



British Glass

# Position Statement (May 2024)

## Container glass

This statement addresses some of the more common enquiries about glass containers and the substances they contain.

The thermal process of making glass requires the raw materials including cullet (recycled glass) to be melted at temperatures above 1500°C for over 24 hours. The molten glass exits the furnace after which the glass containers are then formed and annealed at temperatures between 1100°C and 550°C. These high temperatures mean that any non-intentionally added organic substances or foods which are contained in the cullet are destroyed in the furnace. As a result, the final glass does not contain any of the following:

- **Allergens (14 allergens listed in Annex II of the EU Food Information for Consumers Regulation No.1169/2011)**
- **Bisphenol A (BPA) and other phthalates**
- **Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)**
- **MOAH (Mineral Oil Aromatic Hydrocarbon)<sup>(1)</sup>**
- **MOSH (Mineral Oil Saturated Hydrocarbon)<sup>(1)</sup>**
- **Genetically modified organisms (GMOs)**

This also means that glass can be considered halal, kosher, vegan and gluten-free.

(1) MOAHs and MOSHs are present in the swabbing compounds which are applied to the glass container moulds to prevent the hot glass from sticking. When the swabbing compound is applied to the mould surface the mineral oil fraction vaporises leaving a graphite coating. If any MOAH or MOSH was present on the outside surface of the container, then the glass would act as an absolute barrier.