



Food
Standards
Agency
food.gov.uk

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Regulating our Future
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Our Principles

1. Businesses are responsible for producing food that is safe and what it says it is, and should be able to demonstrate that they do so.
2. FSA and regulatory partners' decisions should be tailored, proportionate and based on a clear picture of UK food businesses
3. The regulator should take into account all available sources of information
4. Businesses doing the right thing for consumers should be recognised; action will be taken against those that do not
5. Businesses should meet the costs of regulation, which should be no more than they need to be

FOOD BUSINESS MODEL

SEGMENTATION

Moving away from a 'one size fits all' approach, we will segment businesses according to risk (e.g. type of food or sector) and previous track record.

ENHANCED REGISTRATION

Knowing more about each business, who they are and what they do, is critical. This will allow us to ensure businesses understand what is expected of them and are supported to achieve it.



ASSURANCE & STANDARDS

The FSA will set the standards as the central competent authority. Our fundamental principle is that businesses are expected to comply with food law. We will take account of all sources of information to evidence a business's ability to ensure food is safe and what it says it is.

EVENT

We will intervene where businesses fail to meet standards, and review their assurance system. We will strengthen enforcement where businesses fail to do the right thing for consumers and revisit sanctions to tackle those who don't comply.

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**ENGAGEMENT &
DEVELOPMENT**

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How we do it

Open Policy Making

- EAGs – Industry & Professions
- Consumer Panel
- Hot Houses
- Tailored Stakeholder Engagement
- Feasibility Studies / Pathfinders

Regulating our Future feasibility studies and pathfinders

- **Feasibility studies:** small – scale preliminary studies designed to provide insight into the feasibility of an idea or concept for an element of the TOM. Outputs of successful feasibility studies will undergo further development.
- **Pathfinders :** ‘live trials’ in which FSA and its partner organisations temporarily implement candidate elements of the TOM on a local basis in order to test effectiveness and assess impacts. Candidate ideas require a firm evidence – including record of promising feasibility pilot studies
- In October 2016, following a successful large business Hot House, FSA launched an initial round of feasibility pilots in partnership with Mitchells and Butlers Tesco.

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**ASSURANCE ON BUSINESS
COMPLIANCE IN THE FUTURE**

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Potential assurance streams - future operating model

- **3rd party independent audit**
 - Likely to be formal accredited independent assurance schemes that meet an FSA standard for 3rd party assurance schemes
- **2nd party audit and 1st party internal checks**
 - Checks carried out by food businesses by themselves or on their behalf
 - Primary Authority and National Inspection Strategies key to accepting this stream of assurance
- **Competent Authority official controls**
 - As in the current model
- **Certified Regulatory Auditor**
 - Potential new innovation

Potential Certified Regulatory Auditor (CRA) role

- **Early thoughts on the controls around this innovation - there will be clear standards for the following areas:**
 - **Rigorous competence assessment of CRA at various levels of competence to meet business complexity and technical needs**
 - **Formal certification of CRA competence at the level attained**
 - **Central registration/authorisation of CRAs**
 - **Ongoing review of CRA performance including formal review and renewal of authorisation – say every two years**
 - **Probable fitness assessment and registration of businesses employing CRAs**

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EAG 7th March

| EH Professionals | Industry |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• More detail required on the CRA role• The EHO/TSO role has many facets and covers more than audit, a range of competencies are needed• The issue of cost for SMEs & micro businesses was raised• Risk of creating a barrier to the right guidance and assurance should be recognised | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• General support for an enhanced registration process, it should build on existing information held by various regulators and other organisations• Need to recognise the risk of duplicating existing information.• Recognition of the trade association role and FSA not trying to occupy the same space. |

How can others get involved

- We want to continue to listen to the views of those with an interest in food standards and safety and to capture the insights and knowledge that already exists in an open and transparent way.
- Here is link to our monthly newsletter and podcast: <https://www.food.gov.uk/about-us/about-the-fsa/regulating-our-future/regulating-our-future-newsletter> where you can also sign up to received regular updates and communication on the RoF programme.
- Continue the discussions by joining the conversation #foodregulation or email directly: FutureDelivery@foodstandards.gis.gov.uk

