



# Three proposed models for regulation:

We recognise that businesses come in all shapes and sizes and want to move away from a 'one-size-fits-all' approach to regulation.

That's why we're proposing a new way of regulating that's tailored to size, type and ability and willingness to provide us with assurance, sampling and food safety information.



## The Future of Regulation

#### Background

We live in challenging times. There's more demand for food, increasing pressure on resources, uncertain production due to climate change and an increasing number of new food suppliers. These changes affect all of us and make us question how we regulate food businesses to guarantee people continue to have food they can trust.

We've had the same food inspection model for around 30 years. This includes sending local authority inspectors to look at what businesses are doing in relation to food standards and hygiene. This is an outdated and resource intensive way to ensure food is safe. We recognise resources within local authorities to carry out inspections are being greatly reduced.

#### What will the new model for regulation look like?

As the way local authorities finance themselves is changing, so too is the way we finance food safety regulation. The FSA is now looking to implement a system of assurance that is financially sustainable where costs are met by business and not the taxpayer. We are proposing having different inspection models dependent on the size of the food business.

For example, many big businesses have robust auditing and sampling regimes in place to ensure the food they provide to consumers is safe. We want to make the most of this data and use it in our inspection process, rather than overlooking this valuable resource. Local authorities can no longer take on all of this work by themselves so we are looking at the possibility of preapproved companies to provide assurance of food hygiene standards alongside local authorities.

We want to change the way the FSA and local authorities regulate food businesses in a modern, global food system.

### Help us - we want your views and ideas

We are still in the process of working up the details of our new regulatory model and how it will be implemented. However, what is clear is that we want local authorities, businesses and consumers to be involved in the design of this new model for food standards and hygiene inspection.

We want to hear the views of those with an interest in food hygiene and safety and this is why we are setting up an expert panel to ensure we capture the insights and knowledge already out there in an open and transparent way. We want to hear the ideas, concerns and thoughts of those with an interest in the sector. This consultative approach will use open policy making that will hopefully mean we can design the most effective regulatory model for a modern and global food system.

Call us

Get involved and contact the FSA if:

You're a local authority who would like to get involved in different assurance systems across food standards and hygiene and would like to set up a pilot.

If you are working in this sector and have any views about how a new regulatory model should be set up; or

If you have any further questions about the FSA and the future of its food standards and hygiene regulation.

email: futuredelivery@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk