

NewsLetter



Regulated Products Reform New authorisation process becomes law

Last week, the Food and Feed (Regulated Products) (Amendment, Revocation, Consequential and Transitional Provision) Regulations 2025 were published and come into effect in Great Britain on April 1st.

The Regulations seek to modernise the market authorisation process for regulated food and feed products in Great Britain. First, they remove the requirements for the periodic renewal of authorisations for three regulated product regimes: feed additives, food or feed containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified organisms, and smoke flavourings.

Secondly, it allows authorisations to come into effect following a ministerial decision based on evidence-based safety assessment advice. Those authorisations will then be published in an official register or list, rather than being prescribed by statutory instrument.

That approach aligns with other UK regulators' authorisation processes for similarly regulated products, such as veterinary medicines and pesticides.

Why the need for new Regulations?

The Regulations are intended to modernise the food and feed regulatory process by removing requirements that are deemed unnecessary for food safety.

Currently, certain products, such as smoke flavourings, that have already been authorised for sale must be reauthorised every 10 years. The Regulations will remove that requirement; instead, the regulators will carry out safety reviews when new evidence emerges, and most of these products have many years of safe use. Where necessary, approvals can be modified, suspended or revoked by the FSA or FSS.

There are 481 applications currently in the service. Around 100 are renewals, and almost 500 additional renewals are expected in the next three years. Removing set renewal periods is intended to allow a more targeted approach to regulation.

The FSA has a statutory obligation to consult, and the Regulations do not change the consultation mechanisms that are used as part of the authorisation process for regulated products. Authorisations will continue to be subject to public scrutiny.

More information:

- The Food and Feed (Regulated Products)
 (Amendment, Revocation, Consequential and Transitional Provision) Regulations 2025
- Food Standards Agency Regulated Products

