



Public Protection (food & safety)

Food Premises Inspection Report

Name of business:	Spice Lounge
Address of food business:	8 - 10 Wensum Street Norwich NR3 1HR
Date of inspection:	19/12/2019
Risk rating reference:	19/00861/FOOD
Premises reference:	06/00173/FOOD
Type of premises:	Restaurant
Areas inspected:	Main Kitchen, Storeroom
Records examined:	Training certificates / records
Details of samples procured:	None
Summary of action taken:	Informal
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 Hygiene Rating Re-Scoring Visit

Date: 10th February 2020

Following the previous inspection a re-rating visit was requested. The revised score is indicated here. The results of the original inspection are listed below.

Your revised Food Hygiene Rating is 4 – a good standard



Inspectors notes:

Observation I was pleased to see the following:

- All contraventions had been addressed. However

Contravention the following items require attention

- Staff training section in your Safer Food Better Business needs to be filled in, to include all staff
- Food e.g potatoes and onions were being stored in the lobby to the wc
- Wc door was left open

FOOD SAFETY

How we calculate your Food Hygiene Rating:

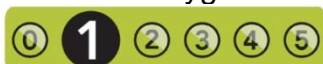
The food safety section has been divided into the three areas which you are scored against for the hygiene rating: 1. food hygiene and safety procedures, 2. structural requirements and 3. confidence in management/control procedures. Each section begins with a summary of what was observed and the score 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 1 - major improvement is necessary



1. Food Hygiene and Safety

Food hygiene standards are generally satisfactory and maintained. There is evidence of some non-compliance with legal requirements. Some lapses are evident however generally you have satisfactory food handling practices and procedures and adequate control measures to prevent cross-contamination are in place. The contraventions require your attention; although not critical to food safety they may become so if not addressed.

(Score 10)

Contamination risks

Contravention The following exposed ready-to-eat food and or its packaging to the risk of cross-contamination with foodborne bacteria from raw meat or unwashed fruits and vegetables:

- uncovered foods were being stored in the walk-in fridge
- uncovered food e.g raw chicken was being stored in the storeroom with the rear door open
- cleaning chemicals were being stored directly above uncovered food e.g raw chicken in the storeroom

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.

Legal Requirement Cleaning chemicals should be stored in an area separate from food so that they cannot contaminate the food. They should be stored in sealed containers with clear useage instructions.

Guidance The FSA (visit www.food.gov.uk for more information) has issued guidance on controlling E.coli 0157 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.

Guidance Equipment, utensils, dishes and wrapping materials used for RTE foods are not to be stored in open storage (i.e. a storage area that cannot be closed) underneath a worktop where preparation of raw foods is undertaken as this could lead to cross-contamination.

Recommendation Chopping/cutting boards were held stable with tea towels/cloths and could contaminate the board. Use silicone board mats to stabilise your cutting boards. These can be placed in the dishwasher and /or can be sterilised

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.

Hand-washing

Contravention the wash-hand basin was not in regular use. Regular hand washing is important for personal cleanliness. Remind all food handlers of the need to wash their hands before starting or returning to work, and specifically:

- After using the toilet;
- After handling rubbish;
- After smoking;
- After taking a break;
- After handling raw food

Guidance Proper hand-washing is essential to prevent cross-contamination of E.coli 0157 and other harmful bacteria onto food and food contact surfaces. Handwashing should include the following steps:

- wet hands before applying soap
- good hand rubbing technique
- rinsing of hands
- hygienic drying

Recommendation After washing hands food handlers should turn the taps off using paper towel to prevent them from re-contaminating their hands

Personal Hygiene

Contravention The following are examples of poor personal hygiene or where it was made difficult for food handlers to maintain sufficiently high standards of personal cleanliness:

- a food handler was seen wearing dirty shoes

Legal Requirement All persons in food handling areas must wear suitable, clean, and where appropriate protective clothing.

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.

Poor Practices

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

- keeping the rear door open

- lift food off the floor in the walk-in fridge to ensure cooling air can freely circulate

2. Structure and Cleaning

The structure facilities and standard of cleaning and maintenance are less than satisfactory and you are failing to comply with the law in many respects. Significant improvements are needed in the standard of structure and equipment cleaning and/or maintenance of the premises. Improvements are needed in hand and/or equipment washing facilities. Contraventions require your immediate attention as some are critical to food safety. We may revisit your business and if standards have not improved take formal enforcement action. **(Score 15)**

Cleaning of Structure

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

- flooring behind and under equipment
- damp to wall in storeroom
- cigarette ends to rear door

Recommendation I recommend that the walls are treated with anti-fungal paint to inhibit the growth of mould on the wall surfaces

Cleaning of Equipment and Food Contact Surfaces

Contravention The following items are dirty and must be cleaned:

- wheels and legs to equipment
- hob to cooker
- front of cooker
- fridge and freezer seals
- hand contact surfaces
- microwave door
- interior ceiling to microwave
- can opener
- food storage containers and the lids
- underneath towel and soap dispensers
- spice containers
- food containers storing dried goods e.g flour
- seals to chest freezer
- door runner to hot cupboard
- interior to dishwasher door
- dishwasher tray

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

Cleaning Chemicals / Materials / Equipment and Methods

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

- mastic to wash hand basin
- cracked food containers

Pest Control

Contravention The premises is not adequately proofed against pest

- gap to the top of the rear door

Legal Requirement any gaps and holes to external doors, window, pipes, drains etc. must be filled or covered with a solid, durable material in order to minimise pest entry points into food preparation and storage areas

3. Confidence in Management

There is major non-compliance with legal requirements. Your food safety management system was not written down. Some staff not suitably supervised instructed and/or trained in food hygiene. The contraventions require your urgent attention. A revisit is planned and formal enforcement action is likely. **(Score 20)**

Type of Food Safety Management System Required

Contravention The food safety management system you have in place is not suitable given the food risks associated with your business.

- You only have the diary pages for your food safety management system. Implement Safer Food Better Business.

Legal Requirement Food business operators must put in place, implement and maintain a permanent procedure or procedures based on HACCP principles:

- Identify hazards to food.
- Identify the critical limits (what is acceptable and unacceptable).
- Monitor critical control points to ensure critical limits are met.
- Keep appropriate records to demonstrate control measures are effective.

Recommendation Choose Safer Food Better Business as your food safety management system. It is simple to implement and requires a minimum amount of record keeping.

Legal Requirement Ensure that your food safety management system is available on site so your staff can refer to your procedures and so that daily records of checks can be completed.

Information You can download a Safer Food Better Business pack and refill diary pages from the FSA website: www.food.gov.uk/business-industry/caterers/sfbb

Information As you are a new business you have been given the benefit of the doubt despite your food safety management system not fully complying with the law. You must act on this now as your hygiene rating score will be reduced to a maximum of 1 if there is a similar situation at the next visit.

Recommendation You can buy a printed copy of Safer Food Better Business or a diary refill pack via our website www.norwich.gov.uk/sfbb

Food Hazard Identification and Control

Contravention The following pre-requisites have not been met and this means that your food safety management system will be ineffective:

- staff training is inadequate
- cleaning and sanitation are poor

Contravention You have not identified these food hazards or the methods of control at critical points in your operation:

- methods of control at critical points, storing chicken at ambient temperatures underneath chemicals and near the open rear door

Contravention The following SAFE METHODS are missing from your Safer Food Better Business pack:

- Cross-contamination
- Cleaning
- Chilling
- Cooking

Traceability

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

Training

Contravention The following evidence indicates there is a staff training need for food handlers:

- standard of cleaning was poor
- unaware of how long to keep prepared foods for
- unaware of allergens in your food

Infection Control / Sickness / Exclusion Policy

Guidance Public Health England 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.

Allergens

Contravention You are failing to manage allergens properly:

- You have not identified the allergens present in the food you prepare
- You are not informing customers about the risk of cross contamination with allergens

Legal Requirement Caterers must provide allergy information on all unpackaged food they sell. Catering businesses include restaurants, takeaways, deli counters, bakeries and sandwich bars etc. The potential for cross-contamination by allergens must also be made known to consumers. In addition food manufacturers must now label allergy causing ingredients on their pre-packed foods. You can obtain more information from the Trading Standards website www.norfolk.gov.uk/abc

Information Advise your customers how to get allergen information. You can display a sign along the lines of ASK OUR STAFF ABOUT ALLERGENS

Information The 14 allergens are:

- cereals containing gluten
- crustaceans, for example prawns, crabs, lobster and crayfish
- eggs
- fish
- peanuts
- soybeans
- milk
- nuts, such as almonds, hazelnuts, walnuts, pecan nuts, Brazil nuts, pistachio, cashew and macadamia (Queensland) nuts
- celery (and celeriac)
- mustard
- sesame
- sulphur dioxide, which is a preservative found in some dried fruit
- lupin
- molluscs, for example clams, mussels, whelks, oysters, snails and squid

Information The Food Information Regulations require that you know what allergens are in the food you provide. You can no longer claim you don't know what allergens are present. Neither can you simply state that all the foods you serve might contain an allergen:

- Be sure you know exactly what your allergens are
- Convey this information to your customers accurately and consistently

Recommendation Make a chart listing all your meals together with the 14 allergens (if present). Bring the chart to the attention of your customers and your staff.