

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



# FOOD HYGIENE RATING SCHEME

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### What businesses are included in the Food Hygiene Rating Scheme?

#### Businesses in the scheme include:

- Caterers
- Retailers
- Establishments where food is prepared, cooked or handled and served to consumers such as schools, nurseries and residential care homes.
- Manufacturers with a retail element.

Certain types of business within the scope of the FHRs should not be rated. Examples include 'low risk' establishments which are not generally recognised by consumers as being food businesses e.g. chemist selling items such as pre-packed confectionary and baby foods, off licences selling drinks and packaged goods.

#### Businesses excluded from the scheme:

- Establishments that do not supply food direct to customers e.g. manufacturers, primary producers, packers, importers and exporters.

### How is the food business assessed?

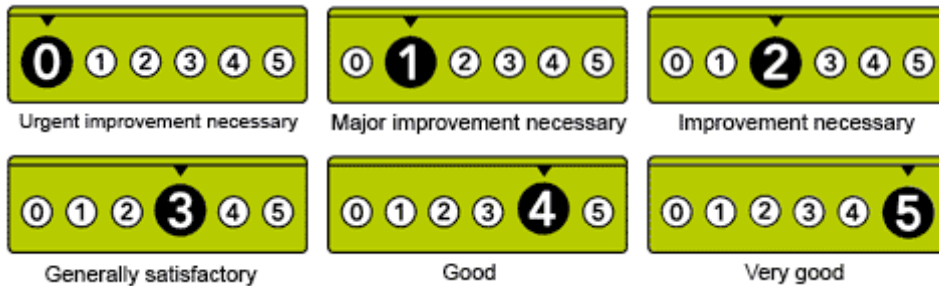
The food hygiene rating is based on the level of compliance in three areas:

- **How hygienically the food is handled** – safe food preparation, cooking re-heating, cooling and storage.
- **The condition of the structure of the premises** – cleanliness, repair, layout, lighting, ventilation and other facilities, and pest control.
- **How the business manages what it does to make sure food is safe** - This includes documenting food safety procedures, staff knowledge of food hygiene, and how confident the food officer can be that standards found will be maintained in the future.

## What are the different ratings?

The food hygiene rating reflects the hygiene standards found at the time the business is inspected by a food safety officer. These officers are specially trained to assess food hygiene standards.

A business can be given one of these ratings:



## How often will the food business be given a new rating?

A new rating is given every time the business is inspected by a food safety officer from the local authority where the food business is located.

## Does a food business have to display its rating?

No, however, we encourage businesses to display their window sticker or certificate showing their rating.

You can search for all the rated food businesses in the Wigan borough on the Wigan Council Food Hygiene Ratings webpage.

To search for food businesses outside the borough please visit:

[www.food.gov.uk/ratings](http://www.food.gov.uk/ratings)