

NOTE

On the implications of the [Great Britain Nutrition and Health Claims register](#) (Jan 2021) and [Nutrition and health claims: guidance to compliance with Regulation \(EC\) 1924/2006](#) (Jan 2021)

From the guidance, extracts only; the full guidance should be read:

Nutrition law

Following the UK's departure from the EU on 31 January 2020, the UK entered a time-limited transition period until 31 December 2020. Now the transition period has ended, regulation is an autonomous matter for both the UK and EU as 2 separate legal and regulatory systems. The government remains committed to promoting robust food standards nationally and internationally, to protect consumer interests, and to ensure that consumers can have confidence in the food they buy.

[Section 1](#) of this guidance outlines for businesses those changes relating to nutrition and health claims from 1 January 2021.

1.5 Northern Ireland

The Northern Ireland Protocol was published in October 2019 as part of the Withdrawal Agreement to address the 'unique circumstances on the island of Ireland'.

The UK government published a [Command Paper](#) on its approach to the NIP on 20 May 2020 and further information can be found there, in addition to [business guidance on GOV.UK](#).

The NIP was designed as a practical solution to avoiding a hard border on the island of Ireland, whilst ensuring that the UK, including Northern Ireland, could leave the EU as a whole. It therefore included a number of special provisions which apply only in Northern Ireland, for as long as the NIP is in force.

The NIP means that EU legislation relating to nutrition, as detailed in Annex 2 to the NIP, continues to be directly applicable in Northern Ireland.

1.8 GB Nutrition and Health Claims Register

All nutrition and health claims that are listed in the Community Register, as of 1 January 2021, have been adopted and included in the [Great Britain Nutrition and Health Claims Register](#) (GB NHC Register).

This means that where the European Commission had not taken a decision on an application related to a nutrition or health claim by 1 January 2021, a new application must be submitted to the appropriate GB authorities for assessment if the applicant wishes for the claim to be authorised for use in the GB market. Where a scientific opinion regarding the efficacy of a claim is available, from the European Food Safety Authority or other scientific advisory body, this should be included with an application in accordance with Commission Regulation 353/2008 (paragraph 5 of the Annex) and [Part 1.7 of the application form](#). The appropriate UK authorities will determine whether any such opinion is sufficient to inform a risk management decision or if further risk assessment is required.

All authorised and rejected nutrition and health claims will be listed in the GB NHC Register, other than those health claims authorised on the basis of proprietary data which will be recorded in a separate Annex to the GB NHC Register.

The [GB NHC Register](#), and the separate Annex, are available on GOV.UK.

Communication of changes

Any future amendments to the [GB NHC Register](#) will be communicated via regular bulletins published on GOV.UK.

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