

## SCHEDULE 5

### PART 2

#### Microbial Guideline Value

##### Microbial Guideline Value

1. In shellfish waters, the Department must endeavour to respect the microbial guideline value in the shellfish flesh and intervalvular liquid as set out in Table 1 to this Part, in addition to the mandatory standards set out in these Regulations.

##### Compliance with the microbial guideline value

2.—(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), in relation to any period of 12 months, shellfish waters shall be treated as complying with the guideline value set out in Table 1 to this Part, if 75 per cent of the samples taken comply with the guideline value.

(2) Non-compliant samples may be ignored for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1) if they are the result of natural cause or force majeure.

##### Sampling and analysis

3.—(1) The Department must ensure that the guideline value adopted as a result of paragraph 1 and samples are analysed in accordance with the following provisions of this paragraph.

(2) Subject to sub-paragraph (1), sampling shall be carried out at least at the minimum frequency specified in Table 1 to this Schedule.

(3) Where sampling shows that the guideline value adopted as a result of paragraph 1 is not being met, the Department must establish whether this is the result of chance, a natural phenomenon or pollution, and must adopt appropriate measures to prevent deterioration.

(4) Samples shall be analysed using the reference methods of analysis specified in Table 1 to this paragraph or methods which are at least as reliable as the reference methods.

**Table 1**

**Microbial Standard for shellfish waters**

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Units</i>	<i>Guideline values and comments</i>	<i>Reference methods of analysis</i>	<i>Minimum sampling and measuring frequency</i>
Escherichia coli (E.coli)	cfu/100ml	≤230 in the shellfish flesh and intervalvular liquid	ISO16649 part 3 or equivalent	Quarterly