

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH FACT SHEET

No. 217

### ***FOOD SAFETY - PURCHASING AN EXISTING FOOD PREMISES***

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It is always preferable that you contact your local Environmental Health Officer (EHO) before purchasing an existing food business.

# fact sheet

It is strongly advised that an inspection is carried out before purchasing the business. There may be some outstanding requirements or other matters that the EHO would like to bring to your attention in relation to that premises. A release of information form will need to be completed by the existing proprietor of the premises before an EHO can carry out the inspection of the premises.

Any items found to be in contravention of the relevant legislation may then be used as conditions of settlement for the business.

You are required to register as a Food Business as registration is not transferable. The application forms are available by contacting us on 8922 7377.

#### **OTHER LICENCES / PERMITS**

- If the premises is currently operating as a **boarding house**, or if you wish to offer accommodation, your local EHO will be able to assist with licensing and other requirements.
- If the premises **processes or sells fish** to members of the public or if you plan to commence these activities you must obtain a Fish Retailer Licence. For further information contact the Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development on 8999 2144.
- If you plan to start placing **tables and chairs on the footpath** outside a restaurant for patrons to use, you may require a Sidewalk Café Permit. For further information, contact your local Council.
- If the premises sells **alcohol** you must obtain a Liquor Licence from the Customer Service Officer, Racing, Gaming and Licensing, Department of Industries and Business (8999 1800).

For more information contact your local Environmental Health Office.

Contact details can be found at

[http://www.health.nt.gov.au/Environmental\\_Health/Contact\\_us/index.aspx](http://www.health.nt.gov.au/Environmental_Health/Contact_us/index.aspx)