Question for written answer E-002131/2019 to the Commission
Rule 130
Keith Taylor (Verts/ALE)

Subject: National measures concerning the provision of information about allergens to consumers of non-prepacked food

Article 44 of Regulation (EU) 1169/2011 on the provision of food information to consumers allows Member States to adopt national measures concerning the provision of information about allergens to consumers of non-prepacked food.

On 13 July 2017, the Commission adopted a notice on the provision of information on substances or products causing allergies or intolerances. This notice specified that if a Member State has adopted national provisions then, in principle, all means of communication as regards the provision of allergen information are allowed, including oral communication. However, in the absence of national measures, the provisions of Regulation (EU) 1169/2011 concerning prepacked food are also applicable to non-prepacked food. This means that 'information about allergens must be easily visible, clearly legible and, where appropriate, indelible and be provided in a written form'.

1. Which Member States have, to date, adopted national provisions in this regard and communicated them to the Commission?
2. What is the content of these national provisions?
3. What further measures, if any, is the Commission considering in order to strengthen the rules and guidelines governing communication to consumers about allergens in non-prepacked food and their effective enforcement, especially in the light of the tragic deaths of two Pret A Manger customers in the UK, which have been linked to possible allergic reactions?