STATES OF JERSEY



DRAFT FOOD (JERSEY) LAW 202-(P.105/2022) :COMMENTS

Presented to the States on 13th December 2022 by the Minister for the Environment

STATES GREFFE

2022 P.105 Com.(2)

COMMENTS

The Minister for the Environment welcomes the comments on the Draft Food (Jersey) Law 202- issued by the Environment, Housing and Infrastructure Scrutiny Panel.

He is pleased that the Panel is generally supportive of the proposition, while recognising that it has raised a number of points on which he is happy to respond.

He can confirm that the Publication of Codes of Practice is a high priority. Work has begun on their preparation. It is hoped that they will be available not long after the Law, if not at the same time. They will be developed in consultation with stakeholders.

The Regulation to require labelling to be required detailing method of production could include "chlorinated chicken", "hormone beef" and a statement on welfare standards. It is important that Jersey complies with World Trade Organisation (WTO) rules which would negate the outright banning of these products, but labelling requirements may dissuade their importation. The Regulation would ensure the consumer has the information to make an informed choice.

Labelling for allergens will learn from the experience of other jurisdictions, particularly the UK. The comments received by the Panel are noted and will be taken into account during the consultation process.

The draft Law requires Regulations and these will be subject to consultation with stakeholders. This consultation will take place before Regulations are brought to the Panel, and subsequently to the Assembly.

Comment under Standing Order 37A

This comment was inadvertently submitted after the formal deadline for comments to be submitted due to an administrative oversight. There was a desire for the Minister's response to the Scrutiny comments to be published in advance of the debate, rather than communicated through a letter to the Panel or being addressed solely in the debate. We apologise to members for this delay.