

Food labelling is changing

From 1 October 2021, the requirements for prepacked for direct sale (PPDS) food labelling will change in Wales, England, and Northern Ireland. The new labelling will help protect consumers by providing potentially life-saving allergen information on the packaging.

Any food business that produces PPDS food will be required to label it with the name of the food and a full ingredients list. Allergenic ingredients must be emphasised within this list.

This can include food that consumers select themselves, for example from a display unit, as well as products kept behind a counter, or some food sold at mobile or temporary outlets.

Businesses failing to follow the new rules could face a fine of up to £5,000 per offence. But more importantly, the damage to the reputation of your business, if a serious allergy incident occurs, is almost impossible to calculate.

These changes potentially could affect your area if selling any items that are consumed; example items include bags of sweets, prepacked cakes and drinks.

- Any prepacked homemade or decanted (not in original packaging) items **MUST** show a full list of ingredients with any allergens highlighted in bold attached to the item (sticker)
- Any prepacked item **MUST** show a full list of ingredients with any allergens highlighted in bold attached to the item (sticker or listed on the packaging – some multi-packs will only have the ingredients listed on the outer packing so be aware of this)
- For items that are not prepacked a full list of ingredients **MUST** be available upon request
- If you are **unsure** of what the item contains **tell** the customer so they are aware
- Items produced in kitchens or factories may contain traces of other allergens so this **MUST** be made clear to customers.

The links below are a great source of information with a handy video to explain; if in doubt please ask a member of the catering team for advice.

www.food.gov.uk/allergen-labelling-changes-for-prepacked-for-direct-sale-ppds-food

www.thesaferfoodgroup.com/knowledge/natashas-law-are-you-ready/

https://natashas-law.com/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=google-search&utm_term=natashas%20law&gclid=EAlalQobChMI6sDw9eO38gIVAmHmCh2yrgPeEAAYASAAEgJ3hfD_BwE

www.gov.uk/government/news/natashas-legacy-becomes-law