

Audit Assurance

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To: Heads of Service

Cc: Lead Food Officers

Dear Colleague,

Audit of Local Authority Implementation of Interventions Food Law Code of Practice (Scotland)

As set out in the [Local Authority Audit Programme 2022-2023](#), the Audit Assurance Division will shortly commence a review of the implementation of the Food Law Rating System. This is a focussed audit which will assess a sample of Local Authorities' compliance with the requirements of the Interventions Food Law Code of Practice (Scotland) 2019 (hereafter referred to as the Interventions Code 2019) with regard to its implementation.

Audit Aims and Objectives

The aim of the review is to evaluate the implementation and application of the Interventions Code 2019.

The four key objectives are to;

- Verify that Local Authorities have implemented the Interventions Code 2019 and fully transferred all applicable food establishments to a food law risk rating.
- Verify Local Authorities' application and adherence to the Interventions Code 2019.
- Identify and disseminate good practice applied by Local Authorities.
- Identify information, evidence and potential recommendations to aid future Food Standards Scotland's policy and operational development.

Audit Scope

The Scope of the audit is detailed in the [Audit Brief](#) which is published on our website.

An Audit Checklist has also been produced and is also published on our website.

Audit Process

A cross section of Local Authorities reflecting various types of Authorities (rural, urban, island) will be selected as part of the review. It will also include Local Authorities who were involved in the Interventions Code 2019 pilot.

Each audit will include a review and analysis of documented evidence and onsite verification visits. It is anticipated that onsite verification visits will take no longer than 2 days.

Each individual audit will conclude with the provision of an audit report which will feed into an overall combined report covering the entire review. Both reports will be published on our website.

Timetable

It is anticipated the review will commence in August and run for a number of months until an appropriate and representative sample cohort is obtained and their reviews completed.

Local Authorities selected for Audit will receive a minimum notification of 10 working days prior to the commencement of the audit. A selection of evidence will be requested for desktop review prior to auditors undertaking an onsite visit with the Local Authority. A full timetable for onsite verification visits will be agreed and shared with the Local Authority prior to the visit.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss the review in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact me on 077 65789722.

Yours sincerely



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