

Consultation on mechanically separated meat (MSM) guidance

Status: Open

Date launched: 28 February 2024

Closing date: 22 May 2024

This consultation will be of most interest to

- Food Business Operators (FBOs) using mechanical meat separation equipment in their production processes; and those using MSM as an ingredient
- Food Law Enforcement Officers
- Meat Industry Trade Bodies
- Consumers

Consultation subject

The Food Standards Agency (FSA) is seeking feedback relating to new MSM guidance that is intended to provide support for FBOs following court judgments that clarify how the definition of mechanically separated meat (MSM) should be interpreted and applied.

Purpose of the consultation

The feedback from the consultation is sought specifically on:

- the effectiveness of the [MSM guidance document](#) in providing support in light of the Court Judgments
- the impacts of FBOs adapting their activities and operations in line with Court judgments
- whether there are wider issues around MSM that the FSA, or indeed wider government, should be seeking to address and why

Consultation pack

This consultation pack provides the background information and details you will need to know in order to respond to the questions in this consultation.

[Consultation pack for the mechanically separated meat \(MSM\) guidance \(accessible version\)](#)

PDF

[View Consultation pack for the mechanically separated meat \(MSM\) guidance as PDF\(Open in a new window\)](#) (202.48 KB)

Draft guidance

[Draft guidance for the consultation on mechanically separated meat \(MSM\) \(accessible version\)](#)

PDF

[View Draft guidance for the consultation on mechanically separated meat \(MSM\) as PDF\(Open in a new window\)](#) (259.8 KB)

How to respond

Responses are required by close 22 May 2024. Please state in your response whether you are responding as a private individual or on behalf of an organisation/company, including details of any stakeholders your organisation represents.

Please respond to the consultation via the [MSM Consultation online survey](#). Feedback can also be emailed to meathygiene@food.gov.uk.

Publication of response summary

Within three months of a consultation ending we aim to publish a summary of responses received and provide a link to it from this page.

You can find information on how we handle data provided in response to consultations in our [Consultations privacy notice](#).

Further information

This consultation has been prepared in accordance with [HM Government Consultation Principles](#). If an Impact Assessment has been produced, this is included in the consultation documents. If no Impact Assessment has been provided, the reason will be given in the consultation document.