

Nottinghamshire  
County Council

# Business Information

## Retailing ready-made pet food

### Labelling Requirements & Statutory Statements

When you sell pet food, the law says you must give **written** information to the buyer. This is called the 'Statutory Statement'. Pet food you buy in will have a statutory statement from the manufacturer. You must pass this information on to your customer. We have set out below what you must do. It is important that the pet food you sell is properly labelled. It is an offence if you fail to give the statutory statement or supply one that is incomplete or inaccurate.

### How do I give the statutory statement?

A ready-made pet food is one produced by someone else to which you add nothing. It can be a single ingredient or a mixture and should have the correct statutory statement with it when delivered to you. You can if you want to, break it down and sell it in smaller quantities.

### Information which must be passed onto your customer

All information must be given in English, be legible and be indelibly marked.

- When selling pet food loose from bins or other retail displays, the statutory statement information must be displayed in a conspicuous place either attached to the bin, (for example, a label on the lid) or associated with the food in such a way that it is clear to which product it relates.
- If you are making up packs of smaller quantities (pre-packed), 10kg or less for sale to the customer, a similar display notice giving the statutory statement information can be used; for example, a label on the edge of the shelf where the food is stored, or you can label each individual bag with the full statutory statement.

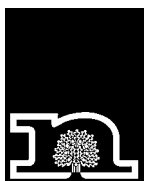
*Please turn over...*

## Information which must be passed onto your customer (continued)...

- For other pre-packed pet food i.e. greater than 10kg you must mark each pack/bag with a full statutory statement.
- When the statutory statement is displayed on a notice, you must ensure any 'Best Before' information is given and that this is changed in accordance with product rotation.
- Formulations of animal foods often change. You must make sure that the version of the statutory statement you use is the latest one and corresponds in all ways with the information on the original product container, i.e.; any batch numbers are correct when new stock is replenished.

You can only use the original statutory statement, from your supplier, if you sell the pet food in its original condition, for its original purpose and without alteration. If you change the usage of a feed, for example, selling a pet food originally made for goats but sold for food for guinea pigs, you must change the statutory statement accordingly and it must be your name and address as the person responsible for its accuracy.

*This leaflet is a brief summary of the law . It is not an authoritative document on the law and is only intended for guidance. For further details or clarification please contact the Trading Standards Service.*



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