

To: Local Authority Lead Food Officers.
CC: SFELC, REHIS

Ref: FSS/ENF/24/001

Dear Colleague

Request to alert Food Business Operators to Guidance on the sale of Slush-ice Drinks

You will be aware that issues associated with the consumption of slush-ice drinks by children have been observed in recent months. The matter was raised with Local Authorities via a letter from FSS Head of Incidents in the February 2023 Monthly Enforcement Report and further guidance included in the August 2023 Monthly Enforcement Report.

Food Standards Scotland have recently become aware of a further incident of illness in a child following drinking such a product.

As a consequence, all Scottish Local Authorities are asked to contact businesses selling slush-ice drinks, making them aware of the Industry Guidance which is available on the FSS website at:

[Glycerol in slush ice drinks | Food Standards Scotland.](#)

Risk Management Industry Guidelines:

1. Brand owners will ensure that their customers are fully aware of the FSA's risk assessment of the use of glycerol in slush ice drinks.
2. Brand owners will formulate products to contain glycerol at the minimum quantity technically necessary to achieve the required 'slush' drink effect.
3. Brand owners will advise their customers that sales of slush ice drinks containing glycerol should be accompanied by a written warning visible at point of sale that "Product contains glycerol. Not recommended for children 4 years of age and under".
4. The business model of free refills is not recommended in venues where children under the age of 10 years will consume them.

Please note that Glycerine is another name for Glycerol, and both fall under E422. This is not explicitly referenced in the guidance at the aforementioned link.

If you wish further information in this matter or wish to discuss, please contact FSS at Enforcement@fss.scot

Yours sincerely,

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