

# The Tasmanian Food Business Risk Classification System

## Information for Food Business Operators

### What is risk classification?

The Tasmanian Department of Health (DoH) has developed a statewide Food Business Risk Classification System (RCS).

The RCS will be used by all Tasmanian councils to classify food businesses based on the risk they present to public health and safety.

By risk classifying food businesses, regulators will be able to assign food businesses a priority for inspection based on their food safety risk.

### How does the RCS work?

There are five risk classifications included in the RCS. The highest risk category is Priority I (P1) followed by P2, P3, P3-N, to the lowest risk category of P4.

The RCS includes an inspection frequency for each risk classification. Food businesses with a higher risk classification will initially be inspected more often than those with a lower risk classification.

Regulators may increase or decrease the frequency of inspection depending on how well the food business complies with their food safety obligations.

Food businesses with a higher risk classification (P1, P2 or P3 rating) will need to register with their local council.

### How will my food business be classified?

An Environmental Health Officer (EHO) from your local council will assess your business and assign a risk classification as part of your next inspection.

### What will change?

Your general food safety requirements under the *Food Act 2003* and the *Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code* will **not** change. The RCS system is largely an administrative tool designed to help consistent application of the Food Act across Tasmania and has been designed to closely align with the existing system of food business registration.

However, the registration status of some existing food businesses may change. Some businesses will need to start registering with their council and some will no longer need to register. For these businesses, the change will take effect from 1 July 2019.

### More information

- Speak to an Environmental Health Officer at your local council.
- Phone the Public Health Hotline on 1800 671 738 or email [public.health@dhhs.tas.gov.au](mailto:public.health@dhhs.tas.gov.au)

Food safety – Public Health Services  
[www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/publichealth/food\\_safety](http://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/publichealth/food_safety)

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