

## **CRITERIA FOR ASSESSING 2016/17 NATIONAL SAMPLING PRIORITIES**

All recommendations will be judged against the following criteria:

- there is evidence for there being an unacceptable level of risk to consumers, either in terms of food safety or wider consumer protection;
- there is a strong reasoned argument to warrant surveillance of an issue that could become an emerging risk (eg significant crop failure that could result in increased substitution);
- there is convincing justification that it is appropriate for an enforcement authority to take the sample;
- analytical methods are readily available;
- a need exists to raise enforcement authority awareness to an area of concern;
- there is evidence of under-sampling by enforcement authorities due to high sample or analysis costs;
- there is a policy need to collect data, including where the European Commission has requested sampling for a particular issue.