

Floors 6 & 7, Clive House 70 Petty France London SW1H 9EX

29 April 2022

URN: INCEN22003

Letter category: Incidents Classification: Official Priority type: Priority Notification: Food

Keywords: Salmonella, Outbreak, Request for Action, Ferrero, Kinder, Incident

Reference I-002-984

For food law enforcement in England

Action required following the issue of product recall information notice for products related to an outbreak of *Salmonella typhimurium*

Summary: The assistance of local authorities is sought to help raise awareness of <u>FSA-PRIN-22-2022</u> and its updates in small independent and franchise retailers.

Dear colleague,

Following our Product Recall Information Notices (PRIN) published on <u>2 April 2022</u> and updated on <u>6 April and 8 April 2022</u>, work has continued to investigate the Monophasic *Salmonella typhimurium* outbreak linked to Kinder chocolate products produced in Belgium and distributed across the UK, Europe and other third countries. Investigations continue. Should further unsafe products be identified, further update PRINs will be issued.

Concerns have been raised regarding the efficacy of the product withdrawal and recall in reaching small independent and franchise retailers, and that some of the affected products may remain on sale. Ferrero has advised that it has employed independent auditors to undertake surveys of small retailers to check for display of recalled products.

Feedback from initial visits confirms that recalled product remains on sale at some retailers. Where possible Ferrero is purchasing the product to discard it. We have requested that Ferrero notifies the FSA and the relevant local authorities of the stores where it finds product on shelves, so that local authorities are aware and can make direct contact with the retail stores that have been found to not comply with the product recall and withdrawal.

In light of the seriousness of the foodborne outbreak, with a number of young children becoming seriously unwell and many reported cases being admitted to hospital, we are seeking the assistance of local authorities in ensuring that smaller food retailers, both independent and franchise chains, are aware of the product recall and that the affected products have been withdrawn and removed from sale.

We are also aware that retailers commonly remove point of sale notices approximately two or three weeks after the product recall has occurred. We request that local authorities also encourage small retailers to continue to display the <u>point of sale notice</u> in a prominent position that increases the likelihood of consumers seeing the recall. The FSA has made a similar request to retailers via the British Retail Consortium and the Association of Convenience Stores.

Product details:

Product names	Pack sizes	Best before dates
Kinder Surprise	20g	All dates up to and including 4 January 2023
Kinder Surprise	20g x 3 pack	All dates up to and including 4 January 2023
Kinder Surprise	100g	All dates up to and including 21 August 2022
Kinder Mini eggs	75g	All dates up to and including 21 August 2022
Kinder Egg Hunt Kit	150g	All dates up to and including 21 August 2022
Kinder Schokobons	70g, 200g and 320g	All dates up to and including 4 January 2023

Actions to be taken by enforcement authorities:

Local authorities are requested to contact small independent and franchise chain food retailers within their area to:

- 1. Raise awareness of the product withdrawal and recall by means of social media, telephone, letter or email. Assets to assist with this communication have been included in annex A;
- 2. Re-iterate the importance of displaying the point of sale notices in a prominent location visible to consumers who visit the store using similar communication channels;
- 3. Spot check small retailers, where resources permit; and
- 4. Ensure that any affected products that are found to be on sale are removed.

Please contact foodincidents@food.gov.uk if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

PM Polling

Tina Potter

Head of Incidents, Food Standards Agency

Telephone: 020 7276 8448

Email: foodincidents@food.gov.uk

Annex A - Local authority message to retailers

Kinder Products Recall – An update from the Food Standards Agency













We are asking all retailers to make sure they have removed Kinder products linked to an outbreak of salmonella from their shelves. The products are believed to have caused a significant number of children to become seriously unwell, with many reported cases being admitted to hospital.

Product details:

Product names	Pack sizes	Best before dates
Kinder Surprise	20g	All dates up to and including 04 January 2023
Kinder Surprise	20g x 3 pack	All dates up to and including 04 January 2023
Kinder Surprise	100g	All dates up to and including 21 August 2022
Kinder Mini eggs	75g	All dates up to and including 21 August 2022
Kinder Egg Hunt Kit	150g	All dates up to and including 21 August 2022

Kinder	70g, 200g and	All dates up to and including 04 January
Schokobons	320g	2023

An earlier recall only covered some of the products above, so it is important to check you have removed from sale the additional products that were included in the later, updated recall notices. The updated recall includes all Kinder products manufactured at their Arlon site in Belgium between June 2021 and the present date. Investigations have identified that some products included in the recall remain on sale.

The packaging of recalled products may not refer to the Belgium factory where they were produced and may include a different contact address, so it is extremely important that you check products against the list in the recall notice to make sure your customers are not being put at risk.