



**Environment Department
Port Health & Public Protection Service
Commercial Environmental Health Service Plan 2021-2023**

Introduction

1. Commercial Environmental Health is responsible for regulating food safety (standards and hygiene), occupational health & safety, some statutory nuisances (not noise) and the investigation of certain infectious diseases arising from activities for which we are the enforcing authority. We are part of the Port Health & Public Protection Service (PH&PP) in the Environment Department.
2. Our work also includes food standards and certain health & safety interventions at Smithfield Market. The feedstuffs (animal food) enforcement function in the City is carried out under contract through the Association of London Environmental Health Managers and as part of cross-London delivery model.
3. There are separate Official Food Control Activities in the Port Health Service which has a separate Food Service Enforcement Plan.
4. The current Commercial Environmental Health Team Service Plan 2021-2023 continues to support the following Outcomes from the [Corporate Plan 2018-2023](#):

Contribute to a flourishing society

1. People are safe and feel safe.

Support a thriving economy

6. We have the world's best legal and regulatory framework and access to global markets.

Key Performance Indicators [KPI's]

5. Our Key performance Indicators (KPIs) are reported to the Port Health & Environmental Services Committee along with other planned activities and key highlights, every 4 months as part of the regular oversight of our work.

Continue to secure a positive improvement in the overall Food Hygiene Rating Scheme profile for City of London food establishments from a baseline profile at 31st March 2013

75% food businesses inspected will receive a report/letter detailing the outcome of their inspection within 5 working days and the remainder within 10 working days. This will accord with standards in the FHR system (the 'brand' standard)

All authorised officers to receive/complete the necessary professional development with at least 10 hours CPD on Official Food Controls, tailored to delivery of this Service Plan.

To complete a risk-based intervention programme for cooling towers systems within the year.

Current Work

6. We will continue to prioritise our work as set out in the earlier Commercial Environmental Health Service Plan 2021-2022 approved by Members earlier this year to ensure that City businesses in a variety of sectors operate and remain safe for their workforce, customers, and other visitors. This has meant that officers from the team have been present in the City throughout the various COVID-19 lockdowns and easing, seeking to support business, ensure compliance and promote confidence; to this end, the work below outlines our current continuing priorities:-
- a) Contributing to the local outbreak planning and management systems in the City & Hackney COVID-19 Local Outbreak Management Plan.
 - b) Ensuring compliance with current COVID-19 legislation in all open business premises with a public interface either pro-actively or by reacting to intelligence / complaints
 - c) Undertaking food hygiene inspections / interventions in food businesses as prescribed by the latest Food Standards Agency's guidance, based on risk, complaints, and emerging issues.
 - d) Undertaking inspection audits of all cooling tower sites which are deemed to be either high risk or for which we have received intelligence / complaints to indicate that the risks are not being managed correctly.
 - e) Following up on the agreed Local Contact Tracing (LCT) response for Covid-19 cases in the City.
 - f) Continuing with the Health & Safety Investigations into significant incidents.

Moving Forward

FOOD SAFETY

7. In May 2021, the Food Standards Agency's Board endorsed a [Local Authority Recovery Roadmap strategy](#) or "Reset" programme covering the period September 2021–March 2023 which would enable local authorities through setting quarterly targets, to tackle any backlogs in their food hygiene inspection programmes as the country began recovering from the pandemic.

8. We will therefore seek to complete the following minimum number of Food Hygiene Inspections due by March 2023

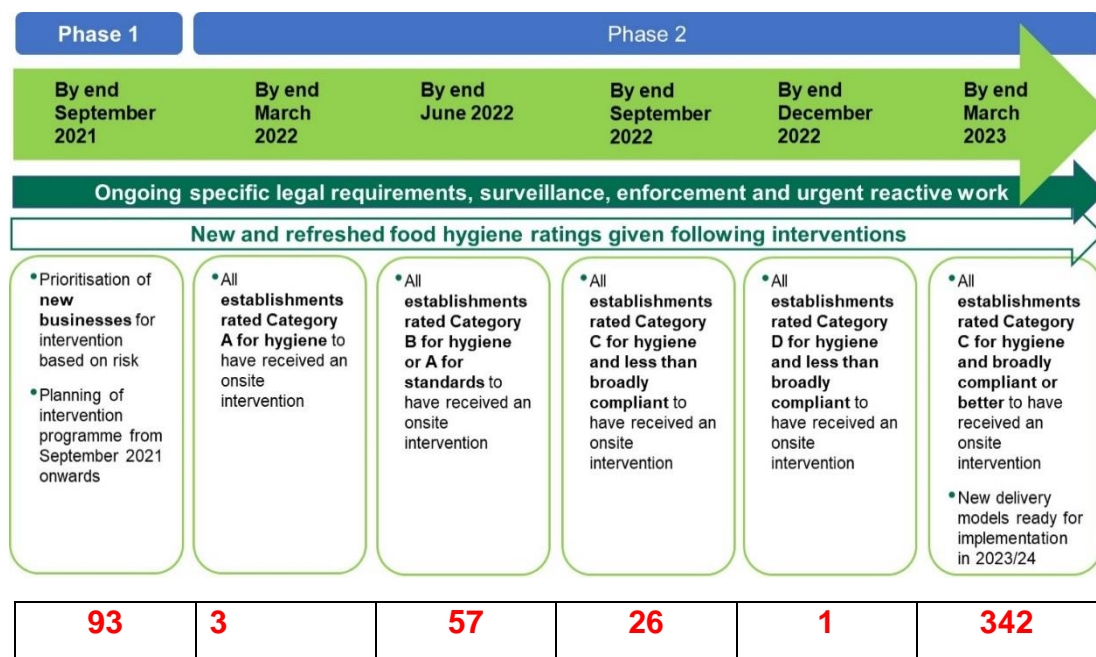


Table 1

9. The figures above and in red below in **Table 2** are minimum number of inspections that we know about and which we must deliver. Also set out below in **Table 2** are all the other, compliant, or lower risk, D and E rated premises that we will be seeking to engage with over the period.
10. The main challenge is the large number of D rated premises and in many cases their complexity, some having traditionally catered for many thousands of City workers on a daily basis and as such they are some of the largest food premises around. We will therefore seek to integrate these D rated premises into the programme throughout the whole period on a risk-basis.

Category	Due (& overdue) to end March 2022	Due April 22- March 23	TOTALS
New (unrated)	93	Unknown	93 (minimum)
A (*due every 6 months)	3	0 (at present)	3*
B (*due every 12 months)	43	14	57*
C (less than broadly-compliant)	22	4	26
C	271	71	342
D	727	59	786
D (less than broadly-compliant)	1	0	1
E	104	127	231

Table 2

11. We will also maintain the City Corporation's support for the national Food Hygiene Rating Scheme (FHRS) and continue to support the FSA on the development of the mandatory public display of ratings at each food business.

12. We will also work with the Food Standards Agency on meat hygiene and standards and other initiatives at Smithfield Market to ensure that all meat and meat products that are traded through the market are cut stored, prepared, and transported hygienically and safely and that there is traceability of all products from source to end-retailer.
13. We seek to continue to promote the enhanced City Healthier Catering Commitment (HCC) Award scheme in support of the [City of London Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2017-2021](#) whilst undertaking our statutory food interventions.

PUBLIC HEALTH

14. We will:-
 - a) work in collaboration with public health colleagues in the LB of Hackney, with whom we share a joint Public Health Team, on the tracking and tracing of COVID-19 cases and possible outbreaks in the City although over time, we anticipate our work on COVID-19 will gradually diminish;
 - b) engage, explain and if necessary enforce emerging legislation as it specifically affects businesses in the Night Time Economy (NTE) along with colleagues in the Licensing Team; and
 - c) investigate incidents of infectious disease and non-infectious environmental hazards.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Control of Legionella

15. To protect the City from the threat of Legionnaires' disease caused by *Legionella sp.* bacteria, we will:-
 - a) undertake risk-based interventions in cooling towers (135) and other at-risk water systems; and
 - b) assist with the provision of related training / work experience and generally contribute to the regulatory and facilities services management communities.
16. We will continue to promote and support workplace health and wellbeing and the London Healthy Workplace Award with our partners, [Business Healthy](#) with officers advising on best practice and signposting to further support.

REACTIVE WORK

17. We will:-
 - a) respond to complaints and service requests on a triaged risk basis; and
 - b) respond to all:-
 - Reporting of Injuries, Deaths & Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR);
 - Lifting Operations & Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER); and
 - Asbestos Removal Notifications,

again on a triaged risk basis.

18. We will also undertake inspections on behalf of the Licensing Team with respect to the issuing of new Massage and Special Treatment Licenses

PRIMARY AUTHORITY PARTNERSHIP WORK.

19. [Primary Authority](#) (PA) enables businesses to form a legal partnership with one local authority, which then provides assured and tailored advice on complying with environmental health, trading standards and other regulations. Local regulators must respect these relationships and consult with the partner local authority before instigating enforcement action.
20. Whilst legislation specifically dealing with Coronavirus is not included as Public Health is currently not part of the national Primary Authority Scheme, a considerable amount of advice on the matter was sought and given to our PA Partner organisations during 2020-2021.
21. We will therefore:-
 - a) continue to work with our PA Partner organisations, providing charged-for regulatory advice; and
 - b) lead on the London Primary Authority Regional Group.