Food safety, everyone’s business

Today is the first ever World Food Safety Day and to celebrate LB of Southwark Council is highlighting the work of its Food Safety Team in helping to remove food that is unsafe from sale.

While problems are rare, there are several reasons why food might need to be recalled. For example, if the allergen information on a label is inaccurate, or if there are concerns around food poisoning bacteria such as salmonella.

If there is a recall Southwark Council’s Food Safety Team will work with the food businesses and the Food Standards Agency (FSA) to make sure the product is removed from the shelves and recalled. Southwark Council’s Food Safety Team also works with food businesses, to ensure that they have procedures in place to recall food products that may be unsafe from the food chain.

“Today is an opportunity to strengthen efforts to ensure the food we eat is safe. Food Safety is everyone’s business, whether you produce, process, sell or prepare food, then you have a role in keeping it safe. We would encourage everyone to sign up to the FSA’s food alerts service, to get immediate updates when product recalls and allergy alerts are published.”

Dr Colin Sullivan, Chief Operating Officer at the Food Standards Agency, said: “We are pleased to play our part in making sure people can trust their food, particularly through working with local authorities and food businesses when a recall is required.

“We issued 72 food recalls and 103 allergy alerts in 2018 and we make every effort to make sure we publish our alerts as soon as we can and with information that is both useful and clear. Our advice to people is always based on the best science and evidence available.”

In the UK food businesses are responsible for making sure the food you eat is safe. Occasionally things can go wrong and action needs to be taken. to take appropriate action, for example, to return or dispose of the unsafe food.

**FSA Explains:** A recall is when unsafe food is removed from the supply chain and consumers are advised to take appropriate action, for example, to return or dispose of the unsafe food.

Find out more about what the Food Standard Agency does to protect you, by clicking on to the following clink: [http://ow.ly/vxzk30oJ7w3](http://ow.ly/vxzk30oJ7w3)

Why don’t you sign up to the food alerts and allergy alerts, so you can be the first to hear if there is a recall. [https://www.food.gov.uk/news-alerts/subscribe](https://www.food.gov.uk/news-alerts/subscribe)