



Ministry of Justice

Following media coverage in January of horse meat contamination in supermarket food supply chains which particularly affected processed products, the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) acted quickly and decisively to immediately quarantine a number of products that may have been affected. While initial testing did not find horsemeat contamination, however two products did reveal contamination with other meat species. The MoJ considered the results of the initial findings warranted further testing. At the same time the National Offender Management Service (NOMS) Agency which has responsibility for food policy within prisons undertook to test further products from its raw and processed meat range.

The items selected represent high volume processed products, items considered by the Agency as most susceptible. All products were tested by an independent laboratory to a higher degree of scrutiny than is currently required by the Food Standards Agency for England and Wales.

MoJ and NOMS will continue to act proactively and transparently in ensuring that food procured for and served in our prisons is safe, nutritious and where necessary continues to meet all faith requirements.

The MoJ committed to the publication of the product results which can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/foi-releases-for-august-2013>