

Withdrawal and traceability of food

This leaflet applies to all food businesses including caterers and retailers.

Withdrawal

On 1st January 2005, *The General Food Regulations 2004* came into force implementing the requirements of EU Regulation 178/2002. As a food business proprietor you are now required to withdraw/recall food from the market if it does not comply with food safety requirements, that is if it is,

- Unsafe.
- Injurious to health.
- Unfit for human consumption, e.g. due to contamination, deterioration, decay or putrefaction.

You are also under an obligation to notify the Food Standards Agency and the Local Authority of such a withdrawal/recall. This may be done initially by phone/fax/e-mail but should be followed by a specified form.

This form, which you may use to notify the Food Standards Agency and Derbyshire County Council or your local Environmental Health Department of such a food withdrawal/recall, is available electronically at <http://www.food.gov.uk/foodindustry/regulation/foodfeedform>.

Traceability

The Regulations also require food businesses to have food traceability systems in place. This requires you to:

- Identify your suppliers of food/ingredients;
- Identify the businesses to which you have supplied food products to; and

Maintain appropriate records and ensure that such information is made available to enforcing authorities on demand. As a minimum, these records should include the name and address of the customer or supplier, nature of products and the date of transaction delivery.

Retailers and caterers are not required to keep records of sales to the final consumer i.e. members of the public; however records of suppliers and products supplied to the business are required.

Where can I get further help?

This leaflet is not an authoritative document on the law and is only intended for guidance. For further details or clarification contact Derbyshire Trading Standards at:

Chatsworth Hall
Chesterfield Road
Matlock
Derbyshire
DE4 3FW

Telephone:

Businesses:	Call Derbyshire	08 456 058 058
Consumers:	Citizens Advice consumer helpline	08454 040506

Fax: 01629 536197

Website: www.derbyshire.gov.uk/tradingstandards

We want everyone to be able to understand us. On request, we will arrange:

- Language interpreters, including for sign language
- Translation of written materials into other languages
- Materials in large print, on tape or in Braille.

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To ensure that you are looking at the most up-to-date version of this leaflet, please visit our website at http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/images/std36_tcm9-8381.pdf or telephone us on 01629 536166.

