

# HOLROYD FOOD BULLETIN

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

<i>New ERA in Food Surveillance</i>	1
<i>Registration of retail food businesses</i>	1
<i>NSW Food Regulation Partnership</i>	2
<i>What will cost your business</i>	2
<i>Name and Shame</i>	2
<i>Our Team</i>	2

For additional information related to the Food Regulation Partnership agreement between the NSW Food Authority and Council look at the 'Local Government' section on the NSW Food Authorities website, which is [www.foodauthority.nsw.gov.au](http://www.foodauthority.nsw.gov.au)

Council reports on the Food Regulation Partnership can be accessed through Council's website, [www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au](http://www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au). Report numbers DCS12-08 & DCS31-08 refer to the partnership.



## NEW ERA IN FOOD SURVEILLANCE

The NSW State Government, through the NSW Food Authority and Local Government have entered into the NSW Food Regulation Partnership. This partnership will see Council's role as an enforcement agency recognised in legislation. It will also require Councils to meet standards for their food surveillance programs.

Inside this edition of the **Holroyd Food Bulletin** the changes that effect your business will be explained. These include:-

- Improved consumer confidence through regulated inspection regimes
- Level playing field for all food businesses
- Consistent inspection systems across NSW
- Inspection frequency set by risk results
- New administration fees
- Improvement Notice fees
- Name and Shame Legislation.

## REGISTRATION OF RETAIL FOOD BUSINESSES

Attached to this edition of the **Holroyd Food Bulletin** is a **Retail Food Business Registration Form**. The form is required to be completed by every proprietor of a retail food business and returned to Council. The form will enable Council to update its records for all retail food businesses in Holroyd.

The registration form will assist Council in determining the risk classification of your food business, which will allow Council to determine your appropriate inspection frequency.

Please complete the attached registration form and return it to Council in the reply paid envelope supplied before **31 October 2008**.



*“More than 5.4 Million Australians are affected by food poisoning every year”*

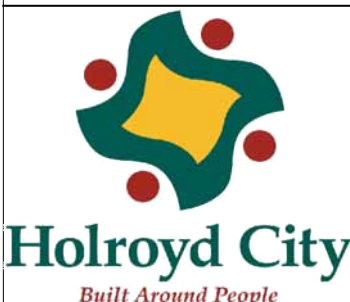
‘A point to remember’

Its one thing to monitor the temperature of foods that contain meat, poultry, seafood or dairy products; it is another thing to document the temperatures of those foods that you are preparing, storing or selling.

The documenting of your food temperatures is a requirement of the Food Act, 2003 and the Food Standards Code. Council is more than happy to assist food handlers by providing copies of temperatures logs on request.

Please ask your our staff the next time you see us for some assistance if required.

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## NSW FOOD REGULATION PARTNERSHIP

The NSW State Government, in partnership with Local Government and food industry representatives have developed the NSW Food Regulation Partnership. The aim of the partnership is to enhance consumer confidence in the food industry, improve the quality of food sold and standardise the way the industry is regulated.

Councils across NSW have reviewed the resources they allocate to food surveillance and nominated their category of responsibility. Holroyd City Council resolved to participate as a Category B Council. This means Holroyd will continue to deliver regular food surveillance inspections and food handling seminars. To do so we have increased our staff resources, see **Our Team** for more.

The new era in food surveillance began on 1 July 2008 and will better protect the reputations of food businesses. Consumers will be aware of the increased level of surveillance through consistent application of the Food Safety Standards and the publication of those who break the law.

## WHAT WILL IT COST YOUR BUSINESS?

Previously, Council charged a yearly fee based on the size of the business. This inspection fee was only charged once regardless of the number of inspections undertaken during the year. This fee was different for the two categories of business found in Holroyd City— i) Food shops and ii) Clubs, Hotels and Restaurants

Under the NSW Food Regulation Partnership, in the 2008/2009 Financial Year, Council will charge:-

a)	Annual administration fee	\$55
b)	Inspection fees	
	i) Food Shops	\$171.20
	ii) Clubs Hotels and Restaurants	\$247.36
c)	Re-inspection fee	\$77.30
d)	Improvement Notice administration fee	\$330

The annual administration fee has been introduced to cover the cost of Council administering a food surveillance program. Inspection fees will be charged upon completion of an inspection and a re-inspection fee charged if a deficit is found and a re-inspection required. If a serious breach is identified, Council will issue an Improvement Notice which includes the administration fee. This fee covers the cost to Council of preparing the Improvement Notice and one inspection to check that the issues identified in the Improvement Notice have been addressed. This fee has been prescribed in legislation.

Council will be reviewing it's fee structure, except the Improvement Notice Fee, in the first half of the 2008/2009 financial year. This review will look at the cost to the Holroyd Community of the Food Regulation Partnership and ensure consistency with other Councils.

## Name and Shame Laws

If you break the law your details can now be published on the NSW Food Authority Web Site. In April this year the State Government passed laws that allows the details of those who are issued a Penalty Infringement Notice or are prosecuted in Court to be published.

Details that can be made public include your business name, address and details of the offence.

## OUR TEAM

Holroyd City Council recently reviewed it's staff resources to allow us to fulfill our responsibilities under the NSW Food Regulation Partnership. After this Council resolved to appoint an additional Environmental Health Officer.

Council's Team is:-

Stuart Nunn, Senior Environmental Health Officer

Patricia Torres, Environmental Health Officer

Kate Barraclough, Trainee Environmental Health Officer

Anna Orlovic, Environmental Health Officer

