

OFFICER

TO BE UPLOADED TO THE INTERNET BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

Date: 23 rd March 2020	Ref No: 085
Type of Operational Decision:	
Executive Decision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Council Decision <input type="checkbox"/>
Status: For Publication	
Title/Subject matter: Bury Council Trading Standards and Environmental Health teams to suspend all planned Food, Food Hygiene and Feed stuffs interventions/inspections including food hygiene rating system (FHRS –scores on the doors) rescores until April 17 th 2020 when the situation will be further reviewed in accordance with FSA advice. Reactive work to continue	
Budget/Strategy/Policy/Compliance – Is the decision:	
(i) within an Approved Budget	yes
(ii) in accordance with Council Policy	Yes, business continuity
Equality Impact Assessment [Does this decision change policy, procedure or working practice or negatively impact on a group of people? If yes – complete EIA and summarise issues identified and recommendations – forward EIA to Corporate HR]	

Details of Operational Decision Taken [with reasons]:

For Bury Council Trading Standards and Environmental Health teams to suspend all planned Food, Food Hygiene and Feed stuffs interventions/inspections including food hygiene rating system (FHRS –scores on the doors) rescores until April 17th 2020 when the situation will be further reviewed in accordance with FSA advice.

This will ensure that footfall in feed/food business establishments is kept to a minimum and will enable local authorities to divert potentially diminished resources to urgent reactive work – see below - and to other wider public health actions required locally during the COVID-19 pandemic. This is in line with Section 5.3.6 of the Food Law Code of Practice (England) and Section 5.3.9 of the Feed Law Code of Practice (England).



Urgent reactive work – to continue

Resources will be focussed on urgent reactive work to address potentially serious public health risks relating to feed/food. This includes, for example, following up on feed or food incidents and outbreak investigations. Wherever possible, initial actions will be undertaken remotely through telephone discussion. This will inform the need for onsite visits. A full risk assessment will be adhered to for any reactive work

Also Work FSA is temporarily suspending

To ensure that local authority resources can be focussed on the above activities or to other wider public health duties FSA have decided to temporarily suspend:

- collection of the LAEMS returns for 2019/20 that were due from 1 April – we will require returns in due course and will notify us when this will be
- the local authority audit programme and performance management monitoring (FSA will be separately in touch with authorities that have been engaging with on performance issues)
- the pilots of the new food standards model and the live trials of Primary Authority national inspections strategies
- the planned FHRS national consistency exercise and planned collection of data on requested re-inspections and requests for correspondence with businesses.

Decision taken by:	Signature:	Date:
Neil Long, Assistant Director		23/03/2020
Executive Director or Chief/Senior Officer		23/03/2020
Members Consulted [see note 1 below]		
Cabinet Member/Chair		
Lead Member		
Opposition Spokesperson		

Notes

1. It is not generally a requirement to consult with any Members on Operational Decisions but where a Chief Officer considers it necessary to consult with the appropriate Cabinet Member and/or Lead Member, they must sign the form so as to confirm that they have been consulted and that they agree with the proposed action. The signature of the Opposition Spokesperson should be obtained to confirm that he/she has been consulted.
2. **This form must not be used for urgent decisions.**