



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

T: 03459 335577
helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/defra

Date: 5 October 2018

Dear Consultee

Consultation on improved enforcement of the Protected Food Name Scheme

I am writing to invite views on the introduction of the Quality Schemes (Agricultural Products and Foodstuffs) Regulations 2018. The EU regulations on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs came into force in 2011. This provides protection for all Protected Food Name products listed on the register of Protected Food Names held by the EU. This consultation sets out proposals for enforcing this scheme through the use of civil and criminal penalties. It will be of relevance for businesses that produce or retail Protected Food Name products and bodies who certify or carry out enforcement of these products.

The consultation document may be found at: <http://consult.defra.gov.uk/food/improving-uk-protected-food-name-enforcement/>

Responses

We welcome your views and comments on the proposals. We would prefer you to give us your answers to the consultation questions using the [online survey on our consultation website](#). If you are unable to do so, you can email your responses to: protectedfoodnames@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Alternatively, postal responses should be addressed to:

The PFN team,
Defra
2nd Floor,
Horizon House
Deanery Road
Bristol, BS1 5TL

Responses should be received by **2 November 2018**.

These regulations primarily impact and apply to Local Authority Trading Standards officers who are responsible for the enforcement of this scheme. These regulations may also impact control bodies (both local authority and commercial) who carry out the verification



of Protected Food Name products. Defra has worked with key stakeholders in the development of these regulations and this consultation will be of particular interest to those involved with the enforcement and control aspects of the Protected Food Name scheme.

Confidentiality and data protection

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

A summary of responses to this consultation will be published on the [Government website](#). The summary will include a list of organisations that responded but not personal names, addresses or other contact details.

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 be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/consultation-principles-guidance>.

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

Consultation Coordinator
Area 1C, Nobel House
17 Smith Square,
London, SW1P 3JR.

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

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

Yours sincerely

The PFN team

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs