. L 303, 30.9.04, p.30) in accordance with certain technical specifications referred to in Article 5 of the Commission Decision. The text of the technical specifications can be found in a paper entitled 'Baseline Study on the prevalence of *salmonella* in laying flocks of *Gallus gallus* in the EU' to be found at:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/food/biosafety/salmonella/tech spec sanco-34-2004 rev-3 en.pdf

These Regulations-

- (a) provide for selection of premises for sampling by the Scottish Ministers (regulation 3);
- (b) provide powers for inspectors for the purposes of sampling to enter premises, to make inquiries, examine records, take samples and require assistance for the purpose of these Regulations (regulation 4);
- (c) set out requirements for notices in writing (regulation 5);
- (d) prescribe offences and penalties, including penalties for corporate bodies (regulations 6 and 7);
- (e) provide for enforcement by the local authority except where the Scottish Ministers otherwise direct (regulation 8).

A Regulatory Impact Assessment has not been prepared for these Regulations.