

Lead Food officers  
REHIS  
SFELC

6<sup>th</sup> January 2017

FSS/ENF/17/001

Dear Colleagues,

### **FSS survey on level of activity on export certification by local authorities**

**Action requested:** Complete the attached SurveyMonkey questionnaire on food and drink export certification activity carried out by Local Authorities.

#### **Issue**

Following the outcome of the EU referendum, the FSS has been working closely with the Department for International Trade, the Department for Exiting the EU, FSA and Defra. This has included assessing the possible impacts of the UK's exit from the EU on those stakeholders involved in the delivery of services to UK businesses involved in trade, both with the EU and with Third Countries. Local authorities currently play a key role in providing export certification to businesses exporting food and drink products to Third Countries. Depending on the future trading arrangements agreed with the EU as part of the UK's departure from the EU, there might be an additional need for certification for products being exported into the EU.

Additionally, the Chinese government have recently implemented changes to their Food Law which will require formal Export Health Certificates to be provided **for all food and drink products being exported to China**. The new arrangements have to be implemented by October 2017. FSS are working closely with FSA, Defra, the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) and the Rural Payments Agency (RPA) to develop a process to implement the required new system.

## **Action required**

In order to inform our discussions on both of these issues, and **to ensure that any future potential burdens on local authority resources are fully taken into account**, we need to obtain some baseline information on the levels of involvement in export certification by each local authority.

We would therefore be grateful if you could complete the following short SurveyMonkey questionnaire (link below) regarding your current level of involvement in export certification.

**It is important that we have as complete a picture as possible of the current level of local authority activity on export certification to inform the development of future policies in the ever increasing high profile area of UK trade.**

[\[https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/K3JQV3S\]](https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/K3JQV3S)

## **Timescale**

Please complete the survey by **20 January 2017**.

Yours sincerely



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