

Do you sell packaged uncooked meat from a stall or van (including a licensed meat transport vehicle) at a farmer's market?

You need to know ...

New arrangements are now in force in Victoria to regulate stalls and vehicles selling packaged uncooked meat or chicken at markets, including farmers' markets.

The arrangements apply to businesses operating stalls or vans where:

- the uncooked meat (including chicken) has all been processed, packaged in leak-proof containers, and labelled at a meat processing facility with a current licence from [Primesafe](#) (or an equivalent licence from another State or Territory body); and
- the meat is being sold:
 - in this packaging;
 - to the public.

Councils regulate this activity under the Food Act, in the situations outlined in this brochure.

Food safety at markets

Businesses selling packaged meat must handle the food safely, and comply with the [Food Standards Code](#). The packaged meat must either be stored frozen or, if it is not to be frozen, then at 5° or below, in the vehicle, van or stall until it is sold.

Approval to operate

(1) **Selling packaged meat from a licensed meat transport vehicle at a market**

If you are selling such pre-packaged meat as described above to the public **at a market** from a meat transport vehicle for which you or your business hold a current [Primesafe](#) licence (or an equivalent licence from another State or Territory authority), you do not need to register the vehicle again.

You must:

- notify your principal council once about this activity from the vehicle using a tailored notification form; and
- lodge a tailored statement of trade (SOT).

These specialised notification and statement of trade forms can be found at the Department of Health's food safety website at:

www.health.vic.gov.au/foodsafety/bus/mobile.htm

(If you have already registered this vehicle with a council under the Food Act for this activity, you do not need to renew that registration if your vehicle has a current Primesafe licence. Lodge a notification form as outlined above instead.)

As these new arrangements have only just been made, [Streatrader](#), the new website for temporary and mobile food premises, is not available for this activity at this stage.

Under this notification, you can also sell only pre-packaged low risk food such as bottled preserves or sauces at the same time, provided that food is stored separately to the meat.

You must also keep the required "minimum records" under the Food Act, as sale of pre-packaged uncooked meat is a "class 3" activity for all businesses. The record sheet is Sheet A (for fixed and mobile food premises). It is available at: www.health.vic.gov.au/foodsafety/downloads/minimum_records_sheet_a.pdf

The relevant records are:

- record 1 (supplier details);
- record 2 (a weekly check of whether the pre-packaged meat is stored at the correct temperature (kept frozen until sale or at 5° or below), carried out each week that the vehicle/stall is used to store or transport/sell the meat); and
- record 3 (about the temperature of delivered meat, if the business receives deliveries from another business. This is not required if the business collects the meat.).

(2) Selling packaged meat from any other vehicle or stall

For all other sales of such pre-packaged meat to the public from any other vehicle or stall, you must register the stall or vehicle in the usual manner with your principal council.

You must also lodge a statement of trade about trading times and locations with each council in whose district the business trades, and with the principal council.

BUT NOTE: *if the sale of such pre-packaged meat to the public is the main activity you conduct at any of these registered stall or vehicles, you can ONLY conduct that activity at a market.*

Council will advise about the classification of your stall or van, based on all of the food handled there. This will determine the type of records that apply. If the only high risk food that is sold from the stall or van is pre-packaged meat (with or without pre-packaged low risk food such as bottled preserves or sauces) then the minimum records referred to on the previous page must be kept to demonstrate that the food is being handled safely. Council will advise what is required, if other high risk food is sold.

Not yet registered / notified?

If your stall or vehicle is not already registered with your principal council, you can apply in [Streatrader](#), the new online registration/notification website for temporary and mobile food premises.

For further information about [Streatrader](#), please go to <https://streatrader.health.vic.gov.au>, or call 1300 085 767 or email streatrader@health.vic.gov.au.

Currently registered / notified?

If you have already registered your stall or vehicle with your principal council under the Food Act, you can apply in [Streatrader](#) after your existing details have been entered into the system.

Do **not** use [Streatrader](#) until your current registration details have been included in the system.

- *Letter received from Department of Health*

Some currently registered stall holders and van operators will shortly receive a letter from the Department of Health confirming that their existing details have been entered into the system. This letter also explains what these businesses must do.

If you have already registered your meat stall or van:

- these existing registrations remain valid until the expiry date listed on the registration certificate. If you wish to continue to sell food from your stall or van after this date, and if registration is required, you will need to renew their registration with your principal council;
- you can register your vehicle in [Streatrader](#), but only **when your council advises you that it is time to renew**;
- if you plan to trade at a future farmers' market which you haven't advised councils about yet, a new statement of trade about these **new activities** can be lodged now in [Streatrader](#);
- *Letter NOT YET received from Department of Health*

If you have already registered your meat stall or van with council under the Food Act, but have NOT received advice from the Department of Health or a council that this registration has been included in [Streatrader](#), you should **not** apply in [Streatrader](#) at this stage. Contact your principal council first, to ensure that this information is in the system.

- A renewal of registration of class 2 or 3 premises can be lodged when council advises that this is necessary. In addition, new applications can be made, and statements of trade updated.
- It is important that you do not apply in [Streatrader](#) until you receive confirmation from council that you can do so. In the meantime, any further applications or statements of trade that you want to make or lodge, and which cannot be included in [Streatrader](#) at this time, should be lodged with council using the existing paper forms.

More information about Food Act

For more information about how the Food Act applies to food vans and stalls at farmers' markets, and for advice about when a premises is class 2, 3 or 4, go to:

www.health.vic.gov.au/foodsafety/bus/mobile.htm

November 2012

Authorised by the State Government of Victoria
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