



**Trader Notice No. 4/2020**

**16 July 2020**

**Re: Inspections by DAFM Feedingstuffs, Fertiliser, Grain and Poultry Division to verify compliance with the Return to Work Safely Protocol and associated measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the workplace.**

To: Feed Business Operators  
Egg Packing Centres  
Egg collectors  
IGFA  
Irish Egg Association

As the country moves through the phases of the Government's roadmap for "*Reopening Society and Business*", we would like to make you aware of the obligations under The Return to Work Safely Protocol (<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/22829a-return-to-work-safely-protocol/>) which was designed to support employers and workers to put measures in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the workplace.

The Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine has given a commitment that inspectors from this Department will work with the HSA to inspect for compliance with the Return to Work Safely Protocol in premises where we carry out routine inspections.

The Return to Work Safely Protocol outlines the control measures that need to be in place and these are the key measures that must be in place:

1. A Return to Work Safely Protocol, specific to your premises
2. A lead worker representative must be identified, where appropriate
3. Adequate controls must be in place to stop the spread of the disease.
4. Training on the protocol must be provided to all staff

There are a series of checklists and templates that can be used to assist with compliance with the measures and these are available on the HSA website [https://www.hsa.ie/eng/topics/covid-19/return to work safely templates checklists and posters/](https://www.hsa.ie/eng/topics/covid-19/return%20to%20work%20safely%20templates%20checklists%20and%20posters/)

This Division recognises that this past number of months have been very difficult for you and your staff.

The Department urges all businesses to be vigilant and to implement strict COVID-19 procedures on their premises. It is also critically important to maintain and to update procedures regularly in line with HSE guidance.

If you require any further information, please email [Feedenquiries@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:Feedenquiries@agriculture.gov.ie)

Yours sincerely,

Feedingstuff, Fertiliser, Grain and Poultry Division  
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