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Briefing Note

The Regulators Compliance Code

The Regulators Compliance Code <http://www.berr.gov.uk/files/file45019.pdf> is a statutory code of practice which came into force on 6th April 2008 and to which the Gangmasters Licensing Authority must comply.

The Code stresses the need for regulators to adopt a positive and proactive approach towards ensuring compliance by: helping and encouraging regulated entities to understand and meet regulatory requirements more easily; and responding proportionately to regulatory breaches. The principles that regulators should follow are:

1. Regulators should recognise that a key element of their activity will be to allow, or even encourage, economic progress and only to intervene when there is a clear case for protection.
2. Regulators, and the regulatory system as a whole, should use comprehensive risk assessment to concentrate resources in the areas that need them most.
3. Regulators should provide authoritative, accessible advice easily and cheaply
4. No inspection should take place without a reason
5. Businesses should not have to give unnecessary information or give the same piece of information twice.
6. The few businesses that persistently break regulations should be identified quickly and face proportionate and meaningful sanctions.
7. Regulators should be accountable for the efficiency and effectiveness of their activities, while remaining independent in the decisions they take.