

# Natasha's law – Fact sheet

## Why has the law been implemented?

Natasha Ednan-Laparouse tragically died in July 2016, after purchasing a baguette from Pret-a-Manger containing Sesame Flour. Because the baguette was prepared on site Pret were not obliged to fully label, only notify customers with appropriate signage. They were not breaking the law, however Natasha's parents Tanya and Nadim felt there was a loophole and fought to have the current legislation reviewed to ensure safe information for allergy customers. In 2019 there was a consultation with FBO's, and the allergy community and in September 2019, after the consultation, it was recommended for changes to take place, and Natasha's Law was enacted in Parliament.

## What is Prepacked for Direct Sale Foods [PPDS]?

Food that is packed on the same premises before being offered for sale by the same food business to the final consumer:

- Prepared and packed on the same premises; or
- Prepared and packed on the same site\*; or
- Prepared and packed on other premises if the food is offered for sale from a moveable and/or temporary premises (such as marquees, market stalls, mobile sales vehicles) if the food is offered for sale by the same food business who packed it.

It does not include Take-away foods – pre ordered online or over the telephone.



## All PPDS food must have on the package

- The name of the food.
- The list of ingredients shall be headed by a suitable heading which consists of or includes the word 'ingredients'.
- It shall include all the ingredients of the food, in descending order of weight, as recorded at the time of their use in the manufacture of the food.
  - E.g.: Bread, cheese, pickle – with full details of all components.
- If the product contains any of the 14 allergens they must be clearly highlighted on the listed ingredients. E.g. in CAPITALS, bold, in contrasting colours or underlined.

## Labelling

- The information must appear on the package or on a label attached to the package.
- Must be easily visible and clearly legible.
- On the outside of the product and not obscured in any way.
- Must not be difficult to read due to poor lettering or colour contrast.
- The ingredient list must be a minimum font size where x-height is 1.2mm or more. If products have a packaging surface less than 80 cm<sup>2</sup>, in which case the x-height can be reduced to 0.9mm.

## Printed labels:

Multiple options can be considered when deciding how to label their PPDS products.

- Software solutions or labelling programmes with printers could be used as well as pre-printed packaging.
- Businesses may want to proactively plan for any incidents, such as malfunctions, taking account of their business model. For example, they may wish to consider having some pre-printed labels to use in these circumstances that accurately describe the allergens and ingredients.
- Labels can be handwritten, as long as, they meet the requirements of being easily visible and clearly legible.

Further information can be found at - <https://foodallergyaware.co.uk/resources/food-standard-agency/> including links to FSA information and webinars. Food Allergy Aware can also provide training, online recorded webinars with a Q & A session for your staff to fully understand Natasha's Law. [Marketing@fatc.co.uk](mailto:Marketing@fatc.co.uk)