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PR 6990

26 February 2013

For Immediate Release

Trading Standards announce horse meat test results

Trading Standards officers have received the first batch of results after testing processed beef product tests for the presence of horse meat.

Leicestershire County Council's Trading Standards Service's tests on eight samples have returned negative for horse meat.

However, the presence of pork has been indicated for two of the samples - beefburgers and chopped and shaped beef - which will now undergo further tests.

The council was one of 28 local authorities to carry out the tests after being approached by the Food Standards Agency.

A further five samples have also been taken by the authority, the results of which are likely to be returned by the end of the week .

David Bull, Head of Leicestershire County Council's Trading Standards Service, said: "It is reassuring that the samples we have tested so far have proved negative for the presence of horse meat.

"However, two samples did indicate the presence of pork, which was not listed in the label or product description. Further testing will now be carried out to ascertain the level of pork present."

The results of tests on two school food products are expected by the end of this week

NB Trading Standards carried out a series of unannounced visits. The samples covered a range of products being sold at / distributed from a range of various types of outlets (ie supermarkets, mobile / takeaways, and other retail outlets)

