



Public Protection (food & safety)

Food Premises Inspection Report

Name of business:	The Merchants Of Spice
Address of food business:	30 - 32 Colegate Norwich NR3 1BG
Date of inspection:	18/01/2018
Risk rating reference:	18/00018/FOOD
Premises reference:	15/00356/FD_HS
Type of premises:	Restaurant or cafe
Areas inspected:	All
Records examined:	SFBB
Details of samples procured:	None
Summary of action taken:	Formal
General description of business:	Indian restaurant

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 5 - a very 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. **(Score 5)**

Contamination risks

Contravention The following exposed food to the general risk of cross-contamination with bacteria or allergens or its physical contamination with dirt or foreign objects:

- spoon left lying in hot held rice in rice cooker for service
- no wipes for use with probe thermometer
- spoon left lying in hot rice in pan

Observation I was pleased you could demonstrate effective E.coli 0157 control through the complete separation of raw and ready-to-eat food, the correct use of wash-hand basins and thorough handwashing, having dedicated equipment (including complex equipment) for raw and ready-to-eat foods, through 2-stage cleaning and the correct use of sanitisers, and by controlling the risks posed by soily vegetables.

Observation I was pleased to see:

- a dishwasher in use on the premises.
- raw meat prepared in a separate area
- food is cooled by portioning into smaller trays
- food is used within 3 days
- food was generally covered, and most had been dated.

Hand-washing

Recommendation For extra protection against cross contamination use a liquid soap with disinfectant properties conforming to the European standard BS EN 1499: 1997. This information should be available on the product label or may be obtained from the supplier or manufacturer.

Observation Hand washing was managed well and wash-hand basins were well stocked with hand cleaning material.

Personal Hygiene

Observation I was pleased to see that standards of personal hygiene were high.

Temperature Control

Contravention The following evidence indicated there was a risk of bacteria growing on food:

- cooked rice was found in a covered hot pan. It had been cooked at 5pm. At the time of inspection, over 2 hours later it was about 50°C. Food being kept in this way, and not being kept hot, or allowed to cool must be used within 2 hours.(It is

recommended that hot rice be cooled and kept in the fridge, or kept above 63 °C for service.)

Guidance It is essential to know that your probe thermometer is working properly. If the reading is outside these ranges you should replace your probe or return it to the manufacturer to be calibrated. A simple way to check a digital probe is to put it in iced water and boiling water:

- The readings in iced water should be between -1°C and +1°C.
- The readings in boiling water should be between 99°C and 101°C.

Guidance Take care probe thermometers do not cause cross contamination. Make sure they are kept clean and disinfected with probe wipes before and after each use.

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

Unfit food

Recommendation You should have a system to identify when open or prepared foods need to be used by or discarded, to ensure the food is fit for consumption. I recommend you apply labels which give a day or date that is 2 days after the day of production e.g. if food is opened on Monday it should be used by the end of Wednesday. Most items were dated.

Observation I was pleased to note that you wash salad items.

Poor Practices

Observation The following matters represented poor practice and if allowed to continue may cause food to become contaminated or lead to its deterioration

- several buckets containing raw chicken were left at ambient temperature, for several hours. Please try to defrost under refrigeration and hold the temperature below 4°C.

2. Structure and Cleaning

The structure facilities and standard of cleaning and maintenance are all of a good standard and only minor repairs and/or improvements are required. Pest control and waste disposal provisions are adequate. The minor contraventions require your attention. **(Score 5)**

Cleaning of Structure

Contravention The following structural items could not be effectively cleaned and must be repaired:

- few broken floor tiles.

Observation The kitchen had been well maintained and the standard of cleaning was exceptionally high.

Cleaning of Equipment and Food Contact Surfaces

Contravention The following surfaces and equipment in contact with food were dirty and/or could not be cleaned and require cleaning or discarding:

- oven sides and equipment wheels
- hand contact surfaces to one fridge door.

Cleaning Chemicals / Materials / Equipment and Methods

Information Proper cleaning and disinfection is essential in preventing the spread of E.coli 0157 and other harmful bacteria onto food and food contact surfaces.

Information Ensure you use a surface sanitiser that conforms to BS EN 1276:1997 or BS EN 13697:2001. This information should be available on the label or by contacting the manufacturer.

Information A surface sanitiser may be rendered ineffective if you are not following the correct dilutions or allowing a sufficient time for the product to work (contact time). Always follow the instructions on the product label.

Guidance Even when using a surface sanitiser you should be following the 'two-stage' cleaning method. Apply the sanitiser once to remove visible dirt and food debris and then a second time to ensure effective disinfection. Make sure you follow the correct contact time for the product.

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

Maintenance

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

- fly chains to rear door broken
- fly killer bulb not working.

Facilities and Structural provision

Contravention The following facilities were inadequate or absent and must be provided or improved:

- one tap top to the double wash up sink broken. You were using pliers to turn this on. Repair the sink tap.

3. Confidence in Management

A food safety management system is in place and you demonstrate a very good standard of compliance with the law. Food hazards are understood properly controlled managed and

reviewed. Your records are appropriate and generally maintained. You have a good track record. There are some minor contraventions which require your attention. **(Score 5)**

Traceability

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

Waste Food and other Refuse

Observation You had measures in place to dispose of waste food appropriately and were employing the services of an approved waste contractor.

Training

Contravention The following evidence indicated there was a staff training need:

- some staff who handle open high risk foods had not done formal training, but knew safe procedure.

Information You can obtain a list of the training courses we provide on our website www.norwich.gov.uk

Information I note that some of your staff have e-learning food hygiene training. You may like to know that we offer Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering, a course on Safer Food better Business and a number of other courses. Booking details are on our website: www.norwich.gov.uk

Allergens

Contravention You have not yet identified fully the allergens present in the food you prepare.

Observation You had clearly shown the presence of allergens in your food on your menu.

Observation Some allergens contained within sauces, such as mustard had been missed. Carefully assess all ingredients.