



Council has a statutory role to ensure the sale of food within the district is safe for consumers.

Under the requirements of the *Food Act 2001*, all businesses undertaking food handling activities or selling food are required to notify their local council. Operating a food business without notifying Council is an offence and penalties may apply.

A **food business notification** form must be completed within 3 months of commencing operations. This form can be found on Council's website.

Businesses are also required to notify Council of changes in ownership or contact information, change of business name and when the business ceases to operate.

Food businesses must be aware of and be able to demonstrate food safety according to the **South Australia's food safety legislation**.

South Australia food safety legislation:

- Food Act 2001
- Food Safety Standards
- - 3.1.1 Interpretation & Application
- - 3.2.2 Food Safety Practices & General Requirements
- - 3.2.3 Premises and Equipment
- - 3.2.2A Food Safety Management Tools (starts 8 December 2023)

Environmental Health Officers

Environmental Health Officers have the responsibility to protect public health through a range of roles including:

- Surveillance of food businesses.
- Follow up of consumer complaints regarding poor food handling, contaminants, poor hygiene etc.
- Follow up of confirmed food poisoning.
- Advice regarding the fit out of new food premises or upgrades of existing businesses.
- Educational role providing general food safety advice and training to business owners and the community.
- Environmental Health Officers have the powers relevant to the legislation to:
 - Enter any premises to conduct an inspection and take samples
 - Require you to produce any license, registration, permit, approval, certificate or other documentation
 - Question any person(s) related to the business
 - Seize and detain any articles or equipment
 - Open containers and packages
 - Take photographs, video, other images and audio

Enquiries can be made to the Environmental Health Team.

Phone: (08) 8391 7200 | Email: health@mountbarker.sa.gov.au | Web: www.mountbarker.sa.gov.au

Food Business Requirements Information Sheet



MOUNT BARKER
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Food inspections

Food inspections are normally carried out without prior notice. The frequency of inspections vary depending on the risk associated with the business and the condition of the business as assessed by the officer at each visit.

Inspection intervals range from every 12 months (highest risk) to every 18 months (lowest risk). However, timeframes can change depending on the seriousness of non-compliances identified and history of offences.

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