

Public Protection (food & safety)

Food Premises Inspection Report

Name of business:	Taj Mahal
Address of food business:	319 Aylsham Road Norwich NR3 2AB
Date of inspection:	27/10/2025
Risk rating reference:	25/00797/FOOD
Premises reference:	15/00255/FD_HS
Type of premises:	Food take away premises
Areas inspected:	Dry Store, Main Kitchen
Records examined:	Training Certificates/records, Temperature Control Records, SFBB
Details of samples procured:	None
Summary of action taken:	Informal
General description of business:	Indian takeaway

Relevant Legislation

Food Safety Act 1990 (as amended)
 Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 applied by The General Food Regulations 2004 (as amended)
 Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 and No 853/2004 applied by Regulation 19 (1) of the Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013
 Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and related regulations
 Food Information Regulations 2014

What you must do to comply with the law

The report may include **Contraventions** - matters which do not comply with the law. You must address all of the contraventions identified; failure to do so could result in legal action being taken against you.

As a guide, contraventions relating to cleaning, temperature control and poor practice, should be dealt with straight away.

Contraventions relating to structural repairs, your food safety management system and staff training, should be completed within the next 2 months.

Health and safety contraventions should be dealt with within 3 months unless otherwise stated.

To assist you the report may also include **Observations** of current practice, useful **Information, Recommendations** of good practice and reminders of **Legal Requirements**.

My inspection was not intended to identify every contravention of the law and only covers those areas, practices and procedures examined at the time of the inspection. If the report fails to mention a particular matter this does not mean you have necessarily complied with the law.

FOOD SAFETY

How we calculate your Food Hygiene Rating:

The food safety section has been divided into the three areas which you are scored against for the hygiene rating: 1. food hygiene and safety procedures, 2. structural requirements and 3. confidence in management/control procedures. Each section begins with a summary of what was observed and the score you have been given. Details of how these scores combine to produce your overall food hygiene rating are shown in the table.

Compliance Area	You Score					
Food Hygiene and Safety	0	5	10	15	20	25
Structure and Cleaning	0	5	10	15	20	25
Confidence in management & control systems	0	5	10	15	20	30
Your Total score	0 - 15	20	25 - 30	35 - 40	45 - 50	> 50
Your Worst score	5	10	10	15	20	-
Your Rating is	5	4	3	2	1	0



Your Food Hygiene Rating is 4 - a good standard

1. Food Hygiene and Safety

Food hygiene standards are high. You demonstrated a very good standard of compliance with legal requirements. You have safe food handling practices and procedures and all the necessary control measures to prevent cross-contamination are in place. Some minor contraventions require your attention. **(5)**

Contamination risks

Contravention Food was not protected from general sources of contamination:

- the underside of stacked containers in contact with open food below
- scoops stored in dried ingredients

Legal requirement At all stages of production, processing and distribution, food must be protected from any contamination likely to render it unfit for human consumption, injurious to health or contaminated in such a way that it would be unreasonable to expect it to be consumed in that state.

Hand washing

Contravention The following indicated that hand washing was not suitably managed:

- staff were not seen washing their hands when I visited
- gloves were worn but not seen changed

Information Hand washing is required:

- * before handling ready-to-eat food
- * after touching raw food and its packaging, including unwashed fruit and vegetables
- * after a break/smoking
- * after going to the toilet
- * after cleaning
- * after removing waste
- * after blowing your nose

Information If not used properly gloves are likely to give rise to a risk of cross contamination. Ensure that hands are always washed thoroughly before putting gloves on and after taking them off. Gloves should be disposable and should always be changed between the handling of raw and ready-to-eat foods. Gloves should also be changed before handling ready-to-eat food if they have come in contact with any surface or objects not designated as clean (e.g. money), and also at every break.

Temperature Control

Observation I was pleased to see you were able to limit bacterial growth and/or survival by applying appropriate temperature controls at points critical to food safety and that you were monitoring temperatures.

2. Structure and Cleaning

The structure facilities and standard of cleaning and maintenance are of a generally satisfactory standard but there are some repairs and/or improvements which are required in order for you to comply with the law. Pest control and waste disposal provisions are adequate. The contraventions require your attention; although not critical to food safety they may become so if not addressed. **(10)**

Cleaning of Structure

Contravention The following items were dirty and require more frequent and thorough cleaning:

- flooring underneath equipment
- bottom to wall behind sink
- tap to wash hand basin
- wash hand basin
- pipe work
- walls
- wall tiles
- ceiling
- light switch

Cleaning of Equipment and Food Contact Surfaces

Contravention The following items are dirty and must be cleaned:

- towel dispenser
- interior ceiling to microwave
- lid to food storage containers
- interior to food storage containers
- interior to hot cupboard
- seals to fridge
- around interior top to chest freezer
- build-up of ice to chest freezer
- bin
- legs to equipment
- wheels to equipment
- knob to equipment

Cleaning Chemicals / Materials / Equipment and Methods

Observation I was pleased to see that your cleaning materials, methods and equipment were able to minimise the spread of harmful bacteria between surfaces.

Information Cardboard cannot be properly cleaned. Do not use it to cover the floor/ shelves of work surfaces in food rooms

Maintenance

Contravention The following had not been suitably maintained and must be repaired or replaced:

- holes to wall
- cracks to walls
- damage to interior to chest freezer lid

Facilities and Structural provision

Observation I was pleased to see the premises had been well maintained and that adequate facilities had been provided.

3. Confidence in Management

A food safety management system is in place and you demonstrate a very good standard of compliance with the law. You have a good track record. There are some minor contraventions which require your attention. **(5)**

Type of Food Safety Management System Required

Recommendation I recommend that you purchase a new up to date Safer Food Batter Business pack as the one you have is very old. You can purchase one online

Observation You were date labelling perishable foods appropriately and could demonstrate effective control over food spoilage organisms.

Observation You had colour-coded equipment and effective separation between raw and ready-to-eat food at all stages in your operation.

Observation Your SFBB/food safety management system was in place and working well. I was confident you had effective control over hazards to food.

Observation You were monitoring (and recording) the temperatures of your fridges and freezers as well as the temperature of cooked/hot-held food and could demonstrate effective systems for controlling bacterial growth and survival.

Safer Food Better Business/Food Safety Management System that works

Contravention You are not working to the following safe methods in your SFBB pack:

- cleaning schedule as more attention is needed to cleaning

Traceability

Observation Your records were such that food could easily be traced back to its supplier.

Infection Control / Sickness / Exclusion Policy

Guidance UK Health Security Agency recommends that food handlers known or suspected to be suffering from a food-borne infection or gastrointestinal illness stay away from work until symptom-free for 48 hours.

Training

Recommendation A Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering or its equivalent (a 6-hour course leading to the award of a recognised certificate in food hygiene) would be appropriate for your food handlers. Booking details for the equivalent CIEH course are on our website: www.norwich.gov.uk

Recommendation Catering staff should refresh their food hygiene knowledge every 3 years so that they stay up to date with current legislation and good practice. Booking details for this course are on our website: www.norwich.gov.uk

Allergens

Observation You had devised a chart listing all the food you provide with the allergens present in each and had brought this to the attention of your staff and customers.

Observation You had identified the presence of allergens in your non-prepacked food and had brought this to the attention of your customers.