

Directive (EU) 2015/1535

**Notificación - Oznamení - Notifikation - Notifizierung - Teavitamine -
Γνωστοποίηση - Notification - Notification - Fógra - Notifica - Pieteikums -
Pranešimas - Bejelentés - Notifika - Kennisgeving - Zawiadomienie - Notificação -
Hlásenie-Obvestilo - Ilmoitus - Anmälan - Нотификация - Notifikacija**

Country

XI - United Kingdom (Northern Ireland)



Language

EN - English

3A. Department Responsible

Food Standards Agency (FSA)
10a-10c Clarendon Road, Belfast
BT1 3BG
Northern Ireland
INFOFSANI@food.gov.uk

3B. Originating Department

Food Standards Agency (FSA)
10a-10c Clarendon Road, Belfast
BT1 3BG
Northern Ireland
INFOFSANI@food.gov.uk

5. Title

The Bread and Flour (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2024

6. Products and/or Services Concerned

C80A - Additives, vitamins, minerals and flavourings



7. Notification under another Community Act

- Regulation (EEC) No 315/93 laying down Community procedures for contaminants in food: Article 5(3) (b)
- Regulations (EC) No 852/2004 relating to the hygiene of foods: Article 13(3) to (7)
- Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 relating to the hygiene of foods: Article 10(3) to (7)
- Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627 laying down uniform practical arrangements for the performance of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/625: Article 13
- Regulation (EC) No 1924/2006 concerning nutrition and health claims made on foods: Article 23
- Regulation (EC) No 1925/2006 concerning the addition of vitamins and minerals and certain other substances to foods: Article 12
- Directive (EC) No 94/62 on packaging and packaging waste
- Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 on the provision of food information to consumers: Articles 40, 43, 44 and 45
- Directive (EC) 2006/123 on services in the internal market
- Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market: Article 69
- Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 on protective measures against pests of plants: Article 52
- Directive 2009/54/EC on the exploitation and marketing of natural mineral waters: Article 9(3)
- Directive 86/278/EEC on the protection of the environment, and in particular of the soil, when sewage sludge is used in agriculture: Art. 12
- [Article 68 of the proposed Batteries Regulation]

Additional information necessary for assessment

- [Public consultation](#) – Amending the Bread and Flour Regulations 1998 and the Bread and Flour Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1998.
- [Impact Assessment](#) – Amending the Bread and Flour Regulations 1998 and the Bread and Flour Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1998.
- [Consultation Response](#) - Amending the Bread and Flour Regulations 1998 and the Bread and Flour Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1998 .
- [Consultation outcome – Proposal to add folic acid to flour](#): consultation response.
- [Public Consultation & Summary of responses](#) on Proposal to allow flour millers to place unfortified flour on the Northern Ireland market, subject to it being destined for countries outside the UK or used in products destined to be sold outside of the UK.

8. Main Content

The Bread and Flour Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1998 (referred to below as 'The Bread and Flour Regulations') lay down specific labelling and compositional rules for bread and flour in Northern Ireland. The regulations primarily mandate the fortification of non-wholemeal wheat flour with added calcium, iron, thiamin, and niacin for the protection of public health. The Bread and Flour Regulations are mirrored across the rest of the UK nations.

The proposed draft Statutory Regulation will update The Bread and Flour Regulations. The provisions make technical changes which take into account developments in other food legislation, clarifying definitions and providing for the fortification of non-wholemeal wheat flour with folic acid, while also introducing exemptions to avoid disproportionate impacts for businesses.

A change to the enforcement approach - providing for the use of improvement notices as a frontline enforcement option - is also being incorporated in the regulations.

A change to allow flour millers to place unfortified flour on the Northern Ireland market, subject to it being destined for countries outside the UK or used in products destined to be sold outside of the UK.

9. Brief Statement of Grounds

The key aim of the changes is to ensure that the regulations lead to improved public health, support UK industry, assist enforcement authorities and protect consumers. The policy objectives are to:

Reduce the incidence of NTD-affected pregnancies, by increasing dietary intake of folate, and blood folate concentration, in women who could become pregnant whilst minimising the number of people who may exceed the guidance level for dietary folic acid intake.

Take account updates to overlapping legislation, ensuring consistency with other food standards regulations enabling understanding, compliance, and a consistent approach to enforcement.

Minimise regulatory burden for business where positive public health outcomes of the policy aren't compromised.

Ensure the enforcement regime is effective and proportional.



10. Reference Documents, Basic Texts

- No Basic Text exists
- Limit the marketing or use of a chemical substance, preparation or product

References of the Basic Texts

[Bread and Flour Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 1998](#)

Draft amending Legislation is also attached.

Basic Texts have been forwarded within the framework of a previous notification

Reference of previous notification(s)

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11. Invocation of the Urgency Procedure

Yes

12. Grounds for the Urgency

13. Confidentiality

Yes

14. Fiscal measures

Yes

15. Impact assessment

Yes (in a separate file)

or specify

See additional information necessary for assessment section.

16. TBT and SPS aspects

TBT aspect

Yes

No - The draft is not a technical regulation nor a conformity assessment

No - The draft is in conformity with an international standard

No - The draft has no significant impact on international trade

SPS aspect

Yes

No - The draft is not a sanitary or phytosanitary measure

No – Content is the same as that of an international standard, directive or recommendation

No - The draft has no significant impact on international trade