
EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

1. These Regulations amend the Fresh Meat (Beef Controls) (No.2) Regulations 1996 (SI 1996/2097, as already amended) (“the 1996 Regulations”) in relation to Wales. The 1996 Regulations extend to the whole of Great Britain.

2. These Regulations provide for the enforcement of Article 2.1 of Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2777/2000 adopting exceptional support measures for the beef market (OJ No. L321, 19.12.2000, p.47). That Article, which ceases to have effect on 30th June 2001, provides that meat from bovine animals aged more than 30 months and slaughtered in the European Community after 1st January 2001 can only be released for human consumption or for export if tested negatively for bovine spongiform encephalopathy by an approved rapid test as referred to in Annex IV(A) of Commission Decision 98/272/EC (OJ No. L122, 22.4.1998, p.59, as amended). Article IV(A) was inserted into that Decision by Commission Decision 2000/374/EC (OJ No. L135, 8.6.2000, p.27).

3. The Assembly Minister has decided pursuant to s.65(2) of the Government of Wales Act 1998 (1998 c. 38) and Standing Order 22.3 of the Standing Orders of the National Assembly for Wales that it is not reasonably practicable to carry out a regulatory appraisal under s.65 of the Act, due to the deadline for the coming into force of these Regulations of 1st January 2001. Consultation pursuant to section 48(4) and (4B) of the Food Safety Act 1990 (1990 c. 16) has taken place and copies may be obtained from the Food Standards Agency, 1st Floor, Southgate House, Cardiff, CF10 1EW.

4. For the same reason, the Assembly Minister decided, pursuant to S.66(4) of the Government of Wales Act 1998 and standing order 22.1, that it was not reasonably practicable to make these Regulations in English and Welsh. Thus the Welsh text is a translation of these Regulations, which have been made in English only.