

To: Directors of Public Protection

1st August 2008

Reference: ENF/W/08/048

Dear Director

FSA Publications: Listeria Fact sheet

You may wish to be aware that the Food Standards Agency has issued a fact primarily for those providing chilled ready to eat foods to healthcare organisations.

In the UK illness caused by the food borne bacteria Listeria Monocytogenes has increased, particularly in the over 60's with underlying medical conditions. In addition, several clusters of cases have been reported within the healthcare sector.

The fact sheet (attached) aims to raise awareness of the risks among vulnerable groups and provides general information and advice to minimise the risk of Listeriosis.

A copy of the fact sheet can also be found online at:

www.food.gov.uk/multimedia/pdfs/publications/listeria0708.pdf

Please circulate this information to the relevant staff in your organisation and highlight this with the appropriate food business operators in your area.

Yours sincerely,



Rob Wilkins

Head of General Enforcement Branch

