



Leicester  
City Council

REGULATION OF LEICESTER'S FOOD  
BUSINESS SECTOR

**Present and Future  
Challenges**

4<sup>th</sup> July 2018



Food  
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**Purpose of the Presentation**

- ▶ Brief the Scrutiny Committee on what is happening in the Food Sector.
- ▶ Brief the Scrutiny Committee on the proposed Food Safety Team Service Plan
- ▶ Inform the Scrutiny Committee of the Food Standards Agency Regulating Our Future program.



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## About our Food Sector

	A	B	C	D	E	Not yet rated	Total
Primary Producers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manufacturers and Packers	4	13	35	35	14	7	98
Importers/Exporters	0	0	0	4	4	2	10
Distributors/Transporters	1	0	3	31	53	0	88
Retailers	1	11	80	400	300	21	813
Restaurants and Caterers	20	212	676	768	280	88	2054
<b>Totals</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>794</b>	<b>1228</b>	<b>661</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>3063</b>

- 26 'high risk' A's require 6 monthly interventions
- B's 12 months, C's 18 months, D's 24 months.
- E's low risk and subject to alternate intervention strategy
- 21 'Approved Establishments'



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## About Our Food Sector

- ▶ **c. 3,000 registered food businesses and of these**
  - Significant diversity in the range of food businesses
  - Significant number of NEW entrants into the Food Sector
  - English is often not first or main language of communication
  - A reputation for producing culturally specific foods, e.g. Paneer, Polish dumplings, Asian sweets
- ▶ **Key features of the Food Sector are:**
  - Increase forecast in line with Leicester City Economic Strategy and LLEP
  - 25% Increase in food manufacturers since 2013
  - Highly competitive market/low profit margins
  - High turnover in 'restaurants and catering' sub-sector.
  - 15% increase in complaint food businesses since 2013



## Why regulate business conduct?

- ▶ Leicester City Council as a Food Authority has a Statutory Duty....
- ▶ Our aims are:
  - Prevent ill-health and potential death.
  - Ensure the supply of good quality, safe food.
  - Prevent and detect food fraud
  - Assist Leicester's food businesses to comply with food law.
- ▶ In order to protect:
  - Public Health
  - Consumers Purse and Choice
  - Good Businesses from Unfair/Unlawful competition
  - Our country's export markets



## Food Regulation

- ▶ As a Unitary Authority the FST Regulates both Food Hygiene and Food Standards
- ▶ Hygiene – safe handling and preparation of food
- ▶ Standards – labelling, claims, misleading
- ▶ Advise and support for new businesses
- ▶ Risk Based Inspection Plan
- ▶ Graduated enforcement



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## Our Food Safety Team

- **Food Safety Team Management**
  - 1.5 FTE
  - Oversight of inspection program, monitoring of standards, supervision of officers, support/review of enforcement actions
- **Food Safety Team**
  - 11 Officers (10.1 FTE) inspections
  - 170 years food safety experience
- **Close working relationship with Internal services**
  - Trading Standards
  - City Wardens
  - Licensing
  - Public Safety Team
- **Liaison with national and regional organisations**
  - Food Standards Agency
  - Trading Standards East Midlands
  - Public Health England
  - National Food Crime Unit



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## Review of 2017/18

- ▶ **Significant Incidents and events**
  - Food poisoning Outbreak affecting 42 out of 180 people
  - Prosecution cases - 2 city centre food businesses prosecuted
  - Food incidents – pan masala mouth freshener, Jelly Cups
  - Sweet Mart Sampling exercise
- ▶ **FST Performance**
  - 1663 Food hygiene inspections
  - 1290 Compliance checks
  - 22 overdue inspections (carried forward to 2018/19)
- ▶ **Compliance**
  - Since 2014 we have seen a 12.5% rise in the level of broadly compliant food establishments (71.5% to 84%).
  - Zero rated establishments has fallen by approximately 50%



## Regulating Our Future

- FSA strategic aim is to build an effective proportionate and robust system for Food Law Enforcement.
- Due to be in place in **2020**.
- To recognise a fast paced, innovative food industry and create flexibility to meet future challenges **including when we leave the EU**.
- Local Authority to remain central to Food Law Enforcement
- Key areas
  - Centralised Online Registration by March 2019!
  - Intervention based on risk assessment by segmentation
  - Nationally set bespoke inspection programmes for big businesses
  - Sustainable funding – business pays



## Service Plan 2018/19 - Key Priorities

- ▶ **Completion of Planned Interventions**
- ▶ **Compliance Projects**
  - Allergens
  - Acrylamide
  - Promotion of 5 Rated Establishments
- ▶ **Advice and Support**
- ▶ **Preparing for the future (ROF and BREXIT)**
  - Keeping our food businesses are informed of changes/impacts in timely way
  - Ensuring senior management is informed of the impacts of future changes
  - Liaison with other internal and external regulators to improve our intelligence arrangements
  - Adapting internal arrangements in anticipation of changed regulatory regime



**THANK YOU FOR LISTENING**

**QUESTIONS?**