



**'Free from' manufacturer of certified,  
ethical confectionery & foods.  
Registered brands;- Plamil,  
So free chocolate,  
Lots of this none of that,  
Expressions.**

26-4-2017

## **Plamil chocolate safe for those with peanut allergy**

Over many years we have produced millions of chocolate bars with allergy claims and we are aware that there are many people who rely on us to continue to manufacture to the high standards which they require. Plamil is a no nut site and also has an externally accredited quality management system which includes HACCP.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> April 2017 the Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI) issued a test result on Expressions No added sugar chocolate ID1655 T2 which stated that a detection of peanut protein at a calculated value of 35% of the VITAL 2 level which is deemed to trigger an allergic reaction, in a whole 100g bar. These values are on the absolute limit of detection and come with caveats of technical issues. Testing is a valuable tool, but without expert interpretation it is possible this can lead to information which could cause confusion. It has also raised the question that a more suitable test maybe required for chocolate containing certain ingredients.

**Kent County Council Trading Standards (with whom we have a Primary Authority partnership) are in possession of additional test reports and are satisfied that consumption of the product does not pose a risk to peanut allergy sufferers and are liaising with the FSA and FSAI on Plamil's behalf.**

With the prominence that Plamil has in producing foods for those with allergies it is not surprising that at some point in time there is a question asked of us and we are always learning more.

In addition to working closely with Trading Standards Plamil also works with organisations such as the Anaphylaxis Campaign and we take matters such as these very seriously. We are committed to providing clear quick and informative information to consumers. It is hoped that lessons learnt from this incident will be useful to all manufacturers, distributors, Authorities and the Anaphylaxis campaign.

Plamil continues in its dedication to produce chocolate and other foods for those with allergies so that they may enjoy with confidence.

### **Reg'd Office / Factory**

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