
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2013 No. 2996

The Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013

Title, application, commencement and extent

1.—(1) These Regulations

- (a) may be cited as the Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013;
- (b) apply in relation to England only, and
- (c) come into force on 31st December 2013.

(2) Any amendment or revocation made by these Regulations has the same extent as the provision amended or revoked (but applies in relation to England only).

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these Regulations —

“the Act” means the Food Safety Act 1990 ^{M1};

“the Agency” means the Food Standards Agency;

“authorised officer”, in relation to an enforcement authority, means any person (whether or not an officer of the authority) who is authorised by them in writing, either generally or specially, to act in matters arising under the Hygiene Regulations and Regulation 178/2002;

“the EU Hygiene Regulations” means Regulation 852/2004, Regulation 853/2004, Regulation 854/2004, Regulation 2073/2005 and Regulation 2075/2005;

“Decision 2006/766”, “Directive 2004/41”, “Regulation 178/2002”, “Regulation 852/2004”, “Regulation 853/2004”, “Regulation 854/2004”, “Regulation 882/2004”, “Regulation 1688/2005”, “Regulation 2073/2005”, “Regulation 2074/2005”, “Regulation 2075/2005”, “Regulation 1020/2008”, “Regulation 1021/2008”, “Regulation 596/2009”, “Regulation 669/2009”, “Regulation 1169/2011”, “Regulation 28/2012” and “Regulation 1079/2013” have the meanings respectively given to them in Schedule 1;

“enforcement authority” means the authority which, by virtue of regulation 5, is responsible for executing and enforcing the Hygiene Regulations and Regulation 178/2002;

“food authority” has the meaning that it bears by virtue of section 5(1) of the Act except that it does not include the appropriate Treasurer referred to in section 5(1)(c) of the Act (which deals with the Inner Temple and Middle Temple);

“the Hygiene Regulations” means these Regulations and the EU Hygiene Regulations;

“premises” includes any establishment, any place, vehicle, stall or moveable structure and any ship or aircraft; and

“specified EU provision” means any provision of Regulation 178/2002 or the EU Hygiene Regulations that is specified in column 1 of Schedule 2 and whose subject-matter is described in column 2 of that Schedule.

(2) Subject to paragraph (3), any expression other than one defined in paragraph (1) that is used both in these Regulations and in the Act has the meaning it bears in the Act.

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(3) Unless the context otherwise requires, any expression used both in these Regulations and in Regulation 178/2002 or the EU Hygiene Regulations has the meaning that it bears in Regulation 178/2002 or the EU Hygiene Regulations.

(4) Where any functions under the Act are assigned —

- (a) by an order under section 2 or 7 of the Public Health (Control of Disease) Act 1984 ^{M2}, to a port health authority;
- (b) by an order under section 6 of the Public Health Act 1936 ^{M3}, to a joint board for a united district; or
- (c) by an order under paragraph 15(6) of Schedule 8 to the Local Government Act 1985 ^{M4}, to a single authority for a metropolitan county,

any reference in these Regulations to a food authority is to be construed, so far as relating to those functions, as a reference to the authority to whom they are so assigned.

(5) Where, apart from this paragraph, any period of less than seven days which is specified in these Regulations would include any day which is —

- (a) a Saturday, a Sunday, Christmas Day or Good Friday; or
- (b) a day which is a bank holiday under the Banking and Financial Dealings Act 1971 ^{M5},

that day is to be excluded from the period.

(6) In these Regulations, any reference to an EU instrument defined in Schedule 1 is a reference to that instrument as any annex to it may be amended from time to time.

Marginal Citations

- M1** 1990 c.16.
- M2** 1984 c.22; section 7(3)(d) was substituted by paragraph 27 of Schedule 3 to the Food Safety Act 1990.
- M3** 1936 c.49; section 36 is to be read with paragraph 1 of Schedule 3 to the Food Safety Act 1990.
- M4** 1985 c.51; paragraph 15(6) was amended by paragraph 31(b) of Schedule 3 to the Food Safety Act 1990.
- M5** 1971 c.80.

Presumptions that food is intended for human consumption

3.—(1) The following paragraphs apply for the purposes of these Regulations.

(2) Any food commonly used for human consumption shall, if placed on the market or offered, exposed or kept for placing on the market, be presumed, until the contrary is proved, to have been placed on the market or, as the case may be, to have been or to be intended for placing on the market for human consumption.

(3) The following, namely—

- (a) any food commonly used for human consumption which is found on premises used for the preparation, storage, or placing on the market of that food; and
- (b) any article or substance commonly used in the manufacture of food for human consumption which is found on premises used for the preparation, storage or placing on the market of that food,

shall be presumed, until the contrary is proved, to be intended for placing on the market, or for manufacturing food for placing on the market, for human consumption.

(4) Any article or substance capable of being used in the composition or preparation of any food commonly used for human consumption which is found on premises on which that food is prepared shall, until the contrary is proved, be presumed to be intended for such use.

Competent authorities

4.—(1) The competent authority for the purposes of the EU Hygiene Regulations is the Agency except where it has delegated competences as provided for in those Regulations.

(2) The competent authorities for the purposes of the provisions of Regulation 178/2002 specified in paragraph (3) are the Agency and each food authority in its area or district.

(3) The provisions of Regulation 178/2002 are —

- (a) Article 14(8) (power of competent authorities to take appropriate measures to impose restrictions on the placing of food on the market or to require its withdrawal from the market in certain circumstances);
- (b) Article 18(2) and (3) (competent authorities to which food business operators must make information available on demand as to the traceability of food); and
- (c) Article 19 (food business operators to inform and collaborate with competent authorities to avoid or reduce risks posed by a food).

Enforcement authorities

5.—(1) In respect of any food business operator to whose operations Regulation 852/2004 applies but Regulation 853/2004 does not apply —

- (a) the Agency or the food authority in whose area the food business operator carries out the operations shall execute and enforce the Hygiene Regulations in so far as the operator concerned is carrying out primary production and those associated operations listed in paragraph 1 of Part AI of Annex I to Regulation 852/2004 other than the associated operations described in sub-paragraphs (a) and (c) of that paragraph to the extent that they concern wild game; and
- (b) the food authority in whose area the food business operator carries out the operations shall execute and enforce the Hygiene Regulations in so far as the operator concerned is carrying out operations which are not executed and enforced by the Agency or the food authority as provided for in sub-paragraph (a).

(2) In respect of any food business operator to whose operations both Regulation 852/2004 and Regulation 853/2004 apply —

- (a) the Agency shall execute and enforce the Hygiene Regulations in so far as the operator concerned is carrying out operations in relation to —
 - (i) a slaughterhouse,
 - (ii) a game-handling establishment, or
 - (iii) a cutting plant;
- (b) the Agency or the food authority in whose area the food business operator carries out the operations shall execute and enforce the Hygiene Regulations in so far as the operator concerned is carrying out operations in relation to any establishment that is not specified in sub-paragraph (a).

(3) In respect of —

- (a) collection centres and tanneries supplying raw material for the production of gelatine intended for human consumption pursuant to paragraph 5 of Chapter I of Section XIV of Annex III to Regulation 853/2004; and

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- (b) collection centres and tanneries supplying raw material for the production of collagen intended for human consumption pursuant to paragraph 5 of Chapter I of Section XV of Annex III to Regulation 853/2004,

the food authority in whose area the collection centre or tannery concerned is situated shall execute and enforce the Hygiene Regulations.

(4) Each food authority shall execute and enforce these Regulations in its area in relation to the matters regulated by —

- (a) Schedules 3 to 5; and
(b) Schedule 6 in so far as it applies in relation to raw milk intended for direct human consumption other than raw cows' milk.

(5) The Agency shall execute and enforce these Regulations in relation to the matters regulated by Schedule 6 in so far as it applies in relation to raw cows' milk intended for direct human consumption.

(6) Each food authority in its area or district shall execute and enforce the provisions of Regulation 178/2002 specified in Schedule 2 and these Regulations in so far as they relate to those provisions.

(7) The Agency shall also execute and enforce Articles 14 and 19 of Regulation 178/2002 and these Regulations in so far as they relate to those Articles as regards relevant food.

(8) In paragraph (7) “relevant food” means food in respect of which the Agency is specified in regulations made pursuant to section 6(4) of the Act or made under the European Communities Act 1972 as being the enforcement authority.

(9) In this regulation —

“cutting plant” means an establishment which is used for boning and/or cutting up fresh meat for placing on the market and which —

- (a) is approved or conditionally approved under Article 31(2) of Regulation 882/2004; or
(b) (although lacking the approval or conditional approval that it requires under Article 4(3) of Regulation 853/2004) was, on 31st December 2005, operating as licensed cutting premises under the Fresh Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) Regulations 1995 ^{M6} or the Poultry Meat, Farmed Game Bird Meat and Rabbit Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) Regulations 1995 ^{M7};

“game-handling establishment” means any establishment in which game and game meat obtained after hunting are prepared for placing on the market and which —

- (a) is approved or conditionally approved under Article 31(2) of Regulation 882/2004; or
(b) (although lacking the approval or conditional approval that it requires under Article 4(3) of Regulation 853/2004) was, on 31st December 2005, operating as a licensed wild game processing facility under the Wild Game Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) Regulations 1995 ^{M8};

“slaughterhouse” means an establishment used for slaughtering and dressing animals, the meat of which is intended for human consumption and which —

- (a) is approved or conditionally approved under Article 31(2) of Regulation 882/2004; or
(b) (although lacking the approval or conditional approval that it requires under Article 4(3) of Regulation 853/2004) was, on 31st December 2005, operating as a licensed slaughterhouse under the Fresh Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) Regulations 1995 or the Poultry Meat, Farmed Game Bird Meat and Rabbit Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) Regulations 1995.

Marginal Citations

M6 [S.I. 1995/539](#), revoked by [S.I. 2005/2059](#).

M7 [S.I. 1995/540](#), revoked by [S.I. 2005/2059](#)

M8 [S.I. 1995/2148](#), revoked by [S.I. 2005/2059](#)

Hygiene improvement notices

6.—(1) If an authorised officer of an enforcement authority has reasonable grounds for believing that a food business operator is failing to comply with the Hygiene Regulations, the officer may by a notice served on that person (in these Regulations referred to as a “hygiene improvement notice”) —

- (a) state the officer's grounds for believing that the food business operator is failing to comply with the Hygiene Regulations;
 - (b) specify the matters which constitute the food business operator's failure to comply;
 - (c) specify the measures which, in the officer's opinion, the food business operator must take in order to secure compliance; and
 - (d) require the food business operator to take those measures, or measures which are at least equivalent to them, within such period (not being less than 14 days) as may be specified in the notice.
- (2) Any person who fails to comply with a hygiene improvement notice commits an offence.

Hygiene prohibition orders

7.—(1) If —

- (a) a food business operator is convicted of an offence under these Regulations; and
- (b) the court by or before which the operator is so convicted is satisfied that the health risk condition is fulfilled with respect to the food business concerned,

the court shall by an order impose the appropriate prohibition.

(2) The health risk condition is fulfilled with respect to any food business if any of the following involves risk of injury to health (including any impairment, whether permanent or temporary), namely —

- (a) the use for the purposes of the business of any process or treatment;
- (b) the construction of any premises used for the purposes of the business, or the use for those purposes of any equipment; and
- (c) the state or condition of any premises or equipment used for the purposes of the business.

(3) The appropriate prohibition is—

- (a) in a case falling within sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph (2), a prohibition on the use of the process or treatment for the purposes of the business;
- (b) in a case falling within sub-paragraph (b) of that paragraph, a prohibition on the use of the premises or equipment for the purposes of the business or any other food business of the same class or description; and
- (c) in a case falling within sub-paragraph (c) of that paragraph, a prohibition on the use of the premises or equipment for the purposes of any food business.

(4) If —

- (a) a food business operator is convicted of an offence under these Regulations; and

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- (b) the court by or before which the operator is so convicted thinks it proper to do so in all the circumstances of the case,

the court may, by an order, impose a prohibition on the food business operator participating in the management of any food business, or any food business of a class or description specified in the order.

(5) As soon as practicable after the making of an order under paragraph (1) or (4) (in these Regulations referred to as a “hygiene prohibition order”), the enforcement authority shall —

- (a) serve a copy of the order on the relevant food business operator; and
- (b) in the case of an order made under paragraph (1), affix a copy of the order in a conspicuous position on such premises used for the purposes of the food business as they consider appropriate,

and any person who knowingly contravenes such an order commits an offence.

(6) A hygiene prohibition order ceases to have effect —

- (a) in the case of an order made under paragraph (1), on the issue by the enforcement authority of a certificate to the effect that they are satisfied that the food business operator has taken sufficient measures to secure that the health risk condition is no longer fulfilled with respect to the food business; and
- (b) in the case of an order made under paragraph (4), on the giving by the court of a direction to that effect.

(7) The enforcement authority must issue a certificate under sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph (6) within three days of their being satisfied as mentioned in that sub-paragraph; and on an application by the food business operator for such a certificate, the authority must —

- (a) determine, as soon as is reasonably practicable and in any event within 14 days, whether or not they are so satisfied; and
- (b) if they determine that they are not so satisfied, give notice to the food business operator of the reasons for that determination.

(8) The court shall give a direction under sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph (6) if, on an application by the food business operator, the court thinks it proper to do so having regard to all the circumstances of the case, including in particular the conduct of the food business operator since the making of the order; but no such application shall be entertained if it is made —

- (a) within six months of the making of the hygiene prohibition order; or
- (b) within three months of the making by the food business operator of a previous application for such a direction.

(9) Where a magistrates' court makes an order under paragraph (2) of regulation 8 with respect to any food business, paragraph (1) shall apply as if the food business operator had been convicted by the court of an offence under these Regulations.

(10) Where the commission of an offence by a food business operator leads to the conviction of another person pursuant to regulation 11, paragraph (4) shall apply in relation to that other person as it applies in relation to the food business operator and any reference in paragraph (5) or (8) to the food business operator is to be construed accordingly.

Hygiene emergency prohibition notices and orders

8.—(1) If an authorised officer of an enforcement authority is satisfied that the health risk condition is fulfilled with respect to any food business, the officer may by a notice served on the relevant food business operator (in these Regulations referred to as a “hygiene emergency prohibition notice”) impose the appropriate prohibition.

(2) If a magistrates' court is satisfied, on the application of such an officer, that the health risk condition is fulfilled with respect to any food business, the court shall, by an order (in these Regulations referred to as a “hygiene emergency prohibition order”), impose the appropriate prohibition.

(3) Such an officer may not apply for a hygiene emergency prohibition order unless, at least one day before the date of the application, the officer has served notice on the relevant food business operator of the intention to apply for the order.

(4) Paragraphs (2) and (3) of regulation 7 apply for the purposes of this regulation as they apply for the purposes of that regulation, but as if the reference in paragraph (2) to risk of injury to health were a reference to imminent risk of injury.

(5) As soon as practicable after the service of a hygiene emergency prohibition notice, an authorised officer of an enforcement authority must affix a copy of the notice in a conspicuous position on such premises used for the purposes of the food business as the officer considers appropriate, and any person who knowingly contravenes such a notice commits an offence.

(6) As soon as practicable after the making of a hygiene emergency prohibition order, an authorised officer of an enforcement authority must —

- (a) serve a copy of the order on the relevant food business operator; and
- (b) affix a copy of the order in a conspicuous position on such premises used for the purposes of the food business as the officer considers appropriate,

and any person who knowingly contravenes such an order commits an offence.

(7) A hygiene emergency prohibition notice ceases to have effect —

- (a) if no application for a hygiene emergency prohibition order is made within the period of three days beginning with the service of the notice, at the end of that period; or
- (b) if such an application is so made, on the determination or abandonment of the application.

(8) A hygiene emergency prohibition notice or a hygiene emergency prohibition order ceases to have effect on the issue by the enforcement authority of a certificate to the effect that they are satisfied that the food business operator has taken sufficient measures to secure that the health risk condition is no longer fulfilled with respect to the food business.

(9) The enforcement authority must issue a certificate under paragraph (8) within three days of their being satisfied as mentioned in that paragraph; and on an application by the food business operator for such a certificate, the authority must —

- (a) determine as soon as is reasonably practicable and in any event within 14 days whether or not they are so satisfied; and
- (b) if they determine that they are not so satisfied, give notice to the food business operator of the reasons for that determination.

(10) Where a hygiene emergency prohibition notice is served on a food business operator, the enforcement authority must compensate the operator in respect of any loss suffered by reason of complying with the notice unless —

- (a) an application for a hygiene emergency prohibition order is made within the period of three days beginning with the service of the notice; and
- (b) the court declares itself satisfied, on the hearing of the application, that the health risk condition was fulfilled with respect to the food business at the time when the notice was served,

and any disputed question as to the right to or the amount of any compensation payable under this paragraph is to be determined by arbitration.

Remedial action notices

9.—(1) Where it appears to an authorised officer of an enforcement authority that in respect of an establishment that Article 4(2) of Regulation 853/2004 requires to be approved —

- (a) any of the requirements of the Hygiene Regulations is being breached; or
- (b) inspection under the Hygiene Regulations is being hampered,

the officer may, by a notice in writing (in these Regulations referred to as a “remedial action notice”) served on the relevant food business operator or duly authorised representative —

- (c) prohibit the use of any equipment or any part of the establishment specified in the notice;
- (d) impose conditions upon or prohibit the carrying out of any process; or
- (e) require the rate of operation to be reduced to such extent as is specified in the notice, or to be stopped completely.

(2) A remedial action notice must be served as soon as practicable and must state why it is being served.

(3) If it is served under paragraph (1)(a), it must specify the breach and the action needed to remedy it.

(4) An authorised officer of the enforcement authority whose authorised officer served the original remedial action notice must, as soon as satisfied that such action has been taken, withdraw the notice by a further notice in writing served on the food business operator or duly authorised representative.

(5) Any person who fails to comply with a remedial action notice commits an offence.

Detention notices

10.—(1) An authorised officer of an enforcement authority may, at an establishment that Article 4(2) of Regulation 853/2004 requires to be approved, by a notice in writing (in this regulation referred to as a “detention notice”) served on the relevant food business operator or duly authorised representative require the detention of any animal or food for the purpose of examination (including the taking of samples).

(2) An authorised officer of the enforcement authority whose officer served the original detention notice must, as soon as satisfied that the animal or food need no longer be detained, withdraw the notice by a further notice in writing served on the food business operator or duly authorised representative.

(3) Any person who fails to comply with a detention notice commits an offence.

Offences due to the fault of another person

11. Where the commission by any person of an offence under these Regulations is due to the act or default of some other person, that other person commits the offence; and a person may be convicted of the offence by virtue of this regulation whether or not proceedings are taken against the first-mentioned person.

Defence of due diligence

12.—(1) In any proceedings for an offence under these Regulations it shall, subject to paragraph (5), be a defence to prove that the person accused (“the accused”) took all reasonable precautions and exercised all due diligence to avoid the commission of the offence by the accused or by a person under the control of the accused.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (1), a person accused of an offence of contravening Article 12 or Article 14(1) of Regulation 178/2002 who did not —

- (a) prepare the food in respect of which the offence is alleged to have been committed; nor
- (b) import it into the United Kingdom,

shall be taken to have established the defence provided by paragraph (1) if the requirements of paragraphs (3) or (4) are satisfied.

(3) The requirements of this paragraph are satisfied if it is proved that —

- (a) the commission of the offence was due to the act or default of some other person who was not under the control of the accused, or to reliance on information supplied by such a person;
- (b) either —
 - (i) the accused carried out all such checks of the food in question as were reasonable in all the circumstances, or
 - (ii) it was reasonable in all the circumstances for the accused to rely on checks carried out by the person who supplied the accused with that food; and
- (c) the accused did not know and had no reason to suspect at the time the offence was committed that the act or omission would amount to an offence under these Regulations.

(4) The requirements of this paragraph are satisfied if the offence is one of placing on the market and it is proved that —

- (a) the commission of the offence was due to the act or default of some other person who was not under the control of the accused, or to reliance on information supplied by such a person;
- (b) the placing on the market of which the offence consisted was not a placing on the market under the name or mark of the accused; and
- (c) the accused did not know and could not reasonably be expected to know at the time the offence was committed that the act or omission would amount to an offence under these Regulations.

(5) If in any case the defence provided by paragraph (1) involves the allegation that the commission of the offence was due to the act or default of another person, or to reliance on information supplied by another person, the accused shall not without leave of the court be entitled to rely on that defence unless —

- (a) at least seven clear days before the hearing; and
- (b) where the accused has previously appeared before the court in connection with the alleged offence, within one month of the first such appearance,

the accused has served on the prosecutor a written notice giving such information identifying or assisting in the identification of that other person as was then in the possession of the accused.

Defence in relation to exports

13. In any proceedings for an offence of contravening or failing to comply with food law it shall be a defence for the accused to prove that —

- (a) the item in respect of which the offence is alleged to have been committed was intended for export to a country that is not a member State and that the item could lawfully be exported there under Article 12 of Regulation 178/2002; or
- (b) the item in respect of which the offence is alleged to have been committed was intended for export to a member State and that —

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- (i) the legislation applicable to that item in that member State is compatible with the relevant provisions of food law (except in so far as it relates to feed produced for or fed to food producing animals) at EU level, and
- (ii) the item complies with that legislation.

Procurement of samples

- 14.** An authorised officer of an enforcement authority may —
- (a) purchase a sample of any food, or any substance capable of being used in the preparation of food;
 - (b) take a sample of any food, or any such substance, which —
 - (i) appears to the officer to be intended for placing on the market or to have been placed on the market, for human consumption, or
 - (ii) is found by the officer on or in any premises which the officer is authorised to enter by or under regulation 16;
 - (c) take a sample from any food source, or a sample of any contact material, which is found by the officer on or in any such premises; and
 - (d) take a sample of any article or substance which is found by the officer on or in any such premises and which the officer has reason to believe may be required as evidence in proceedings under any of the provisions of these Regulations.

Analysis etc. of samples

- 15.—(1)** An authorised officer of an enforcement authority who has procured a sample under regulation 14 shall —
- (a) if the officer considers that the sample should be analysed, submit it to be analysed—
 - (i) by the public analyst for the area in which the sample was procured, or
 - (ii) by the public analyst for the area which consists of or includes the area of the authority; and
 - (b) if the officer considers that the sample should be examined, submit it to be examined by a food examiner.
- (2) A person, other than such an officer, who has purchased any food, or any substance capable of being used in the preparation of food, may submit a sample of it —
- (a) to be analysed by the public analyst for the area in which the purchase was made; or
 - (b) to be examined by a food examiner.
- (3) If, in any case where a sample is proposed to be submitted for analysis under this regulation, the office of public analyst for the area in question is vacant, the sample shall be submitted to the public analyst for some other area.
- (4) If, in any case where a sample is proposed to be or is submitted for analysis under this regulation, the food analyst determines that they are for any reason unable to perform the analysis or examination, the sample shall be submitted or, as the case may be, sent by them to such other food analyst as they may determine.
- (5) If, in any case where a sample is proposed to be or is submitted for examination under this regulation, the food examiner determines that they are for any reason unable to perform the examination, the sample shall be submitted or, as the case may be, sent by them to such other food examiner as they may determine.

(6) A food analyst or examiner must analyse or examine as soon as practicable any sample submitted or sent to them under this regulation, but may, except where —

(a) the person to whom the sample was submitted or sent is the public analyst for the area in question; and

(b) the sample is submitted for analysis by an authorised officer of an enforcement authority, demand in advance the payment of such reasonable fee as the food analyst or examiner may require.

(7) Any food analyst or examiner who has analysed or examined a sample must give to the person by whom it was submitted a certificate specifying the result of the analysis or examination.

(8) Any certificate given by a food analyst or examiner under paragraph (7) must be signed by the food analyst or examiner, but the analysis or examination may be made by any person acting under their direction.

(9) In any proceedings under these Regulations, the production by one of the parties —

(a) of a document purporting to be a certificate given by a food analyst or examiner under paragraph (7); or

(b) of a document supplied to him by the other party as being a copy of such a certificate, shall be sufficient evidence of the facts stated in it unless, in a case falling within sub-paragraph (a), the other party requires that the food analyst or examiner shall be called as a witness.

(10) Where two or more public analysts are appointed for any area, any reference in this regulation to the public analyst for that area is to be construed as a reference to either or any of them.

(11) The Food Safety (Sampling and Qualifications) (England) Regulations 2013 ^{M9} apply in relation to a sample procured by an authorised officer of an enforcement authority under regulation 14 as if it were a sample procured by an authorised officer under section 29 of the Act.

(12) The certificate given by a food analyst or examiner under paragraph (7) must be in the form set out in Schedule 3 to the Food Safety (Sampling and Qualifications) (England) Regulations 2013.

Marginal Citations

M9 [S.I. 2013/264](#).

Powers of entry

16.—(1) An authorised officer of a food authority, on producing, if so required, some duly authenticated document showing authorisation, has a right at all reasonable hours —

(a) to enter any premises within the authority's area for the purpose of ascertaining whether there is or has been on the premises any contravention of the provisions of the Hygiene Regulations or Regulation 178/2002;

(b) to enter any premises, whether within or outside the authority's area, for the purpose of ascertaining whether there is on the premises any evidence of any such contravention within that area; and

(c) to enter any premises for the purpose of the performance by the authority of their functions under the Hygiene Regulations or Regulation 178/2002,

but admission to any premises used only as a private dwelling-house may not be demanded as of right unless 24 hours' notice of the intended entry has been given to the occupier.

(2) An authorised officer of the Agency, on producing if so required some duly authenticated document showing authorisation, has a right at all reasonable hours to enter any premises for the purpose of —

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- (a) ascertaining whether there is or has been on the premises any contravention of the provisions of the Hygiene Regulations or Regulation 178/2002;
- (b) ascertaining whether there is on the premises any evidence of any such contravention; and
- (c) the performance by the Agency of its functions under the Hygiene Regulations or Regulation 178/2002,

but admission to any premises used only as a private dwelling-house may not be demanded as of right unless 24 hours' notice of the intended entry has been given to the occupier.

(3) If a justice of the peace, on sworn information in writing, is satisfied that there is reasonable ground for entry onto any premises for any such purpose as is mentioned in paragraph (1) or (2) and either —

- (a) that admission to the premises has been refused, or a refusal is apprehended, and that notice of the intention to apply for a warrant has been given to the occupier; or
- (b) that an application for admission, or the giving of such a notice, would defeat the object of the entry, or that the case is one of urgency, or that the premises are unoccupied or the occupier is temporarily absent,

the justice may by warrant signed by the justice authorise the authorised officer to enter the premises, if need be by reasonable force.

(4) Every warrant granted under this regulation shall continue in force for a period of one month.

(5) An authorised officer entering any premises by virtue of this regulation, or of a warrant issued under it, may be accompanied by such other persons as the officer considers necessary, and on leaving any unoccupied premises which the officer has entered by virtue of such a warrant must leave them as effectively secured against unauthorised entry as the officer found them.

(6) An authorised officer entering premises by virtue of this regulation, or of a warrant issued under it, may inspect any records (in whatever form they are held) relating to a food business and, where any such records are stored in any electronic form —

- (a) may have access to, and inspect and check the operation of, any computer and any associated apparatus or material which is or has been in use in connection with the records; and
- (b) may require any person having charge of, or otherwise concerned with the operation of, the computer, apparatus or material to afford such assistance as the officer may reasonably require.

(7) Any officer exercising any power conferred by paragraph (6) may —

- (a) seize and detain any records which the officer has reason to believe may be required as evidence in proceedings under any of the provisions of these Regulations; and
- (b) where the records are stored in any electronic form, require the records to be produced in a form in which they may be taken away.

(8) Any person who enters any premises by virtue of this regulation, or of a warrant issued under it, commits an offence if they disclose to any other person any information obtained on the premises with regard to any trade secret, unless the disclosure was made in the performance of their duty.

(9) Nothing in this regulation authorises any person, except with the permission of the local authority under the Animal Health Act 1981^{M10}, to enter any premises —

- (a) on which an animal or bird affected with any disease to which that Act applies is kept; and
- (b) which is situated in a place declared under that Act to be infected with such a disease.

Marginal Citations

M10 1981 c.22.

Obstruction etc. of officers

17.—(1) Any person who —

- (a) intentionally obstructs a person acting in the execution of the Hygiene Regulations or Regulation 178/2002; or
- (b) without reasonable cause, fails to give to any person acting in the execution of the Hygiene Regulations or Regulation 178/2002 any assistance or information which that person may reasonably require of them for the performance of their functions under the Hygiene Regulations,

commits an offence.

(2) Any person who, in purported compliance with any such requirement as is mentioned in sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph (1) —

- (a) furnishes information which they know to be false or misleading in a material particular; or
- (b) recklessly furnishes information which is false or misleading in a material particular,

commits an offence.

(3) Nothing in sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph (1) is to be construed as requiring any person to answer any question or give any information if to do so might incriminate them.

Time limit for prosecutions

18. No prosecution for an offence under these Regulations which is punishable under paragraph (2) of regulation 19 shall be begun after the expiry of —

- (a) three years from the commission of the offence; or
- (b) one year from its discovery by the prosecutor,

whichever is the earlier.

Offences and penalties

19.—(1) Subject to paragraphs (4) to (8), any person who contravenes or fails to comply with any of the specified EU provisions commits an offence.

(2) Subject to paragraph (3), a person guilty of an offence under these Regulations is liable —

- (a) on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum; or
- (b) on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, to a fine or to both.

(3) A person guilty of an offence under regulation 17 is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or to both.

(4) Provided the requirements of Schedule 3 are complied with, a person shall be considered not to have contravened or failed to comply with Article 4(2) of Regulation 852/2004 as read with paragraph 4 of Chapter IV of Annex II to that Regulation (bulk foodstuffs in liquid, granulate or powder form to be transported in receptacles and/or containers/tankers reserved for the transport of foodstuffs).

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(5) Provided the requirements of Part 1 of Schedule 7 are complied with, a person shall be considered not to have contravened or failed to comply with Article 3(1) or 4(1)(a) of Regulation 853/2004 as read in either case with paragraph 5 of Chapter II of Section I of Annex III to that Regulation (food business operators to ensure that slaughterhouses in which domestic ungulates are slaughtered have lockable facilities for the refrigerated storage of detained meat and separate lockable facilities for the storage of meat declared unfit for human consumption).

(6) Provided the requirements of Part 2 of Schedule 7 are complied with, a person shall be considered not to have contravened or failed to comply with Article 3(1) or 4(1)(a) of Regulation 853/2004 as read in either case with paragraph 5 of Chapter II of Section II of Annex III to that Regulation (food business operators to ensure that slaughterhouses in which poultry or lagomorphs are slaughtered have lockable facilities for the refrigerated storage of detained meat and separate lockable facilities for the storage of meat declared unfit for human consumption).

(7) Provided the requirements of Part 3 of Schedule 7 are complied with, a person shall be considered not to have contravened or failed to comply with Article 3(1) or 4(1)(a) of Regulation 853/2004 as read in either case with paragraph 6 of Chapter II of Section I of Annex III to that Regulation (food business operators to ensure that slaughterhouses in which domestic ungulates are slaughtered have a separate place with appropriate facilities for the cleaning, washing and disinfection of means of transport for livestock unless the competent authority permits them not to have such places and official authorised places and facilities exist nearby).

(8) Provided the requirements of Part 4 of Schedule 7 are complied with, a person shall be considered not to have contravened or failed to comply with Article 3(1) or 4(1)(a) of Regulation 853/2004 as read in either case with paragraph 6(b) of Chapter II of Section II of Annex III to that Regulation (food business operators to ensure that slaughterhouses in which poultry or lagomorphs are slaughtered have a separate place with appropriate facilities for the cleaning, washing and disinfection of means of transport unless officially authorised places and facilities exist nearby).

Offences by bodies corporate

20.—(1) Where an offence under these Regulations which has been committed by a body corporate is proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of, or to be attributable to any neglect on the part of—

- (a) any director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the body corporate; or
- (b) any person who was purporting to act in any such capacity,

that person as well as the body corporate shall be deemed to commit that offence and is liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.

(2) In sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph (1) “director”, in relation to any body corporate established by or under any enactment for the purpose of carrying on under national ownership any industry or part of an industry or undertaking, being a body corporate whose affairs are managed by its members, means a member of that body corporate.

Offences by Scottish partnerships

21. Where an offence under these Regulations which has been committed by a Scottish partnership is proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of, or to be attributable to any neglect on the part of, a partner, that partner as well as the partnership shall be deemed to commit that offence and is liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.

Right of appeal

22.—(1) Any person who is aggrieved by —

- (a) a decision of an authorised officer of an enforcement authority to serve a hygiene improvement notice;
- (b) a decision of an enforcement authority to refuse to issue a certificate under paragraph (6) of regulation 7 or paragraph (8) of regulation 8; or
- (c) a decision of an authorised officer of an enforcement authority to serve a remedial action notice,

may appeal to a magistrates' court.

(2) The procedure on an appeal to a magistrates' court under paragraph (1) shall be by way of complaint for an order, and the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 applies to the proceedings.

(3) The period within which an appeal under paragraph (1) may be brought is —

- (a) one month from the date on which notice of the decision was served on the person desiring to appeal; or
- (b) in the case of an appeal against a decision to issue a hygiene improvement notice, the period specified in sub-paragraph (a) or, if it is shorter, the period specified in the notice pursuant to sub-paragraph (d) of paragraph (1) of regulation 6,

and the making of a complaint for an order shall be deemed for the purposes of this paragraph to be the bringing of the appeal.

Appeals to the Crown Court

23. A person who is aggrieved by —

- (a) the dismissal by a magistrates' court of an appeal to it under paragraph (1) of regulation 22; or
- (b) any decision of such a court to make a hygiene prohibition order or a hygiene emergency prohibition order,

may appeal to the Crown Court.

Appeals against hygiene improvement notices and remedial action notices

24.—(1) On an appeal against a hygiene improvement notice or a remedial action notice, the court may cancel or affirm the notice and, if it affirms it, may do so either in its original form or with such modifications as the court may in the circumstances think fit.

(2) Where any period specified in a hygiene improvement notice pursuant to sub-paragraph (d) of paragraph (1) of regulation 6 would otherwise include any day on which an appeal against that notice is pending, that day shall be excluded from that period.

(3) Any appeal shall be regarded as pending for the purposes of paragraph (2) until it is finally disposed of, is withdrawn or is struck out for want of prosecution.

Application of section 9 of the Food Safety Act 1990

25. Section 9 of the Act (inspection and seizure of suspected food) applies for the purposes of these Regulations with the modification that it shall apply in relation to an authorised officer of an enforcement authority as it applies in relation to an authorised officer of a food authority.

Power to issue codes of recommended practice

26.—(1) For the guidance of food authorities, the Secretary of State may issue codes of recommended practice as regards the execution and enforcement of the Hygiene Regulations and Regulation 178/2002 and any such code shall be laid before Parliament after being issued.

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(2) The Agency may, after consulting the Secretary of State, give a food authority a direction requiring them to take any specified steps in order to comply with a code issued under this regulation.

(3) In exercise of the functions conferred on them by or under the Hygiene Regulations and Regulation 178/2002, every food authority —

- (a) must have regard to any relevant provision of any such code; and
- (b) must comply with any direction which is given under this regulation and requires them to take any specified steps in order to comply with such a code.

(4) Any direction under paragraph (2) shall, on the application of the Agency, be enforceable by mandatory order.

(5) The Agency must consult the Secretary of State before making an application under paragraph (4).

(6) Before issuing any code under this regulation, the Secretary of State must have regard to any relevant advice given by the Agency.

Protection of officers acting in good faith

27.—(1) An officer of an enforcement authority is not personally liable in respect of any act done by that officer —

- (a) in the execution or purported execution of the Hygiene Regulations or Regulation 178/2002; and
- (b) within the scope of his employment,

if that act was done in the honest belief that the officer's duty under the Hygiene Regulations or Regulation 178/2002 required or entitled the officer to do it.

(2) Nothing in paragraph (1) is to be construed as relieving any enforcement authority of any liability in respect of the acts of their officers.

(3) Where an action has been brought against an officer of an enforcement authority in respect of an act done by that officer —

- (a) in the execution or purported execution of the Hygiene Regulations or Regulation 178/2002; but
- (b) outside the scope of the officer's employment,

the authority may indemnify that officer against the whole or a part of any damages which the officer has been ordered to pay or any costs which the officer may have incurred if they are satisfied that the officer honestly believed that the act complained of was within the scope of the officer's employment.

(4) A public analyst appointed by a food authority is to be treated for the purposes of this regulation as being an officer of the authority, whether or not the appointment is a whole-time one.

Revocation and suspension of designations and appointments

28.—(1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), the Agency may at any time revoke or suspend —

- (a) the appointment of an official veterinarian;
- (b) the designation of an approved veterinarian; or
- (c) the appointment of an official auxiliary,

if it appears to the Agency that the person in question is unfit to perform any of the functions of that post under the Hygiene Regulations.

(2) Where the Agency revokes or suspends a designation or appointment under paragraph (1), the Agency shall, as soon as practicable, give to the person whose designation or appointment has

been revoked or suspended a notice in writing of the reasons for the revocation or suspension and shall afford them an opportunity of —

- (a) making representations in writing to the Agency with regard to the revocation or suspension; or
 - (b) being heard by a person nominated by the Agency for the purpose pursuant to sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph (5).
- (3) A notice given under paragraph (2) shall inform the person to whom it is given —
- (a) of their right to make representations in writing;
 - (b) of the manner in which and the time (not being less than 21 days from the giving of the notice) within which such representations may be made;
 - (c) of their right to be heard; and
 - (d) of the manner in which and the time (not being less than 21 days from the giving of the notice) within which they may apply for an opportunity to be heard.

(4) In the event of the person whose designation or appointment has been revoked or suspended making any representations (whether orally or in writing) under paragraph (3) the Agency must reconsider whether that person is unfit to perform any of the functions of the post held by them under the Hygiene Regulations and shall, as soon as practicable, reconsider its decision to revoke or suspend the designation or appointment under paragraph (1) in the light of those representations.

(5) Where a person requests the opportunity to be heard pursuant to sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph (2) —

- (a) the Agency must nominate a person to determine the matter from the list established under paragraph (6);
- (b) the person so nominated must serve a notice on the person who requested the opportunity to be heard and the Agency, informing them of the time (not being less than 21 days from the giving of the notice) of the hearing; and
- (c) the person so nominated must, within 21 days of the hearing, notify the person who requested the opportunity to be heard and the Agency of the result of the determination.

(6) The Agency must establish and maintain a list of people who may be nominated for the purposes of this regulation and consult those organisations appearing to it to represent official veterinarians, approved veterinarians and official auxiliaries before including any person on the list.

Food which has not been produced, processed or distributed in accordance with the Hygiene Regulations

29.—(1) On an inspection of any food, an authorised officer of an enforcement authority may certify that it has not been produced, processed or distributed in compliance with the Hygiene Regulations.

(2) Where any food is certified as mentioned in paragraph (1) it shall be treated for the purposes of section 9 of the Act as failing to comply with food safety requirements.

(3) Where any food certified as mentioned in paragraph (1) is part of a batch, lot or consignment of food of the same class or description, all the food in the batch, lot or consignment shall, until it is proved that it has been produced, processed or distributed in compliance with the Hygiene Regulations, be treated for the purposes of paragraph (2) as having been so certified.

Service of documents

30.—(1) Any document which is required or authorised under the Hygiene Regulations to be served on a food business operator may be served —

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- (a) by delivering it to that person;
- (b) in the case of an incorporated company or body, by delivering it to their secretary at their registered or principal office, or by sending it in a prepaid letter addressed to the secretary at that office; or
- (c) in the case of any other food business operator, by leaving it or sending it in a prepaid letter addressed to the food business operator at the operator's usual or last known residence.

(2) Where a document is to be served on a food business operator under the Hygiene Regulations and it is not reasonably practicable to ascertain the name and address of the person on whom it should be served, or the premises of the food business operator are unoccupied, the document may be served by addressing it to the food business operator concerned in the capacity of occupier of those premises (naming them), and —

- (a) by delivering it to some other person at the premises; and
- (b) if there is no other person at the premises to whom it can be delivered, by affixing it or a copy of it to some conspicuous part of the premises.

Bulk transport in sea-going vessels of liquid oils or fats and the bulk transport by sea of raw sugar

31. Schedule 3 (bulk transport in sea-going vessels of liquid oils or fats and the bulk transport by sea of raw sugar) has effect.

Temperature control requirements

32. Schedule 4 (temperature control requirements) has effect.

Direct supply by the producer of small quantities of meat from poultry or lagomorphs slaughtered on the farm

33. Schedule 5 (direct supply by the producer of small quantities of meat from poultry or lagomorphs slaughtered on the farm) has effect.

Restrictions on the sale of raw milk intended for direct human consumption

34. Schedule 6 (restrictions on the sale of raw milk intended for direct human consumption) has effect.

Special health mark

35. The special health mark referred to in paragraph 9 of Chapter VI of Section I of Annex III to Regulation 853/2004 and paragraph 7 of Chapter III of Section I of Annex I to Regulation 854/2004 must conform with Schedule 8.

Consequential amendment to the Act

36. In section 9(5)(a) of the Act^{M11}, after “section 7” insert “, regulation 19(1) of the Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013, so far as relating to the second entry in the list of specified EU provisions set out in column 1 of Schedule 2 to those Regulations”.

Marginal Citations

M11 Section 9(5)(a) was amended by S.I. 2004/3279.

Amendments to the Official Feed and Food Controls (England) Regulations 2009

37.—(1) The Official Feed and Food Controls (England) Regulations 2009^{M12} are amended in accordance with paragraphs (2) to (4).

(2) In regulation 2(1) (interpretation), for the definition of “the Import Provisions” substitute the following definition —

““the Import Provisions” means Part 3 of these Regulations, Article 14 of Regulation 882/2004 in so far as it applies to official controls to verify compliance with aspects of feed or food law not covered by Directive 97/78/EC^{M13}, Articles 15 to 24 of Regulation 882/2004, Regulation 669/2009 and Commission Regulation (EU) No. 211/2013 on certification requirements for imports into the Union of sprouts and seeds intended for the production of sprouts^{M14}.”.

(3) In regulation 41 (offences and penalties), after paragraph (1) insert the following as paragraph (1A) —

“(1A) Any person who imports into England or places on the market any sprouts or seeds intended for sprouting which do not comply with the certification requirements of Article 3 of Commission Regulation (EU) No. 211/2013 on certification requirements for imports into the Union of sprouts and seeds intended for the production of sprouts shall be guilty of an offence.”.

(4) In paragraphs (5) and (6) of regulation 3, paragraph (d) of Schedule 2 and paragraph (c) of Schedule 3, for the expression “the Food Hygiene (England) Regulations 2006” substitute “the Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013”.

Marginal Citations

M12 [S.I. 2009/3255](#), amended by [S.I. 2013/264](#).

M13 Council Directive 97/78/EC laying down the principles governing the organisation of veterinary checks on products entering the Community from third countries (OJ No. L24, 30.1.1998, p.9).

M14 OJ No. L68, 12.3.2012, p.26.

Consequential amendments to the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2013

38. The Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2013^{M15} are amended as follows —

- (a) In regulation 12(2)(a), for “regulation 5(6) of the Food Hygiene (England) Regulations 2006” substitute “regulation 5(9) of the Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013”;
- (b) In regulation 23(8), for “regulation 5(2) of the Food Hygiene (England) Regulations 2006” substitute “regulation 5(2) of the Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013”.

Marginal Citations

M15 [S.I. 2013/2952](#).

Consequential amendment to the Trade in Animals and Related Products Regulations 2011

39. In regulation 32(3)(b) of the Trade in Animals and Related Products Regulations 2011^{M16}, for “the Food Hygiene (England) Regulations 2006” substitute “the Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013”.

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Marginal Citations

M16 [S.I. 2011/1197](#).

Revocations

40. In so far as they apply in relation to England, the instruments listed in the first column of Schedule 9 are revoked to the extent specified in the second column.

Review

41.—(1) The Food Standards Agency must from time to time —

- (a) carry out a review of the operation and effect of regulations 2 to 35;
- (b) set out the conclusions of the review in a report; and
- (c) publish the report.

(2) In carrying out the review the Agency must, so far as is reasonably practicable, have regard to how the EU instruments mentioned in paragraph (2) as read with paragraph (3) of regulation 2 are executed and enforced in other Member States.

(3) The report must in particular —

- (a) set out the objectives intended to be achieved by the regulatory system established by these Regulations;
- (b) assess the extent to which those objectives are achieved; and
- (c) assess whether those objectives remain appropriate and, if so, the extent to which they could be achieved with a system that imposes less regulation.

(4) The first report under this regulation must be published before the end of the period of five years beginning with the day on which these Regulations come into force.

(5) Reports under this regulation are afterwards to be published at intervals not exceeding five years.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Health.

Department of Health
22nd November 2013

Jane Ellison
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State,

Status:

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Changes to legislation:

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