

To: Lead Food Officers
cc: SFELC, REHIS

19 August 2019

FSS/ENF/19/011

Dear Colleague

Bamboo and plastic kitchenware

In response to an increased amount of enquiries concerning the import of products containing bamboo and plastic Food Standards Scotland would like to clarify the situation with regard to [Regulation 284/2011](#). In particular on the specific conditions and detailed procedures for the import of polyamide and melamine plastic kitchenware originating in or consigned from the People's Republic of China and Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, China.

The issue of how much melamine constitutes a plastic in terms of the kitchenware from China legislation is something that is currently under discussion by the European Commission.

Currently, it is considered that if the amount of plastic resin in an article is 50% or greater, then it can be regarded as a plastic material with filler. However, if less than 50% plastic resin, then it can be regarded as a bamboo item with a plastic binder and therefore these products are outside the scope of the controls.

The European Commission is still considering the situation, and when a final decision on this is made we will update you on the working definition.

In the meantime, the current controls remain in place and we will update Local Authorities in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Amber Souter
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