



## NOTICE

Published under assimilated Article 52(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs of the decision to reject an application to amend the product specification of the protected geographical indication (PGI), Melton Mowbray Pork Pie.

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Notice is given to The Melton Mowbray Pork Pie Association and the public that, under assimilated Article 52(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 (EUR 2012/1151) (incorporated into domestic law by the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018), the Secretary of State has decided to reject the application submitted by The Melton Mowbray Pork Pie Association to amend the product specification of the protected geographical indication (PGI), Melton Mowbray Pork Pie under the UK Government's geographical indications scheme for agricultural products and foodstuffs.

### **Reason for the decision**

The proposed amendment would reduce the geographical production area and exclude certain producers from using the PGI designation. This would directly affect market access and impose new trade restrictions, which is not permitted under the Regulation. As a result, the amendment is classified as non-minor under Article 53(2)(d) and 53(2)(e) of assimilated Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 and has been assessed accordingly.

The current specification states that the geographical area is larger than the original production area. This reflects historical changes over the past 100 years, where economic and commercial barriers have diminished, allowing production to expand. The applicant has not provided sufficient evidence to show that the quality, reputation, or characteristics of the product are now exclusive to the proposed smaller area. The fact that production has ceased in some parts of the existing area does not prove that these areas can no longer contribute to the product's distinctiveness. The larger area remains the area in which Melton Mowbray Pork Pies have been traditionally made.

Following the scrutiny carried out under Article 50(1) of assimilated Regulation (EU) No. 1151/2012, the Secretary of State has concluded that the proposed amendment is not justified and does not meet the conditions of the PGI scheme. The application is therefore rejected.

### **Appeal against the decision**

An appeal against the Secretary of State's decision can be made to the First-tier Tribunal in accordance with Article 54a of assimilated Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 and Rule 22 of the Tribunal Procedure (First-tier Tribunal) (General Regulatory Chamber) Rules 2009 (S.I. 2009/1976). It must be made before 5pm on **\*the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April 2025\*** and include the information specified in Rule 22(2) of the 2009 Rules.