

Appendix B

Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council
Public Health & Protection

Sampling Programme 2023/24

Sampling and subsequent examination performs an essential function providing intelligence and evidence of food safety within the borough. The sampling programme looks to address both national and local consumer issues.

Sample Type	Key Points/Aims	Officer	Date
HPA Co-ordinated Sampling			
A reactive salad study Study 77	This study will determine the microbiological quality of ready-to-eat salad from retail and catering premises. The focus will be on <i>Listeria</i> , <i>Escherichia coli</i> , coagulase positive <i>Staphylococcus</i> , <i>Bacillus cereus</i> and the detection of <i>Salmonella</i> and <i>STEC</i> species. It is hoped this will enable detection of both contamination of the salad products themselves and cross contamination of salad products within premises.	All	April 2023- March 2024
Hygiene in catering premises – Study 78	In this study food preparation areas in premises that prepare and serve food to the public will be swabbed to test for hygiene and pathogen (<i>Listeria</i>) detection. Cleaning cloths will also be tested for pathogens as a common medium for cross contamination. This study will therefore focus on the effectiveness of cleaning standards within the food business, an area that many local authorities have raised as an area for concern post Covid and with the financial pressures currently facing businesses.	All	April 2023- October 2023
Cooked sliced meats – Study 79	A range of pre-packed and loose sliced speciality meats (e.g. dried/cured/fermented/smoked meats) will be sampled and examined to assess their microbiology, with a focus on <i>Listeria</i> .	All	Sept 2023- March 2024
Local Authority Sampling			
Ready to eat burgers	A study to assess the microbiological quality of ready to eat burgers from mobile food vehicles.	All	June 2023- March 2024
Approved premises	Microbiological quality of the foods stored and prepared in our approved premises.	All	June 2023- March 2024
Ad-hoc	Sampling of food and environmental swabs to help support food hygiene inspections and any food incidents/complaints that arise during the year	All	April 2023- March 2024