



Chartered
Institute of
Environmental
Health



Earned Recognition – Policy Statement

A fundamental policy of the CIEH is that consumers and workers are properly protected through the application of the law relating to food safety and health and safety at work. Many CIEH members are employed by local authorities to ensure that businesses comply with such laws and others are employed by businesses that are subject to the laws.

Businesses (such as supermarkets) that have outlets in many areas of the country (so called multi-site businesses) have policies and procedures of their own relating to food safety and health and safety which are designed to ensure that the business meets all its legal obligations. Responsible businesses that have robust policies and procedures in place believe that local authorities should recognise and acknowledge that they (the businesses) therefore represent a lower risk of failing to comply with the law and that they act responsibly to protect their workers and customers. They believe that local authorities can therefore confidently reduce the risk rating assigned to the relevant outlet(s) which would result in fewer inspections and allow authorities to concentrate their resources on smaller, higher risk, businesses.

The CIEH believes that businesses are entitled to earn this recognition provided that they demonstrate an ongoing achievement of high standards of compliance but without prejudice to the ability of local authorities to use the law to address serious cases of non compliance when necessary.

The CIEH has established the following policy on Earned Recognition:

- 1. The CIEH believes that compliance with the law by organisations to ensure the safety of their premises, working practices, products and services should be secured by competent professionals.**
- 2. The CIEH also recognises that organisations that can demonstrate an ongoing and effective compliance with legislation are entitled to earn proportionate recognition.**
- 3. The CIEH recognises that consumers and workers are entitled to effective protection through the equitable, proportionate and fair application of legislative standards. When necessary, this should be through the use of effective regulatory sanctions by a properly resourced and competent regulatory workforce using an evidence and risk based approach.**