

To Directors of Environmental Health (England) &
Heads of Food Services (England)

7 October 2005

Reference: ENF/E/05/036

Copies: LACORS

Dear colleagues,

**UPDATING DATA FOR APPROVED DAIRY ESTABLISHMENTS HELD ON
THE UK DAIRIES DATABASE**

My colleague Tim Foster of Primary Production Division wrote to you on 27 May (Letter reference ENF/E/05/022, copy attached at Annex A) asking you to check the details for approved dairy processing establishments in your Council areas on the attached spreadsheet of the UK Dairies Database. We have had a very poor response, with only 18 out of 439 Local Authorities responding to date (a list of those who have responded is attached at Annex B).

As you are I am sure aware it is a requirement of Council Directive 92/46/EEC that the Competent Authority in each Member State, in this case the Food Standards Agency, approves dairy processing establishments and keeps a list of those so approved. This directive is implemented in the UK by the Dairy Products (Hygiene) Regulations 1995. These Regulations set up the current control system and allocate the approval function to Local Authorities, who are required to keep a list of approved establishments and to pass this information on to the Agency. The database is used to inform the Commission and other EU Member States of the approved dairy establishments in the UK. It is imperative that the UK Dairies Database (an excel spreadsheet version is attached for your reference at Annex C)

is as accurate and as up-to-date as possible and I would be grateful if you could ensure that your department expedites its response to Primary Production Division.

Please send your responses by **4 November** directly to Ifzal Khan, Dairy Hygiene Branch, Primary Production Division, Food Standards Agency, Aviation House, 15 Kingsway, London WC2B 6NH, tel. 020 7276 8987, email: ifzal.khan@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

David Statham
Director of Enforcement

To All Chief Environmental Health Officers in England

27 May 2005

ENF/E/05/022
MLK14/20

Dear Colleague

UK DAIRIES DATABASE

I am writing to seek your help in bringing the UK Dairies Database up to date. It has been brought to our attention, following disclosure of the database to a third party under the Freedom of Information Act, that the database contains a number of discrepancies and is not up to date.

As you know, Council Directive 92/46/EEC requires Member States to approve dairy processing establishments and to keep a list of those so approved. This directive is implemented in GB by the Dairy Products (Hygiene) Regulations 1995. These Regulations set up the current control system and allocate the approval function to Local Authorities, who are required to keep a list of approved establishments and to pass this information on to the Agency. The database is used to inform the Commission and other EU Member States of the approved dairy establishments in the UK. It is therefore important that the database is as accurate and up-to-date as possible.

A copy of the latest version of the database, in an excel spreadsheet, is attached. I would be grateful if you would arrange for someone in your Department to check the database spreadsheet against your own local records etc of approved dairies and let us have the following information:

- relevant details of any dairies approved by your local authority which do not appear on the FSA database;

- relevant details of any dairies which appear on the FSA database but which are no longer operational and/or where the approval has been revoked;
- relevant details (if known) of approved dairies that have changed operating names or have changed ownership, etc.

Could you also let us know of any dairies on the database in your area where the relevant local authority listed against them no longer exists (due to earlier local government changes etc) together with the name of the local authority now responsible for the dairies in question.

I should also like to take this opportunity to remind all local authorities of the need to inform us of all new approvals as well as closures etc.

It would be appreciated if the requested information could be provided by **Monday 27 June**. Nil returns would also be appreciated, so that we don't have to chase up contributions unnecessarily.

We are separately seeking up-to-date information about approved dairies in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

I hope all of this is clear but if you need to discuss any aspect of this letter please contact Ifzal Khan, Dairy Hygiene Branch, Primary Production Division, Food Standards Agency, Aviation House, 125 Kingsway, London WC2B 6NH, tel. 020 7276 8987, email: ifzal.khan@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk. Please also send your responses directly to Ifzal.

Yours sincerely

Tim Foster
Head of Primary Production Division

**Environmental Health Departments that have replied to request to
update the UK Dairies Database**

Mr R Hooton
Head of Environmental Health
Carrick District Council

Ms R Harland
Carlisle City Council

Mr A Yates
Assistant Director (Environmental Health)
Eden District Council

Mr Chris Fidler
Assistant Director of Environmental Health
Lakeland District Council

Mr L Pursglove
Head of Environmental Services
Chesterfield Borough Council

Mr C Lofts
Head of Environmental Health
Colchester Borough Council

Mr David Robertson
Food Safety Manager
East Hampshire District Council

Mr I Kirkland
Directorate of Community Services
Ashford Borough Council

Ms J Dean
Executive Director of Health, Environmental & Housing Services
Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council

Mr J Hurst
Assistant Director (Environment & Consumer Protection)
Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council

Ms R Christie
Head of Environmental Services
Manchester City Council

Mr L Bell
Chief Trading Standards Officer
Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council

Mr C Fisher
Trading Standards Section
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Mr N Smith
Environmental Health Manager
Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council

Mr R D Saunders
Director of Environmental Health & Consumer Protection
Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council

Ms S McDaid
Group Manager – Food Safety
London Borough of Enfield

Mr Steve Mann
Manager, Public Health & Safety
Lancaster City Council

Ms Anna Hardman
Team Leader (Food and Health Education)
Environmental Health and Strategic Housing
Sedgemoor District Council