## FOI 0535/2025 Response

I am writing to make a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I would like to request the following information regarding the use of processed meats containing nitrates or nitrites in meals provided by your authority.

1. Does your organisation procure or serve processed meat (such as bacon, ham, sausages, or other cured meats) that contain nitrates or nitrites as preservatives?

Yes

2. If so, please provide details of the types of processed meat served and any guidance or policies in place regarding their procurement.

Bacon (smoked and unsmoked), ham and various sausages and their products.

There are no specific policies in place regarding their procurement, but we comply with The Government Buying Standards for Food and Catering Services (DHSC) and the National Standards for Healthcare Food and Drink (NHS England).