



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

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Date: 01/09/2022

Dear Consultee

Consultation on Amending The Bread and Flour Regulations 1998 and The Bread and Flour Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1998

1. I am writing to invite views on proposals to change The Bread and Flour Regulations 1998 and The Bread and Flour (Northern Ireland) Regulations 1998.
2. Defra committed to reviewing the Bread and Flour Regulations 1998 which cover specific compositional and labelling requirements for these products, following the UK's departure from the European Union. Defra, alongside the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), Food Standards Agency (FSA) in Northern Ireland and Wales, Food Standards Scotland and the Scottish and Welsh Governments and Department of Health Northern Ireland have been jointly conducting the review. As part of the review, we are now holding a public consultation on proposals which set out to ensure the regulations lead to improved public health, support UK industry, assist enforcement authorities and protect consumers. These include:
 - Updating technical standards regarding the minimum level and compositional criteria of added nutrients to non-wholemeal wheat flour, ensuring consistency with other food standards legislation.
 - The implementation of government policy to fortify non-wholemeal wheat flour with folic acid to help reduce neural tube defect affected pregnancies.
 - Providing further clarity and understanding of the scope of requirements by updating the regulations in line with developments within the industry.
 - Exploring opportunities for additional exemptions to reduce burden on industry while not compromising health objectives.
 - Introducing improvement notices as an enforcement mechanism for addressing non-compliance with the regulations.
3. The following documents may be found on GOV.UK:
<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/food-compositional-standards/bread-and-flour-consultation-2022>



Responses

4. To submit your consultation response please complete the consultation questionnaire provided through Citizen Space (Citizen Space is an online consultation tool).

If you require a copy of the consultation, please contact us at foodstandards@defra.gov.uk. Responses or additional information or documents can be sent to: breadandflour2022@defra.gov.uk

Or

Amending The Bread and Flour Regulations 1998 and The Bread and Flour Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1998

Coordinator

Second floor

Foss House

Kings Pool

1 to 2 Peasholme Green

York

YO1 7PX

5. Responses should be received by **24/11/2022**

Confidentiality and data protection

Please find the Consultations Privacy Notice uploaded alongside this consultation.

This consultation document and consultation process have been planned to adhere to the Consultation Principles issued by the Cabinet Office.

Representative groups are asked to give a summary of the people and organisations they represent and where relevant who else they have consulted in reaching their conclusions when they respond.

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal data, may be published or disclosed in accordance with the access to information regimes these are primarily the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs), the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA).

We have obligations, mainly under the EIRs, FOIA and DPA, to disclose information to particular recipients or to the public in certain circumstances.

If you want the information that you provide to be treated as confidential, please be aware that, as a public authority, the Department is bound by the Freedom of Information Act and may therefore be obliged to disclose all or some of the information you provide.

In view of this it would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential.

If we receive a request for disclosure of the information we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the Department.

This consultation is being conducted in line with the Cabinet Office "Consultation Principles" and can be found at:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/consultationprinciplesguidance.

If you have any comments or complaints about the consultation process, please address them to:

Consultation Coordinator
2nd Floor
Foss House
Kings Pool
1-2 Peasholme Green
York YO1 7PX

Or email: consultation.coordinator@defra.gov.uk

Thank you for your help in this matter. If you have any queries, please contact us as above.

Yours Sincerely,

Food Compositional Standards Team

foodcstandards@defra.gov.uk

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs