



## Selling Cheese, Fish, Meat and Poultry

Schedule 3, Part 1, Paragraph 2 of the Weights and Measures (Guernsey and Alderney) Law 1991 applies to the following food:-

- Cheese
- Fish, meat or poultry of any description, whether fresh, chilled, frozen, salted, cooked or processed,
- Sausage-meat in any form, whether cooked or uncooked,
- Any article, though it also contains other food, consists substantially of cheese, fish, meat, poultry or sausage-meat,

Food as described above, **when not pre-packed**, shall be sold by retail, either by:-

1. Net weight; or
2. Gross weight provided the container does not exceed the permitted weight shown in the table below.

Sausage meat in any form, in a quantity above 500g, whether cooked or uncooked must also be sold in the manner described above.

Food as described above (other than cheese and fish), shall, **if sold otherwise than by retail**, be sold only by:

1. Net weight; or
2. Gross weight provided the container does not exceed the permitted weight shown in the table below.

Gross Weight	Permitted Weight of Container
Not exceeding 500g	5g
Exceeding 500g	10g per kg of the gross weight

Pre-packed food as described above (other than cheese or food in a quantity of less than 5g) must be packed by **net weight**. The container must be marked with an indication of the quantity by net weight.

Schedule 3, Part 1, Paragraph 5 of the Weights and Measures (Guernsey and Alderney) Law 1991 requires that cheese, of the following descriptions, be pre-packed only if the container is marked with a quantity by **net weight**:

- Processed cheese
- Cheese spread
- Natural cheese which is Caerphilly, Cheddar, Cheshire, Derby, Double Gloucestershire, Dunlop, Edam, Gouda, Guernsey, Lancashire, Leicestershire or Wensleydale cheese



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Schedule 3, Part 1, Paragraph 6 requires that any other cheese, be pre-packed only if the container is marked with a quantity by **net weight** except for:

- Whole Stilton cheese
- Cheese in a quantity of less than 25 g and more than 10 kg
- Cheese sold by gross weight, in a permitted container (refer to the above permitted weight of container tables), if the quantity is made known to the buyer before he pays for and takes possession of the goods.

The above requirements do not apply to the following products:

- Dripping, lard, fish paste, meat paste, poultry paste, shredded suet;
- Cooked poultry;
- Shellfish in shell, jellied fish, pickled fish, fried fish;
- Single cooked sausages in natural casings weighing less than 500g;
- Sausage meat products (other than in the form of a sausage) in a quantity less than 500g.

## Other Exemptions

The above requirements do not apply to single items of the following products:

- Pies, puddings or flans containing fish, meat or poultry;
- Bath Chaps;
- Sausage Rolls.

Where more than one of these is pre-packed, the container must either be:

1. Marked with an indication of quantity by net weight; or
2. Marked with an indication of quantity by number of items; or
3. Transparent so that the number of items is clearly visible and easily countable through the container.

However, when dripping is sold pre-packed it must be sold by **net weight** in the prescribed quantities of 50g, 125g, 250g, 500g or a multiple of 500g up to and including 4kg. This does not apply to packages with a net weight of less than 5g.

## Definitions of Expressions Used

**Net Weight** means the weight of the goods being sold but must not include the weight of any container or wrapper they may be supplied with.

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**Gross Weight** means the weight of the foods together with the weight of any immediate container or wrapper.

**Pre-packed** means made up in advance of sale in or on a container or wrapper and included goods wrapped with a band or string.

## Important Note

*This leaflet is a guide to the Law, but is not an authoritative interpretation of the Law, which is ultimately a matter for the Courts. While every care has been taken in preparation the States of Guernsey cannot accept any liability in law for its contents or interpretation.*