

Appendix 1

Please can you provide me with the minutes, and background supporting information provided to the decision maker(s) for the express contradiction of Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 of 28 June 2007, and in particular relationship to point 28, for Wholesalers.

The first version of our Guidance Note (document 1) published on our website December 2008 did not mention the third year inspection of Wholesalers (see para 6 of note). The intention was to revisit the Note in 2009 to update.

The Note was considered by the Advisory Committee on Organic Standards (ACOS) in 2009 and changes were made in line with input from Defra and ACOS. The insertion of the third year inspection was made to later drafts and appeared in the version we currently have on our website published in January 2010.

I also attach the relevant extract of a policy note issued to Control Bodies in 2012 further clarifying the UK approach to the certification of wholesalers.

List of documents

Document 1:

Defra Guidance Document on European Union Organic Standards, December 2008. Paragraph 6 is relevant.

Document 2:

First iteration of paragraph 6 redraft sent on 28 July 2009 for discussion by the Advisory Committee on Organic Standards (ACOS). This Committee is no longer operational. This redraft was one of many suggested amendments.

Please follow this [link](#) to the minutes of the ACOS meeting of 29 July 2009 (Pages 10 & 11). Paragraph 6 was not specifically discussed.

Document 3:

Second iteration of paragraph 6 redraft sent on 21 September 2009 for discussion by the Advisory Committee on Organic Standards (ACOS). This Committee is no longer operational. Again, this paragraph redraft was one of a number of amendments.

Please follow this [link](#) to the minutes of the ACOS meeting of 24 September 2009 (Page 4). Again, paragraph 6 was not specifically discussed.

Document 4:

Third iteration of paragraph 6 redraft sent on 30 November 2009 for discussion by the Advisory Committee on Organic Standards (ACOS). There was no suggested paragraph 6 redraft this time.

Please follow this [link](#) to the minutes of the ACOS meeting of 3 December 2009 (Pages 8 & 9). Again, paragraph 6 was not specifically discussed.

Document 5:

Defra Guidance Document on European Union Organic Standards, January 2010. Paragraph 6 is relevant.

Document 6:

Control Body note on the Certification of Brokers, Wholesalers and Brandholders

What is the definition of a wholesaler?

This is defined in the final three lines of paragraph 6 of the Defra Guidance Document on European Union Organic Standards, January 2010.

How are Defra approaching the goal of achieving Organic Product with 100% organic content?

Organic production and labelling is subject to EU wide Regulation set out in EC Regs. 834/2007, implemented in accordance with 889/2008 & 1235/2008. The regulatory framework sets out the practices which should be used to ensure that food sold as organic originates from growers, processors and importers that undergo regular inspection.

However, the European Commission is currently undertaking a review of regulation 834/2007 and we will be undertaking a wide-ranging consultation with stakeholders on the Commission's proposal. The date for publication of the proposals is 21 March 2014.

We will add you to the list of consultees.

There is an upcoming requirement to use 100% organic feed for monogastrics which is due to come into force at the end of 2014. Defra is currently funding research being carried out by ADAS on the variety of combinations of 100% organic diet mixes available for monogastrics.

The research will assess a range of issues on production, health and welfare, environmental and socio-economic impacts, market potential and how best to implement diet mixes before the 100% organic feed requirement is imposed. The aim is to provide a clearer view of the potential for meeting the requirements and the implications of doing so.