



About Regulating Our Future

What's 'Regulating Our Future' - ROF - all about?

• It's about modernising how food businesses in England, Wales and Northern Ireland are regulated to check that our food is safe and what it says it is, and building a system that is dynamic, sustainable, and can adapt as circumstances change and technology develops in the future.

Why are we changing the way we regulate the food and feed sectors?

- To provide the flexibility needed to adapt to the changes in the global food economy: in what we eat, where we consume it, and how it reaches us.
- To provide the sophistication needed to regulate an increasingly diverse food industry and to adapt quickly to changing risks.
- To be able to respond to changing patterns of food production, trade and consumption when the UK leaves the EU.

What changes are we making?

- We are introducing a new digitally-enabled approach to registration of food businesses that will help businesses set up for success and will give a single unified view of food businesses in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- We are introducing a more sophisticated and data driven risk management framework for determining the nature, frequency and intensity of official controls.
- We are developing mechanisms and setting standards to allow businesses' own assurance data and information to be considered within the risk management framework.
- For multi-site operators, we are putting an increased focus on business level controls rather than those at individual outlets by developing criteria for Primary Authority National Inspection Strategies.
- For some businesses, we are considering integrating hygiene and standards controls to provide a more holistic approach to checking that businesses are meeting all their food safety obligations.
- We are working to ensure that the Food Hygiene Rating Scheme can continue to operate successfully as part of the changing regulatory system.
- We are exploring options for introducing a new sustainable funding model to support our regulatory system where businesses will bear the costs.

What benefits are the changes expected to bring?

- More businesses registering proactively and having easy access to tailored guidance and support to help them achieve success from the start.
- Real time access to more detailed information on all registered businesses in England, Wales and Northern Ireland will inform risk management decisions.
- Clarity for businesses on the standards regulated private assurance mechanisms must meet to be considered as part of the regulatory risk management framework.
- Reduced regulatory burden on businesses that demonstrate sustained compliance and commitment to food safety.