

## **SCORES ON THE DOORS**

### **Not yet rated (NYR) – what does this mean?**

In short this means that this is either a new business or that there have been some changes at the business, the result of which is that there hasn't been a recent enough hygiene inspection upon which we can base a star rating. Usually this is because of a change of ownership. Here is a more detailed explanation.

Food businesses are given a star rating after our officers have carried out a primary food hygiene inspection. The rating is posted on the website within 28 days of the date of the inspection unless there are exceptional circumstances.

If a business is sold then the new owners must register with our department. In effect this "wipes the slate clean" with regard to our interest in the previous owners and our officers have to carry out an inspection of the "new" business within two months of the date of registration even if the last inspection was relatively recently.

The new owners might change the way that the business operates and sometimes they appoint several new members of staff. These changes might affect the standards of hygiene at the business and therefore the new owner can't automatically inherit the existing star rating. Normally, the business won't receive its new star rating until one of our officers has done the first hygiene inspection and in the meantime the business remains "not yet rated (NYR)".

Sometimes a change of ownership doesn't result in significant changes to the business. The new owner might retain all the existing members of staff, there will be no changes to the hygiene procedures and customers are unlikely to notice any differences. However, our officers still need to update our records, decide if the change of ownership warrants a new inspection and determine whether the business can inherit the existing star rating. This may take a few days and in the meantime the business will remain "not yet rated (NYR)".

### **Summary**

There are good reasons why a business appears on the website as "not yet rated". This is usually because of a change of ownership which means that we need to make some changes to our database. This doesn't necessarily mean that customers need to be concerned about standards of hygiene at that business. If necessary, our officers will carry out an inspection within two months of the change of ownership and a new star rating will then be issued.