

To: Health and Social Care Committee

From: Legislation Office

Date: 2 March 2012

DRAFT FOOD HYGIENE RATING (WALES) BILL: TECHNICAL BRIEFING FROM GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Purpose

1. To provide the Committee with additional information relating to the draft Bill, as requested during the technical briefing with government officials.

Background

2. During the technical briefing on 2 February 2012, the Committee requested the following additional information—
 - figures for the number of ‘hits’ on the FSA’s food hygiene ratings webpages,
 - a breakdown of the number of hospitals in Wales in each food hygiene rating category,
 - the number of hospitals in Wales currently displaying their food hygiene rating, and
 - an accurate figure of the number of food businesses in Wales that have been rated since October 2010, broken down to Local Authority level, and a breakdown of the number of businesses in each rating.
3. Attached at Annex A is a letter from the Minister for Health and Social Services providing this additional information.
4. This Minister has also provided the Committee with a copy of a letter to all Health Boards and NHS Trust Chief Executives and Chairs in Wales about displaying their food hygiene rating. This letter is attached at Annex B.

Action

5. Members are invited to note the correspondence attached at Annexes A and B.

Lesley Griffiths AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref LF/LG/0047/12

Mark Drakeford AM
Chair - Health and Social Care Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

2nd

February 2012

Dear Mark,

Food Hygiene Rating (Wales) Bill - Technical Briefing to the Health and Social Care Committee

During the Health and Social Care Committee meeting of 2 February, a technical briefing on the Food Hygiene Rating (Wales) Bill was provided by my officials. I hope the Committee found the technical briefing useful. During the briefing, Members of the Committee requested some additional information not available at the time. The Committee requested:

1. figures for the number of 'hits' on the FSA's food hygiene ratings webpages;
2. a breakdown of the number of hospitals in Wales in each food hygiene rating category;
3. the number of hospitals in Wales currently displaying their food hygiene rating; and
4. an accurate figure of the number of food businesses in Wales that have been rated since October 2010, broken down to Local Authority level, and a breakdown of the number of businesses in each rating.

I am now in a position to provide the information requested by the Committee. With regard to point 1, figures for the number of 'hits' on the FSA's food hygiene ratings webpage, the FSA have provided the following information. In the four week period between 9 January and the 5 February 2012, the UK Food Hygiene Rating Scheme website received a total of 51,388 views. Whilst it is difficult to be precise, the FSA expect around 2000 of these 'hits' were by people in Wales. There was a peak in the number of views of the webpage in the week commencing 30 January 2012, particularly in Wales where almost three times as many people accessed the site than in any of the previous three weeks. This is thought, in part, to be attributed to the ITV Wales programme *Wales this Week* on the Food Hygiene Rating Scheme which was broadcast on Tuesday 31 January 2012.

Information on the number of hospitals in each food hygiene rating category (point 2) and the number of food businesses rated by each Local Authority (point 4), is provided in Annex 1 of this letter. The data for point 3, the number of hospitals in Wales currently displaying their food hygiene rating, is not readily available. However, I have written to all Health Boards and NHS Trust Chief Executives and Chairs in Wales to ensure all hospitals and healthcare facilities in their area display their food hygiene rating. A copy of my letter is attached for the Committee's information.

Kind Regards
Lesley

Lesley Griffiths AC / AM

Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol

Minister for Health and Social Services

The number of hospitals in Wales in each food hygiene rating category
(Not all NHS hospitals in Wales may have received a rating)

| Local Authority | Rating | | | | | | Total number of hospitals |
|----------------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | Very Good 5 | Good 4 | Generally Satisfactory 3 | Improvement Necessary 2 | Major Improvement Necessary 1 | Urgent Improvement Necessary 0 | |
| Anglesey | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Blaenau Gwent | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Bridgend | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Caerphilly | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Cardiff | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Carmarthenshire | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Ceredigion | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Conwy | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Denbighshire | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Flintshire | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Gwynedd | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Merthyr Tydfil | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Monmouthshire | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Neath & Port Talbot | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Newport | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Pembrokeshire | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Powys | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Rhondda Cynon Taf | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Swansea | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Torfaen | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Vale of Glamorgan | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Wrexham | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Total | 26 | 18 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 51 |
| Total as percentage | 50.98% | 35.29% | 13.73% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | |

Breakdown of ratings given to food businesses in Wales by Local Authority

| Local Authority | Rating | | | | | | Urgent Improvement Necessary | Total number of food businesses |
|----------------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | Very Good 5 | Good 4 | Generally Satisfactory 3 | Improvement Necessary 2 | Major Improvement Necessary 1 | 0 | | |
| Anglesey | 162 | 119 | 73 | 12 | 16 | 0 | 382 | |
| Blaenau Gwent | 148 | 96 | 32 | 16 | 26 | 1 | 319 | |
| Bridgend | 153 | 172 | 155 | 76 | 136 | 29 | 721 | |
| Caerphilly | 201 | 236 | 205 | 50 | 84 | 1 | 777 | |
| Cardiff Council | 582 | 524 | 335 | 167 | 280 | 21 | 1909 | |
| Carmarthenshire | 266 | 226 | 152 | 45 | 89 | 6 | 784 | |
| Ceredigion | 167 | 70 | 51 | 18 | 60 | 4 | 370 | |
| Conwy | 260 | 221 | 161 | 32 | 64 | 2 | 740 | |
| Denbighshire | 262 | 132 | 59 | 26 | 32 | 8 | 519 | |
| Flintshire | 169 | 130 | 135 | 21 | 53 | 0 | 508 | |
| Gwynedd | 508 | 327 | 176 | 46 | 88 | 3 | 1148 | |
| Merthyr Tydfil | 63 | 86 | 82 | 26 | 57 | 2 | 316 | |
| Monmouthshire | 114 | 142 | 166 | 44 | 68 | 1 | 535 | |
| Neath & Port Talbot | 220 | 150 | 98 | 27 | 87 | 4 | 586 | |
| Newport | 120 | 213 | 191 | 78 | 62 | 7 | 671 | |
| Pembrokeshire | 447 | 309 | 125 | 67 | 148 | 4 | 1100 | |
| Powys | 195 | 242 | 150 | 68 | 150 | 25 | 830 | |
| Rhondda Cynon Taf | 251 | 284 | 379 | 133 | 159 | 25 | 1231 | |
| Swansea | 374 | 329 | 185 | 37 | 242 | 9 | 1176 | |
| Torfaen | 193 | 121 | 124 | 13 | 38 | 3 | 492 | |
| Vale of Glamorgan | 160 | 175 | 98 | 36 | 91 | 8 | 568 | |
| Wrexham | 225 | 109 | 91 | 13 | 40 | 1 | 479 | |
| Total | 5240 | 4413 | 3223 | 1051 | 2070 | 164 | 16161 | |
| Total as percentage | 32.42% | 27.31% | 19.94% | 6.50% | 12.81% | 1.01% | | |

Lesley Griffiths AC / AM
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Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref
Ein cyf/Our ref LF/LG/0047/12

To:
Chief Executives of Health Boards
Chairs of Health Boards
Chief Executives of NHS Trusts in Wales
Chairs of NHS Trusts in Wales

Cc:
Medical Directors, Health Boards
Directors of Nursing, Health Boards
Directors of Public Health, Health Boards
Directors of Public Protection, Local Authorities in Wales

2/5th

February 2012

Dear Colleague

Display of Food Hygiene Ratings at hospitals and other NHS premises

In October 2010, the Food Standards Agency launched the Food Hygiene Rating Scheme in Wales. The scheme helps consumers choose where to eat out or shop for food by giving them information about the hygiene standards in restaurants, cafés, takeaways, hotels and supermarkets. As the scheme applies to any food business that provides food direct to consumers, ratings are also given to schools, hospitals and residential care homes.

The scheme is currently operated on a voluntary basis in Wales and run by Local Authorities in partnership with the Food Standards Agency. Local Authorities undertake inspections of food businesses to check they meet the requirements of food hygiene law. Based upon this inspection, the local authority calculates the rating and sends a sticker with the food hygiene rating to the food business. The food business is encouraged to display the sticker at the premises; all ratings are also published on the Food Standards Agency website.

Although the scheme is currently operated on a voluntary basis, I am consulting on legislation which would make it a mandatory requirement for all food businesses in Wales to display their food hygiene ratings. The consultation is available on the Welsh Government website at: <http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/healthsocialcare/food/?lang=en>
I would encourage you and your staff to respond to the consultation on the Bill which will close on 7 March.

I would be grateful if you could ensure all hospitals and other NHS Wales premises that have received a food hygiene rating from their Local Authority display it where it can easily be seen by consumers. Local Authority officers are available to support food providers if any improvements are necessary to raise food hygiene standards and can provide advice on suitable locations to display ratings.

Yours sincerely
Lesley Griffiths

Lesley Griffiths AC / AM

Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services