

**Submission (Draft Food (Jersey) Regulations) – Jersey Association of Child Carers – 17<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

My name is Christina Jandron, and I am the Chairperson of the Jersey Association of Child Carers. I am writing to you in relation to the scrutiny hearings currently taking place on the draft Food (Jersey) Regulations.

As someone living with coeliac disease on the Island, I welcome this legislation. It is extremely difficult to eat out safely in Jersey, and it is refreshing to see this issue finally being addressed.

However, I am contacting you on behalf of our association, whose members are all self-employed child carers. At present, there appears to be very limited information available about how the draft regulations will apply in practice. From the brief overview available, it seems that anyone providing, selling, or making food for a consumer or customer would fall somewhere within the scope of the regulations.

This raises significant concerns for child carers. Although we are self-employed and technically small businesses, we do not operate like cafés or restaurants, nor do most of us make a profit beyond our personal wage. Many child carers provide food to children in their care as part of their service. This can take different forms:

- Some carers hand over lunchboxes containing home-made or pre-packed food for the children from their parents.
- Others provide home-cooked meals that they purchase and prepare themselves, with families either charged separately or the cost included in the hourly fee.

In all cases, food is being provided to children for whom we are being paid to care. Even when food is supplied by parents, it is still being handed over and managed within our settings.

We are therefore seeking clarification on whether child carers would fall under these regulations, and if so, under which category. Specifically, it would be extremely helpful if questions could be put to those drafting the legislation regarding how self-employed child carers are classified, if at all.

The proposed low, medium, and high-risk categories are particularly worrying. Many child carers earn very modest incomes, and the introduction of licence fees or additional financial and administrative burdens could result in carers either ceasing to provide food altogether or leaving the profession entirely as another hurdle hits us.

Clear guidance on this matter is vital for our members, so they can plan appropriately and continue to provide safe, affordable care for families in Jersey.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration. We would be grateful for any clarification you are able to provide or raise during the scrutiny process.