

28 February 2019

Reference: Update 6/ 18-19

To all interested parties:

### **Updated Classifications of the Bivalve Mollusc Production Areas in England & Wales for 2018-19**

The Food Standards Agency wishes to notify you of the following update to the classifications of bivalve mollusc production areas. These amendments have been made under Regulation (EC) 854/2004 and take immediate effect.

#### **Upgrades**

##### **Lune - Pilling Sands (*C. edule*) B066W**

This zone was downgraded from class B to class C in July 2018 following 3 poor results between July and September 2017 and a further poor result in June 2018. Monitoring at the RMP has been intermittent due to extended periods of closures and poor stocks of cockles. Monitoring has been continuous since June 2017. The current 1 and 3 year compliance figures stand at 95.2% (21 samples and 1 failure) and 89.2% (37 samples and 4 failures) respectively and therefore the site not currently meet the current criteria for a year-round upgrade.

All the high results recorded thus far have occurred between June and September and there is a clear seasonal trend in the dataset. A transition period of 1<sup>st</sup> October to 30<sup>th</sup> of November and a season from 1<sup>st</sup> December to 31<sup>st</sup> May yields 100% compliance over 1 and 3 years. Therefore, this site is upgraded to a seasonal class B. All recent results have been within class B limits therefore the bed may commence its class B season immediately.

##### **Liverpool Bay – Leasowe and New Brighton (*C. edule*) B058R**

This zone was reclassified as class C in September 2017. It had been temporarily declassified due to poor stock levels, leading to a reduced classification dataset. The local authority has undertaken fortnightly sampling since May 2018 to increase the dataset. The 1 year compliance currently stands at 94.7% (19 samples) and 3 year compliance is 90% (30 samples).

Therefore, the site now meets the criteria for upgrade to year-round class B.

### **DESIGNATED BIVALVE MOLLUSC PRODUCTION AREAS IN ENGLAND AND WALES**

#### **Upgrades**

<b>Production Area</b>	<b>Bed Name</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Comment</b>	<b>Food Authority</b>
Lune	Pilling Sands	<i>C. edule</i>	Seasonal B	<b>Transition period</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> October –30 <sup>th</sup> November <b>Class B season</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> December - 31 <sup>st</sup> May (reverting to class C all other times)	Wyre BC
Liverpool Bay	Leasowe and New Brighton	<i>C. edule</i>	B	---	Mersey PHA

The classification list will be updated on the FSA website:  
<https://www.food.gov.uk/business-guidance/shellfish-classification>

If you require further information or wish to discuss these amendments further, please contact Catherine Miller or David Cracknell on the details below.

Yours sincerely

*CS Miller*

Catherine Miller  
Shellfish Hygiene Delivery  
Regulatory Compliance Division  
Food Standards Agency

Tel: 07388 854683

Email: [shellfish@food.gov.uk](mailto:shellfish@food.gov.uk)