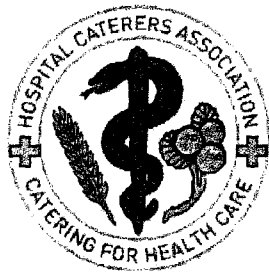


## **East of Scotland Branch**

Branch Chairman Brian Robb MHCIMA  
Branch Secretary Ian Bow  
Branch Treasurer Sheila Campbell MHCIMA  
Branch Council Rep David Williamson MHCIMA



HOSPITAL CATERERS ASSOCIATION

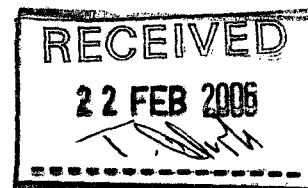
## **West of Scotland Branch**

Branch Chairman Kenneth Birrell  
Branch Secretary Janice Gillan MHCIMA  
Branch Treasurer Lesley Morris  
Branch Council Rep Kenneth Birrell

Please reply to:

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10 February 2006

Country Of Origin Consultation point R259  
Pentland House  
47 Robb's Loan  
EDINBURGH  
EH14 1TY

Dear Sir/Madam

### **Consultation Paper: Country of Origin of Beef in the Food Service Sector**

I write on behalf of both Scottish Branches of the Hospital Caterers Association with regards to the consultation document and thank you for giving us the opportunity to be consulted. However, we have two main areas of concern.

#### **4.15.3 - placing 'a card on the tray or trolleys indicating the source of beef used'**

- We feel the intention is to inform the consumer of the origin of the beef to allow the customer to make an informed choice. Placing a card on the patient's tray after ordering will not allow this.
- Cards on trays/trolleys could be misplaced in ward areas and may be found at a later date and display incorrect information. Failure to display information correctly would be an infringement of the Food Labelling Regulations which may lead to prosecution.
- 'Fixing posters to relevant places in the building'
- Posters displays unless formally managed could result in information being displayed incorrectly, again a possible infringement of the Food Labelling Regulations.

Current European Tendering Legislation applicable to NHS Scotland does not allow the specification to state only Scottish sourced meat can be supplied. Our suggestion would be to include on Patient Information Leaflet/Menu Card *'We source our meat from the European Union'* as suggested in literature endorsed by Quality Meat Scotland.

**4.17 - the requirement applies only to dishes made from fresh, chilled or frozen beef.**

- It therefore does not apply to dishes containing processed beef or products containing beef. This consultation document would not apply to those areas within the NHS where the food is 'out-sourced' in Delivered Meal Systems/ Cook-Chill or Cook- Freeze Units that purchase ready made processed food.

We feel it is as important that we, as professional caterers and consumers, are made aware of the origins of beef within processed dishes served to all consumers within the NHS.

We feel the proposal as they stand would cause concern regarding the practicality of implementing the proposed legislation in its current format.

We thank you for the opportunity to comment on this paper and hope these comments are helpful.

We would be happy to discuss any of these comments further.

Yours sincerely

*James Cullen*

PP

Mr Brian Robb *MHCIMA*  
Branch Chairman  
HCA - East of Scotland

*James Cullen*

PP

Mr Kenneth Birrell  
Branch Chairman  
HCA - West of Scotland

**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF BEEF IN THE FOOD SERVICE  
RESPONDEE INFORMATION FORM**

Please complete the details below and attach it with your response. This will help ensure we handle your response appropriately:

Name: JANICE GILLAN

Postal Address: CATERING MANAGER, CROSSHOUSE HOSPITAL, KILMARNOCK  
AYRSHIRE, KA20BE

Consultation title: Country of Origin of Beef in the Food Service Sector

1. Are you responding as: (please tick one box)

(a) an individual  (go to 2a/b)

(b) on behalf of a group or organisation  (go to 2c)

**2a. INDIVIDUALS:**

Do you agree to your response being made available to the public (in SE library and/or on SE website)?

Yes (go to 2b below)

No, not at all

2b. Where *confidentiality is not requested*, we will make your response available to the public on the following basis (please tick one of the following boxes)

Yes, make my response, name and address all available

Yes, make my response available, but not my name or address

Yes, make my response and name available, but not my address

**2c. ON BEHALF OF GROUPS OR ORGANISATIONS:**

Your name and address as respondents *will be* made available to the public (in the SE library and/or on SE website). Are you content for your response to be made available also?

Yes

No

**SHARING RESPONSES/FUTURE ENGAGEMENT**

3. We will share your response internally with other SE policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for the Scottish Executive to contact you again in the future in relation to this consultation response?

Yes  No