

17 April 2019

**To: DAERA Agri-food Inspection Branch**

**Title:** National Enforcement Priorities for Animal Feed and Food Hygiene at the level of Primary Production (Northern Ireland) 2019-2020

**Summary:** Covering feed law enforcement (at all stages of production, processing, storage, transportation and distribution, including import and the primary production of feed); and Food hygiene law enforcement at the level of primary production.

Dear Colleagues,

The 2019/20 National Enforcement Priorities (NEPs) have been Informed by the Strategic Animal Feed Threat Assessment 2020 and have been developed in consultation with feed industry and Enforcement Authority representatives including DAERA, FSDA National Food Crime Unit, National Trading Standards, the National Agriculture and National Animal Feed at Ports Panel members.

The NEPs for 2019-20 consist of five animal feed priorities and two relating to food hygiene at the level of primary production.

The objectives of the priorities are to:

- Drive an intelligence led approach to official controls, focusing resources on higher risk and non-compliant business, placing an increased focus on outcomes
- Maintain a level playing field for honest and diligent food and feed business operators, which is in the interests of industry as a whole
- Reduce unnecessary burdens on business by focusing LA activity on agreed areas of greatest threat to public and animal health
- Create a flexible and intelligence-led approach to interventions, placing an increased focus on outcomes
- Realise the FSA's strategic goal of 'Food We Can Trust' and drive up the quality and consistency of official controls

The priorities will be reviewed on a six-monthly basis in consideration of any emerging issues or other intelligence received by the FSA regarding risks to human, animal health and welfare or the environment

If you require further clarification on the content of this letter, then please do not hesitate to contact myself [gerard.smyth@food.gov.uk](mailto:gerard.smyth@food.gov.uk)

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gerard Smyth". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'G'.

Gerard Smyth  
Senior Policy Officer

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