

LEICESTER'S FOOD SECTOR, PUBLIC PROTECTION AND REGULATION BY LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL

Neighbourhood Services & Community
Involvement Scrutiny Commission

4 April 2016

Threats and risks to public

Estimated 1,000,000 cases of food poisoning a year from known and unknown pathogens; c. 7,600 hospital admissions.

FSA research, University of Liverpool, 2014.

Threats and risks to public - Bacterial

- 2014 Denmark – Listeria outbreak. 15 deaths and 37 infected. Vehicle: spiced lamb roll, sausages, liver pate etc.
- 2011 Germany - Deadliest bacterial foodbourne outbreak in Europe. E.Coli outbreak. 53 deaths and 3,950 persons infected. Vehicle: fenugreek sprouts.
- 2005 South Wales – E.Coli outbreak. 1 death and 157 infected. Vehicle: meat from local butcher
- 1996 Scotland – E.Coli outbreak. Deadliest foodborne outbreak in UK. 20 deaths and 200 infected. Vehicle: meat from local butcher

Threats and risks to public - Chemical

- 2008 China – Melamine added to diluted milk to fool the test for protein content. 6 deaths and 300,000 affected.
- 1981 Spain – Possibly aniline in rapeseed oil. Industrial oil sold as food oil. 600 deaths and 25,000 affected.
- 1971 Iraq – Planting seeds treated with methylmercury fungicide used as food. 650 deaths.

Threats and risks to public – Choice/Financial

- 2005 UK – Sudan 1. Sauces produced by Premier Foods included chili powder contaminated with Sudan 1 a red dye considered to be carcinogenic. 470 products recalled. No illnesses. Economic loss £100m.
- 2013 UK – Horsemeat. Horsemeat in burgers, lasagne, bolognese and other meat products. Romanian horsemeat relabelled as beef in the supply chain. No illnesses. Economic loss £?m
- Post 2013 UK – 40% of lamb takeaways contain other meat; more than 60% of ham and cheese pizzas contained neither.

Leicester's Food Sector

	2011	2012	2013	2014	1/4/15	28/10/15
manufacturers & distributors	80	73	72	73	73	84
importers/exporters	7	11	11	11	6	5
distributors/transporters	73	81	83	80	77	77
retailers	817	835	868	848	730	761
restaurants & caterers	1894	1964	2052	2100	1942	1982
totals	2871	2964	3086	3112	2828	2909

Food Safety Regulatory Activity (to EO Feb 2016)

Advice Visits	Inspections (FOODP)	Inspections (FSP)	Compliance Verification	Sampling	Intelligence/ Info Gathering	FHRS Re-ratings
166	1326	616	1360	148	69	135

Voluntary Closures	Seizure, Detention & Surrender	Emergency Prohibition Notice	Improve'nt Notice	Remedial Action & Detention Notice	Written Warning	Simple Caution	Prosecution initiated
5	19	9	58	4	1111	12	3

Compliance measures (to EO Feb 2016)

% of broadly compliant Establishments (inc. unrated & outside)	No of Establishments with 3+ and 2- FHRS ratings
81%	2178 (3+) 330 (2-)

Development of food regulation - principles

FSA Regulatory Strategy 2015-2020



- ‘One size does not fit all’ – assurance mix to vary according to business
- Using ‘best data’ to target regulatory efforts
- Exploiting modern technology e.g. social media to crowd source information on problems
- Getting in early... at registration time
- Businesses pay the cost of regulation