



## European Food Safety Authority

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### EFSA and its Relations with Parma and its citizens

The **European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)** is the keystone of European Union (EU) risk assessment regarding food and feed safety. In close collaboration with national authorities and in open consultation with its stakeholders, EFSA provides independent scientific advice and clear communication on existing and emerging risks.

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1. The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) is committed to the successful integration of its structures, staff, and functions into the Commune and Province of Parma, and the Region of Emilia Romagna.
2. In this respect the EFSA will work closely with the Commune, the Provincial, Regional and National Authorities to ensure the smooth integration of the Authority into the area.
3. EFSA acknowledges the very high standards and quality of life in the area of Parma and the surrounding area and recognises the pleasant and efficient environment that is offered for EFSA and its staff to settle in. EFSA will strive to ensure that the integration of the people and structures of the Authority maintain the pleasant environment and quality of life of the area, and try as far as possible to enhance these.
4. EFSA will forge links with representatives of civil society, stakeholders and other organizations to build a secure understanding of the needs of the local population in relation to EFSA's presence in Parma, and will contribute to the fullest extent to the development of the community.
5. EFSA will take a proactive approach to developing close links with academic, scientific, technical institutes and local businesses in the area.
6. While recognizing that the influx of new people into the area will have mainly positive effects on the city and area around Parma, EFSA will act to ensure that any potential negative impacts are minimized by working closely with the relevant authorities. EFSA will not only work to build a secure understanding of needs of the local population but also to contribute to meeting these needs.
7. EFSA will ensure that building and design work carried out for EFSA's premises is subject to appropriate consultation and on a careful assessment of the full range of possible impacts of any building projects.

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8. Staff members will have many of the same needs as local residents as they integrate into Parma society. EFSA recognises that its staff depend on the goodwill of the people of Parma for their safety and welfare, and for that of their families and children. Staff will make every effort to settle fully into their new environment by respecting the traditions of the area, and seeking to integrate well into society in general.
9. EFSA and its staff will uphold the principles of good neighbours and will listen openly and react swiftly to any concerns raised. To this end, EFSA will have a designated liaison officer as a first point of contact for those seeking dialogue.
10. EFSA staff as individuals will uphold the highest standards of civil behaviour and act courteously and appropriately at all times recognising their key role as ambassadors of EFSA and the European Institutions.

### Note to the Board

The Executive Director has written to the Presidents of the Region and the Province and to the major of Parma to establish a Liaison Committee with the authorities in order to pursue the objective of developing further the close relations between EFSA and the local authorities. All layers of government approached have indicated a positive interest in accepting this offer.