

PE2178/B: Introduce mandatory latex labelling for food products sold in Scotland

Scottish Government written submission, 17 December 2025

I write in response to your request on behalf of the Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee with regard to Petition PE2178 which states the following:

'Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to introduce mandatory latex labelling on food products sold in Scotland if there is a chance of contamination.'

The Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee considered the above petition at its meeting on 12 November 2025. At that meeting, the Committee agreed to ask the Scottish Government whether:

- the exploration of consumer protection measures will consider how to alert consumers to allergens, such as latex, that can be present in food packaging.
- the Scottish Government will work with the UK Government when considering options for packaging-based consumer protection measures.

The Scottish Government's response to the petition is set out below.

Food Standards Scotland (FSS) has responsibility for the policies around food safety, food contact materials and general food labelling in Scotland. Food Standards Scotland intends to explore what scope there may be to include statements or warnings about non-food allergens on packaging under general consumer protection law. Allergens, such as latex, found on labelling for food products is classed as non-food.

Non-food consumer protection matters are reserved to the UK government with the General Product Safety Regulations 2005 providing a framework for compliance and enforcement to ensure consumer products in the UK are safe before they are sold.

Officials within Food Standards Scotland will discuss options for packaging-based consumer protection measures with their counterparts in UK government and highlight the points raised in this petition.

I hope the Committee finds this information helpful.

Directorate for Population Health