

www.food.gov.uk



To: Directors of Public Protection

13<sup>th</sup> March 2008

Reference: ENF/W/08/015

Dear Director,

Re: UK Food Surveillance System

You may be aware that the Agency has commissioned Health Protection Scotland to lead a project designed to facilitate the provision of a robust Food Surveillance System for the UK which will enable key stakeholders to compare local data within a regional and national perspective. A pilot has taken place in Scotland and the system is being rolled out in other parts of the United Kingdom and is now operational in Northern Ireland and many parts of England. Further detail of the system can be found at the following links:-

<http://www.food.gov.uk/enforcement/foodsampling/fss/>

<http://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/enviro/ssdetail.aspx?id=212>

The Agency is aiming to extend the system to Wales during 2008-2009, initially with Public Analyst samples and then microbiological samples from National Public Health Service laboratories.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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I would like to invite you to send two representatives of your Authority to a meeting at 1:30 pm on 2<sup>nd</sup> April at the Metropole Hotel, Llandrindod, to hear presentations from representatives of Health Protection Scotland and the Food Standards Agency on the work of the project to date and to discuss how it may be taken forward in Wales. It may be appropriate for one of these representatives to have responsibilities in relation to food standards sampling and the other in relation to food hygiene sampling. The Agency will be meeting with representatives of laboratory services during the morning.

I should be grateful if you could inform Andrew Morris by e-mail ([andrew.morris@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.morris@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk)) if your authority will be represented at the meeting together with the names of the delegates.

Yours sincerely,



Rob Wilkins

Head of General Enforcement Branch