

Community and charity food provision: revised guidance on application of EU food hygiene law

Status: Closed

Your views

We particularly welcome any comments you have about whether the guidance:

- is helpful and does what it claims to do
- describes the law and how it applies clearly
- does not undermine public health protection given by the law
- is a fair and proportionate view of the law
- is clear that community and charity providers must contact local authorities if they are still unsure whether registration of their activities is required after looking at the guidance
- provides examples that are realistic and cover enough situations places unnecessary burdens on organisations in the charity or community sector or on local authorities

How to comment

Please email your comments to foodhygiene.policy@food.gov.uk by Friday 30 October 2015.

Read the draft guidance and summary of responses to consultation



England, Northern Ireland and Wales

PDF

[View Responses to the 2015 consultation on the community and charity food provision guidance as PDF\(Open in a new window\) \(71.5 KB\)](#)

Changes to guidance

The guidance has been revised to:

- give more clarity of the legal requirements and how they apply.
- provide more practical examples, largely based on scenarios raised by community and charity food providers or by local authorities.
- note changes to the law regarding information provision about allergens and food intolerance.
- change contact details to ensure that community and charity food providers contact the local authority directly if they are unsure whether their event needs registration or not, even after consulting the guidance. The FSA has given its general view in the guidance but local decisions are taken by local authorities and the draft reflects this.

PDF

[View Community and charity food provision: guidance on the application of EU food hygiene law \(2016\) as PDF\(Open in a new window\)](#) (113.81 KB)

Read the current guidance

PDF file Community and charity food provision: guidance on the application of EU food hygiene law(113.81 KB) Updated March 2016

Guidance target audience

The main audiences for the guidance are organisers of charity and community food provision and local authority food safety officers in England.

However the FSA has made a wide range of interested parties aware of the guidance's revision including charities, community organisations, faith groups, health bodies, rural organisations and all English district councils.

The guidance does not have authority in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland.

Purpose of the guidance

The guidance is designed to help clarify when charity food operations are likely to need registration as food businesses. It does this by providing the our view on the circumstances when such operations are regular enough and of a certain scale.

Regular and organised food supply, even if it is not-for-profit, requires registration and full compliance with food hygiene laws. The guidance should help local authority food safety officers make pragmatic assessments on whether or not to register activities carried out in the village hall, community and charity sector. It should also help community and charity food organisers share a common understanding of the legal considerations.

How the guidance is set out

The guidance is in two parts:

- the first part explains the EU Regulation regarding the registration of food businesses and our interpretation of that law.
- the second part gives practical examples of community food provision and the FSA's views as to whether each scenario requires registration

Practical food hygiene and other advice for community food providers

Questions and answers gives advice on issues relevant to larger-scale catering in community settings can be found via the link below. The questions and answers are updated on an ongoing basis and comments are welcome at any time.

Catering advice for charity and community groups providing food Advice on providing food in a village hall or other community setting for volunteers and charity groups.

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.