

To: GCEHO'S

cc: NIFLG
LACORS
Gary McFarlane, CIEH

31 August 2007

Reference: ENF/NI/07/042
(NIP334)

Dear Sir/Madam

REMOVAL OF BOVINE VERTEBRAL COLUMN IN BUTCHERS SHOPS

As you may know, the Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 were amended by the Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007. The effect of this is that Schedule 6 of the regulation has been amended to reflect changes resulting from replacing Annex XI with Annex V in the Community Regulations. Therefore all references in the butchers authorisation application pack to the Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 now require the words (as amended) inserted after 2006.

In addition, the following documents have been amended accordingly;

- The guidance on SRM disposal from butchers' shops (Annex B).
- The application form (Annex C).
- The 'recommended methods' of operation table (Annex D).
- The protocol, setting out the respective responsibilities of the butcher and the district council (Annex E).

- The Authorisation (Annex F)

You may wish to customise the application form and the authorisation with your logo and also have some sort of official stamp on the authorisation to help prevent fraud.

Please use the attached revised pack for all new authorisations issued and advise existing authorised butchers of relevant amendments to the Regulations.

Could I also remind you to continue to forward details of any butchers (name and location) that you have authorised to Karen Flanigan at:

Karen.flanigan@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

Many thanks.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J.A.R.', with a long horizontal stroke underneath.

Jim Ross
Meat Hygiene and Imported Food Unit
FSANI