

Nutrition Labelling Exemption for Manufacturers of Small Quantities

The legislation on the provision of food information to consumers allows for an exemption from the mandatory requirement for nutrition labelling for food, including handcrafted food, directly supplied by the manufacturer of small quantities of products to the final consumer or to local retail establishments directly supplying the final consumer.

Definitions

What is meant by 'small quantity'?

A small quantity is defined as:

- (a) 250 kilograms or litres of products per week, or 13,000 kilograms or litres of products per year,
- OR
- (b) 500 units per week, or 26,000 units per year

What is a 'unit'?

A unit is defined as being 'the form in which a product is offered for sale to the final consumer'. Therefore, a unit can vary in size and a package can contain more than one item. For example, a unit could be a prepacked cake or a prepacked slice of cake or a prepacked selection of cakes.

What is meant by 'local retail establishments'?

A 'local retail establishment' is defined as a retail establishment that is not more than 100 km from the place of manufacture of the food product, in the same county or within 50km of the county border. A food manufacturer can supply more than one local retail establishment.

What is a 'retail establishment'?

A retail establishment is any establishment selling food directly to the public for e.g. a supermarket, a hotel, a market stall, a café or similar premises.

What is a prepacked food?

Prepacked food means any single item for presentation as such to the final consumer and to mass caterers, consisting of a food and the packaging into which it was put before being offered for sale, whether such packaging encloses the food completely or only partially, but in any event in such a way that the contents cannot be altered without opening or changing the packaging.

Who can use this exemption from the mandatory obligation to provide nutrition information on their prepacked food?

A manufacturer of food, who provides small quantities of food directly to the consumer or who supplies local retail establishments who supply directly to the consumer.

It is the responsibility of the food manufacturer to prove that they meet the necessary conditions of the exemption.

This note is intended as guidance only. If you are unclear of your own specific situation it is recommended that you seek clarification from your Local Trading Standards Officer.