

# CASE STUDY

## Better Business for All



## HEALTH TAKEAWAYS PROJECT

### HOW WE HELPED

#### HARTLEPOOL

Supporting businesses, in an advisory capacity, on how to comply with food law is always the preferred option over enforcement. To help the business to be safe, compliant and successful without unnecessary burden we try to listen in order to gain an understanding of the business and agree a solution that is best for them, which satisfies legal requirements and ideally saves time and money.

A number of takeaway business operators recently worked in partnership with officers on a Healthy Takeaways Initiative in Hartlepool, each specialised in a different type of cuisine. The project involved detailed analysis of the composition of a range of dishes, identifying possible small changes to recipes, cooking methods, and the way the business served and promoted its food.

Advice was also given in relation to changes in legislation concerning the provision of information to consumers on allergens, signage and the use of nutritional claims.

The aim was to improve how healthy the menu choices were whilst also providing benefits to the business in terms of ensuring it was compliant with food law and able to promote itself and stand out.

BUSINESSES &  
REGULATORS  
WORKING  
TOGETHER  
TO IMPROVE  
HEALTH, SAFETY &  
WELLBEING



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The aim was to improve how healthy the menu choices were whilst also providing benefits to the business in terms of ensuring it was compliant with food law and able to promote itself and stand out.

Initial visits to these premises went well and detailed work was carried out in a Chinese takeaway, where improvements were identified and incentives for business take-up discussed. As a result, a 'Top Tips for Chinese Takeaways' poster was produced.

This was translated by the business owner for the benefit of the wider Chinese community and a laminated copy is now being given out.

This approach enables the inspector to discuss the Tips in detail and helps foster a

good working relationship with the business.

The same approach is to be taken in different types of premises going forward, with a phased approach designed to cover all major food types.

Making changes to packaging, recipes and menus to comply with new rules can often seem burdensome. We appreciate it is vital that businesses know about changes in the law as early as possible and that practical advice on compliance is provided. We aim to help businesses minimise the cost of regulatory compliance and will always be clear to differentiate between legal requirement and best practice considering the financial impacts. Often the changes needed are not as costly or time consuming as first thought and small changes can make a big difference!

IS YOUR  
TEES VALLEY  
BUSINESS  
COMPLIANT?

CONTACT YOUR  
LOCAL AUTHORITY  
TEAM NOW!

### LOCAL TEES VALLEY REGULATORS

**Middlesbrough Council:** [EHTS@middlesbrough.gov.uk](mailto:EHTS@middlesbrough.gov.uk)

**Hartlepool Borough Council:** [public.protection@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:public.protection@hartlepool.gov.uk)

**Darlington Borough Council:** [environmentalhealth@darlington.gov.uk](mailto:environmentalhealth@darlington.gov.uk)

**Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council:**  
[Environmental.Health@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:Environmental.Health@stockton.gov.uk)

**Redcar & Cleveland Council:** [Food\\_Team@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk](mailto:Food_Team@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk)



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