

Press Release

2 May 2008

CONSULTANCY BOOSTS HYGIENE

Bristol-based employment consultancy, PES, has launched a health and safety audit service for pubs and restaurants. The 'legal compliance audit' is designed to help managers prepare for inspection by environmental health officers (EHOs).

From just £100, PES is offering spot checks of any business that prepares food, helping to highlight potential problems that an EHO may spot. Led by an auditor with a strong background in environmental health, the audit will include a variety of checks including basic building structure, temperatures and record keeping, hygiene and stock rotation.

The service is being launched initially in and around Bristol, but is set to be rolled out across the country later this year.

Olivia Van Der Werff commented:

"The aim is really to help managers to reduce the stress of an EHO inspection by pointing out the likely issues at an early stage. The audits are available for all sorts of businesses, from factories to hotels, however we're focusing initially on consumer-facing establishments. Although chains of pubs and restaurants may have extensive support from a head office, smaller independently-run businesses often have little health and safety expertise.

"We've looked carefully at the cost of the audits, and believe that at around £100 the price is pretty low compared to the potential penalty. To help business owners ensure that they can pass an inspection, we also provide detailed feedback on areas for improvement, and certify those businesses that we feel would pass. I believe that this is likely to be an attractive service, benefiting not only the businesses themselves, but also helping to drive up health and safety standards throughout the food industry."

Ends

Issued on behalf of PES by Trimedia.

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