

6 MONTH COUNTDOWN TO NATASHA'S LAW – BUSINESS ROADMAP FOR FOOD OPERATORS

APRIL

You have six months to get your business ready. It's a good idea break down what you need to do, and take a different focus each month.

AUDIT SUPPLIERS AND STOCK



Audit all ingredients and products. What information do you receive from suppliers and what format is it in? Can you ensure this information is accurately retained and transferred to labels? How are changes to ingredients being managed?

MAY

There are solutions that have been developed specifically for the field of food labelling. You should evaluate whether you need to invest.

FOCUS ON SOFTWARE & HARDWARE



Automated solutions make time-consuming analysis much more efficient and greatly reduce the risk of accidental human error. Look for software that is fully compliant and can integrate with label-printing processes. The FSA has a list of label requirements on their website.

JUNE

Use this month to step back and take an overall look at integrating allergen awareness training across your food production process.

STAFF EDUCATION AND TRAINING



Ensure all staff are fully aware of Natasha's Law, whether they are involved in ordering ingredients, managing software, producing PPDS food or selling to consumers. It's a good idea to appoint an 'allergen champion' to provide ongoing training to staff, and who is responsible for compliance.

JULY

Organise a trial run once you have trained staff, added supplier information and created recipes and labels in your chosen software.

TRIAL RUN



If your business has multiple locations, nominate one trial location and stress test all essential aspects of your supply chain for compliance with Natasha's Law. Evaluate all aspects covered in April, May and June, which include your stock and supplier audit process, your software compliance checks and your staff training processes.

AUGUST

Use the month of August to make sure your labelling process is as smooth and risk-free as possible.

REVIEW AND REFINE



Review all suppliers and add on any new information. Check deliveries and identify how best to manage substitutions. Check your labels! Are fonts correct, is the information clear and legible? Are staff clear on why these changes are being introduced and what to do if consumers have queries regarding Natasha's Law.

SEPTEMBER

If you've followed all of the steps, your business should now be ready!

BUSINESS READINESS



Now you have one last month to do a full and final review. Look at the 4S approach outlined above. Supplier, Stock, Software and Staff. Make sure you 'future proof' these four areas of your business to be your compliant not just in October, but permanently.

OCTOBER

NATASHA'S LAW: 1ST OCT 2021