

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO
THE CONTROL OF SALMONELLA IN TURKEY FLOCKS SCHEME ORDER
(NORTHERN IRELAND) 2010

S.R. 2010 No. 248

1. Introduction

1.1 This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development to accompany the Statutory Rule (details above) which is laid before The Northern Ireland Assembly.

1.2 The Statutory Rule is made under powers conferred on it by section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972; and is subject to the negative resolution procedure.

1.3 The Rule complies with the 21 day rule and will come into operation on 19th August 2010.

2. Purpose

2.1 EU Regulations (EC) No 2160/2003 and (EC) No 584/2008 require all Member States to implement National Control Programmes (NCPs) in the poultry and pig sectors.

2.2 The objective of the NCPs are to improve public health through the detection and control of Salmonellas of human health significance in primary production.

2.3 This proposed new Order will introduce an NCP for turkey flocks in 2010 as required by EU Directive.

3. Background

3.1 NCPs have already been implemented for **breeding, laying and broiler** flocks by the Control of Salmonella in Poultry Scheme Order (NI) 2008 and Control of Salmonella in Broiler Flocks Scheme Order (NI) 2009 which came into operation on 28 July 2008 and 17 June 2009 respectively.

3.2 The NCP for turkeys, like that for breeders, layers and broilers sets out the monitoring and controls that producers must follow to reduce and/or control the prevalence of Salmonella Enteritidis and or Typhimurium to 1% or less by 31 December 2012.

3.3 DARD is seeking to encourage industry to enhance existing monitoring and controls to comply with the NCP rather than imposing a new regime on already successful practices.

4. Consultation

4.1 A consultation with interested parties was carried out between 4 November 2009 and 24 January 2010 and there are no matters outstanding.

5. Equality Impact

5.1 In accordance with DARD's obligations under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998, the equality implications of the proposed Order have been assessed.

5.2 The proposed legislation has been screened for equality issues and none were identified. It is not expected that this Order will impact differentially across any of the section 75 groups.

6. Regulatory Impact and Financial Implications

6.1 This legislation does not impose any charging to recover costs of official control sampling/supervision and for the testing of official control samples.

6.2 Cost recovery is a long standing DFP requirement and it is proposed to separately introduce an amendment to existing fees legislation.

7. Section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998

7.1 The Rule is deemed to comply with the requirements of section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.

8. EU Implications

8.1 There are no EU implications.

9. Position in GB and ROI

9.1 England, Scotland and Wales already have legislation in place to implement the control of salmonella in turkey flocks.

9.2 The ROI also has legislation in place to implement the requirements of the EU Regulations.

10. Contact

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