



FHRS/FHIS API

UK Food Hygiene Rating Data Application Programming Interface

Published: March 2013

Last reviewed: August 2023

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Summary

Purpose

The purpose of the guidance is allow anyone to use the API to design, build and running any applications and refer back to this document to deliver the best service to customers.

The API allows developers access to the underlying food hygiene rating data published at <https://ratings.food.gov.uk/>. Developers can query XML files to return the geocoded data (longitude and latitude data are provided for food businesses). The XML data are updated daily and can be found below, grouped by local authority. Wales's local authority data can be output in English or Welsh.

The API can also be used to query the live system (the data are automatically updated as local authorities upload and publish data) and return data in XML and JSON formats.

Guidance for developers

Guidance for developers to access, in XML and JSON formats, the underlying Food Hygiene Rating Scheme (FHRS) and Food Hygiene Information Scheme (FHIS) data published at www.food.gov.uk/ratings. The FHRS is run in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, and the FHIS is run in Scotland.

Which UK countries does this guidance apply to?

- FHRS
 - England
 - Wales
 - Northern Ireland
- FHIS
 - Scotland

Introduction

The FHRS/FHIS system exposes data via XML and JSON through a series of routes. XML data meets the published XSD for FHRS Establishments.

Several different routes have been created to allow differing information to be extracted. These are grouped into four areas: Search, Search-Name, Search-Address, Enhanced-Search (Advanced) and Enhanced-Search (Advanced Location). Each is discussed in the following sections. Each command has several different variations, which are all detailed.

All example calls are given in the format: /.../ is the base of the web site. It is different depending on the server it is running on. For example, on the live server it will be <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/>; on a developer's machine it will be <https://localhost/FHRSWeb>.

Review

We aim to keep all guidance up to date and undertake regular reviews to ensure guidance remains relevant.

Contact us

We welcome your [feedback on this guidance \(https://www.food.gov.uk/fhrs-feedback\)](https://www.food.gov.uk/fhrs-feedback)

Route: /search

This is the basic search operation. It can be called through a cultured or non-cultured URL. The main difference between these is inclusion of a {lang} parameter in cultured URLs.

Command Syntax

Cultured

```
/search/{lang}/{name}/{address}/{sortOrder}/{page}/{pageSize}/{format}
/search/{lang}/{name}/{address}/{page}/{pageSize}/{format}
/search/{lang}/{name}/{address}/{page}/{format}
/search/{lang}/{name}/{address}/{format}
```

Non-Cultured

```
/search/{name}/{address}/{sortOrder}/{page}/{pageSize}/{format}
/search/{name}/{address}/{page}/{pageSize}/{format}
/search/{name}/{address}/{page}/{format}
/search/{name}/{address}/{format}
```

Parameters

The following parameters can be used. The value in the default column is used if the route does not explicitly supply a value. For example, if the route does not specify pageSize, a default value of 10 will be used

Name	Type	Description	Default
lang	String	Must be either en-GB or cy-GB	en-GB
name	String	Name of business to search for. Supplying a ^ (caret) will search for all businesses	-
address	String	Part of the address (or postcode) to search for. Supplying a ^ (caret) will search for all addresses/post codes	
sortOrder	String	Must be one of the following: Alpha Returns the results in the order of Business Name in ascending order.	

- Desc_Alpha
Returns the results in the order of Business Name in descending order
- Type
Returns the results in the order of Business Type in ascending order.
- Desc_Type
Returns the results in the order of Business Type in descending order.
- Rating
Returns the results in the order of Rating in ascending order (5,4,3,2,1,0,Pass, Pass and Eatsafe, Improvement Required, Awaiting Publication, Exempt, Awaiting Inspection)
- Desc_Rating
Returns the results in the order of Rating in descending order (0,1,2,3,4,5, Improvement Required, Pass, Pass and Eatsafe, Awaiting Publication, Exempt, Awaiting Inspection)

page	Numeric	Page to return	1
pageSize	Numeric	The number of results to return in a page	10
format	String	Must be either xml or json	-

Examples for /search route

Following routes can be used to return latest inspection results for:

1. establishments that have 'cafe' in the name and have Norwich in the address:
 - <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search/en-gb/cafe/norwich/xml>
 - <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search/cafe/norwich/xml>
2. establishments that have 'cafe' in the name and have Norwich in the address, returning page 2:
 - <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search/en-gb/cafe/norwich/2/xml>
 - <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search/cafe/norwich/2/xml>
 - <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search/en-gb/cafe/norwich/2/xml>

3. establishments that have 'cafe' in the name and have Norwich in the address, returning page 2, where the page size is 30:

- <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search/cafe/norwich/2/30/xml>
- <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search/en-gb/cafe/norwich/2/30/xml>

4. establishment that have 'cafe' in the name, for all addresses:

- <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search/cafe/^/xml>
- <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search/en-gb/cafe/^/xml>

5. establishments that have Norwich in the address:

- <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search/^/norwich/xml>
- <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search/en-gb/^/norwich/xml>

Route: /search-name

This is very similar to the Search function, except that no address can be supplied.

Command Syntax

Cultured

```
/search-name/{lang}/{name}/{address}/{sortOrder}/{page}/{pageSize}/{format}
```

```
/search-name/{lang}/{name}/{address}/{page}/{pageSize}/{format}
```

```
/search-name/{lang}/{name}/{address}/{page}/{format}
```

```
/search-name/{lang}/{name}/{address}/{format}
```

Non-Cultured

```
/search-name/{name}/{address}/{sortOrder}/{page}/{pageSize}/{format}
```

```
/search-name/{name}/{address}/{page}/{pageSize}/{format}
```

```
/search-name/{name}/{address}/{page}/{format}
```

```
/search-name/{name}/{address}/{format}
```

Parameters

The following parameters can be used. The value in the default column is used if the route does not explicitly supply a value. For example, if the route does not specify pageSize, a default value of 10 will be used

Name	Type	Description	Default
lang	String	Must be either en-GB or cy-GB	en-GB
name	String	Name of business to search for. Supplying a ^ (caret) will search for all businesses	-
address	String	Part of the address (or postcode) to search for. Supplying a ^ (caret) will search for all addresses/post codes	
sortOrder	String	Must be one of the following: • Alpha Returns the results in the order of Business Name in ascending order. • Desc_Alpha Returns the results in the order of Business Name in descending order • Type Returns the results in the order of Business Type in ascending order. • Desc_Type Returns the results in the order of Business Type in descending order. • Rating Returns the results in the order of Rating in ascending order	

(5,4,3,2,1,0,Pass, Pass and Eatsafe, Improvement Required, Awaiting Publication, Exempt, Awaiting Inspection)

- Desc_Rating
Returns the results in the order of Rating in descending order (0,1,2,3,4,5, Improvement Required, Pass, Pass and Eatsafe, Awaiting Publication, Exempt, Awaiting Inspection)

page	Numeric	Page to return	1
pageSize	Numeric	The number of results to return in a page	10
format	String	Must be either xml or json	-

Example for /search-names route

Following routes can be used to return latest inspection results for:

1. establishments that have 'cafe' in the name:
 - <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search-name/cafe/xml>
 - <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search-name/en-gb/cafe/xml>
2. establishments that have 'cafe' in the name, returning page 2:
 - <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search-name/cafe/2/xml>
 - <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search-name/en-gb/cafe/2/xml>
3. establishments that have 'cafe' in the name, returning page 2, where the page size is 30:
 - <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search-name/cafe/2/30/xml>
 - <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search-name/en-gb/cafe/2/30/xml>
4. establishments that have Norwich in the address:
 - <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search/^/norwich/xml>
 - <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search/en-gb/^/norwich/xml>

Route: /search-address

This is very similar to the Search function, except that no business name can be supplied.

Command Syntax

Cultured

```
/search-address/{lang}/{address}/{sortOrder}/{page}/{pageSize}/{format}
/search-address/{lang}/{address}/{page}/{pageSize}/{format}
/search-address/{lang}/{address}/{page}/{format}
/search-address/{lang}/{address}/{format}
```

Non-Cultured

```
/search-address/{address}/{sortOrder}/{page}/{pageSize}/{format}
/search-address/{address}/{page}/{pageSize}/{format}
/search-address/{address}/{page}/{format}
/search-address/{address}/{format}
```

Parameters

The following parameters can be used. The value in the default column is used if the route does not explicitly supply a value. For example, if the route does not specify pageSize, a default value of 10 will be used

Name	Type	Description	Default
lang	String	Must be either en-GB or cy-GB	en-GB
name	String	Name of business to search for. Supplying a ^ (caret) will search for all businesses	-

address	String	Part of the address (or postcode) to search for. Supplying a ^ (caret) will search for all addresses/post codes
sortOrder	String	Must be one of the following: • Alpha Returns the results in the order of Business Name in ascending order. • Desc_Alpha Returns the results in the order of Business Name in descending order • Type Returns the results in the order of Business Type in ascending order. • Desc_Type Returns the results in the order of Business Type in descending order. • Rating Returns the results in the order of Rating in ascending order (5,4,3,2,1,0,Pass, Pass and Eatsafe, Improvement Required, Awaiting Publication, Exempt, Awaiting Inspection) • Desc_Rating Returns the results in the order of Rating in descending order (0,1,2,3,4,5, Improvement

Required, Pass, Pass and
Eatsafe, Awaiting Publication,
Exempt, Awaiting Inspection)

page	Numeric	Page to return	1
pageSize	Numeric	The number of results to return in a page	10
format	String	Must be either xml or json	-

Example for /search-address routes

Following routes can be used to return latest inspection results for:

1. establishments that have Norwich in the address:
 - <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search-address/norwich/xml>
 - <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search-address/en-gb/norwich/xml>
2. establishments that have Norwich in the address, returning page 2:
 - <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search-address/norwich/2/xml>
 - <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search-address/en-gb/norwich/2/xml>
3. establishments that have Norwich in the address, returning page 2, where the page size is 30:
 - <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search-address/norwich/2/30/xml>
 - <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/search-address/en-gb/norwich/2/30/xml>

Route: /enhanced-search

Advanced

This is an advanced search operation that requires a longer command to achieve results, but gives more search options. NB: unless indicated otherwise each example shown returns page one, with 30 results per page in an xml format (...../1/30/xml).

Command Syntax

Cultured

```
/enhanced-  
search/{lang}/{name}/{address}/{sortOrder}/{businessType}/{la}/{page}/{pageSize}/{for  
mat}
```

Non-Cultured

```
/enhanced-  
search/{name}/{address}/{sortOrder}/{businessType}/{la}/{page}/{pageSize}/{format}
```

Parameters

The following parameters can be used. The value in the default column is used if the route does not explicitly supply a value. For example, if the route does not specify pageSize, a default value of 10 will be used

Name	Type	Description	Default
lang	String	Must be either en-GB or cy-GB	en-GB
name	String	Name of business to search for. Supplying a ^ (caret) will search for all businesses	-
address	String	Part of the address (or postcode) to search for. Supplying a ^ (caret) will search for all addresses/post codes	

sortOrder	String	Must be one of the following: • Alpha Returns the results in the order of Business Name in ascending order. • Desc_Alpha Returns the results in the order of Business Name in descending order • Type Returns the results in the order of Business Type in ascending order. • Desc_Type Returns the results in the order of Business Type in descending order. • Rating Returns the results in the order of Rating in ascending order (5,4,3,2,1,0,Pass, Pass and Eatsafe, Improvement Required, Awaiting Publication, Exempt, Awaiting Inspection) • Desc_Rating Returns the results in the order of Rating in descending order (0,1,2,3,4,5, Improvement Required, Pass, Pass and Eatsafe, Awaiting Publication, Exempt, Awaiting Inspection)
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businessType	Numeric	FSA Business Type ID. Specifying a value of 0 will include all business types Business types - https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk//businesstypes/xml	
la	String	FSA Local Authority ID Code or Country. Supplying a ^ (caret) will search for all Local Authorities Local authority ID Codes: https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk//authorities/xml Countries: • England; • NorthernIreland; • Scotland; or • Wales	
page	Numeric	Page to return	1
pageSize	Numeric	The number of results to return in a page	10
format	String	Must be either xml or json	-

Example for /enhanced-search routes

Following routes can be used to return latest inspection results for:

1. establishments for council 107 (Wealdon):
 - <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/enhanced-search/en-GB/^^ALPHA/0/107/1/30/xml>
2. establishments in Northern Ireland:
 - <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/enhanced-search/en-GB/^^ALPHA/0/NorthernIreland/1/30/xml>
3. establishments that have a business type of 2 (Hotel/Guest House):
 - <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/enhanced-search/en-GB/^^ALPHA/2/1/30/xml>

Rating

This is an advanced search operation will return specific ratings (or a range of ratings). Please note: this does require the inclusion of an additional digit in the command. The command is structured in two ways:

Command Syntax

Cultured

```
/enhanced-  
search/{lang}/{name}/{address}/{sortOrder}/{businessType}/{la}/{rating}/{map}/{page}/{p  
ageSize}/{format}
```

Non-Cultured

```
/enhanced-  
search/{name}/{address}/{sortOrder}/{businessType}/{la}/{rating}/{map}/{page}/{pageSi  
ze}/{format}
```

Parameters

The following parameters can be used. The value in the default column is used if the route does not explicitly supply a value. For example, if the route does not specify pageSize, a default value of 10 will be used

Name	Type	Description	Default
lang	String	Must be either en-GB or cy-GB	en-GB
name	String	Name of business to search for. Supplying a ^ (caret) will search for all businesses	-
address	String	Part of the address (or postcode) to search for. Supplying a ^ (caret) will search for all addresses/post codes	

sortOrder	String	Must be one of the following: • Alpha Returns the results in the order of Business Name in ascending order. • Desc_Alpha Returns the results in the order of Business Name in descending order • Type Returns the results in the order of Business Type in ascending order. • Desc_Type Returns the results in the order of Business Type in descending order. • Rating Returns the results in the order of Rating in ascending order (5,4,3,2,1,0,Pass, Pass and Eatsafe, Improvement Required, Awaiting Publication, Exempt, Awaiting Inspection) • Desc_Rating Returns the results in the order of Rating in descending order (0,1,2,3,4,5, Improvement Required, Pass, Pass and Eatsafe, Awaiting Publication, Exempt, Awaiting Inspection)
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businessType	Numeric	FSA Business Type ID. Specifying a value of 0 will include all business types Business types - https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk//businesstypes/xml
la	String	FSA Local Authority ID Code or Country. Supplying a ^ (caret) will search for all Local Authorities Local authority ID Codes: https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk//authorities/xml Countries: • England; • NorthernIreland; • Scotland; or • Wales
rating	String	FHIS • All – returns all FHIS results • Pass – returns pass and pass and eat safe only • ImprovementRequired – returns improvement required only • AwaitingInspection – returns awaiting inspection only • Awaiting Publication – returns awaiting publication only FHRS • EqualAll – returns all FHRS ratings

- Equal[rating] – returns ratings specified e.g. Equal5 returns all 5 ratings
- LessThanOrEqualTo[rating] – returns range of ratings e.g. LessThanOrEqualTo 2 returns 0, 1 and 2 ratings
- GreaterThanOrEqualTo[rating]- returns range of ratings e.g. GreaterThanOrEqualTo3 returns 3, 4 and 5 ratings

map	Numeric	0 or 1	
page	Numeric	Page to return	1
pageSize	Numeric	The number of results to return in a page	10
format	String	Must be either xml or json	-

Example for /enhanced-search routes

Following routes can be used to return latest inspection results for:

1. To search for FHIS information:

- <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/enhanced-search/en-GB/^^/alpha/0/~/All/1/1/10/xml>
- <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/enhanced-search/en-GB/^^/alpha/0/~/Pass/1/1/10/xml>

2. To search for FHRS ratings:

- <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/enhanced-search/en-GB/^^/rating/0/~/EqualAll/1/1/10/xml>
- <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/enhanced-search/en-GB/^^/rating/0/wales/EqualAll/1/1/10/xml>

- <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/enhanced-search/en-GB/^/^alpha/0/northernireland/Equal5/1/1/10/xml>
- <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/enhanced-search/en-GB/^/^alpha/0/england/LessThanOrEqual2/1/1/10/xml>
- <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/enhanced-search/cy-GB/^/^alpha/0/wales/GreaterThanOrEqual3/1/1/10/xml>
- <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/enhanced-search/en-GB/^/^alpha/7843/england/Equal3/1/1/10/xml>

Advanced with Location

This is an advanced search operation that requires a longer command to achieve results, but gives more search options. It performs location based searching.

Command Syntax

Cultured

```
/enhanced-  
search/{lang}/{name}/{address}/{sortOrder}/{businessType}/{la}/{long}/{lat}/{page}/{page  
Size}/{format}
```

Non-Cultured

```
/enhanced-  
search/{name}/{address}/{sortOrder}/{businessType}/{la}/{long}/{lat}/{page}/{pageSize}/  
{format}
```

Parameters

The following parameters can be used. The value in the default column is used if the route does not explicitly supply a value. For example, if the route does not specify pageSize, a default value of 10 will be used

Name	Type	Description	Default
lang	String	Must be either en-GB or cy-GB	en-GB
name	String	Name of business to search for. Supplying a ^ (caret) will search for all businesses	-
address	String	Part of the address (or postcode) to search for. Supplying a ^ (caret) will search for all addresses/post codes	
sortOrder	String	Must be one of the following:	

- Alpha
Returns the results in the order of Business Name in ascending order.
- Desc_Alpha
Returns the results in the order of Business Name in descending order
- Type
Returns the results in the order of Business Type in ascending order.
- Desc_Type
Returns the results in the order of Business Type in descending order.
- Rating
Returns the results in the order of Rating in ascending order (5,4,3,2,1,0,Pass, Pass and Eatsafe, Improvement Required, Awaiting Publication, Exempt, Awaiting Inspection)
- Desc_Rating
Returns the results in the order of Rating in descending order (0,1,2,3,4,5, Improvement Required, Pass, Pass and Eatsafe, Awaiting Publication, Exempt, Awaiting Inspection)

businessType	Numeric	FSA Business Type ID. Specifying a value of 0 will include all business types
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Business types - https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk//businesstypes/xml			
la	String	FSA Local Authority ID Code or Country. Supplying a ^ (caret) will search for all Local Authorities Local authority ID Codes: https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk//authorities/xml Countries: • England; • NorthernIreland; • Scotland; or • Wales	
long	Float	Longitude	
lat	Float	Latitude	
page	Numeric	Page to return	1
pageSize	Numeric	The number of results to return in a page	10
format	String	Must be either xml or json	-

Example for /enhanced-search route

Following routes can be used to return latest inspection results for:

1. establishments that near the specified point:

- <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/enhanced-search/en-GB/^^/DISTANCE/0/^- 4.73561176951173/55.9421692082746/1/30/xml>

Route: /business

Each business has a unique identifier assigned to it by the FHRS system This is a business details operation that retrieves the details of a business.

Command Syntax

Cultured

```
/business/{lang}/{fhrsId}/{format}
```

Non-Cultured

```
/business/{fhrsId}/{format}
```

Parameters

The following parameters can be used. The value in the default column is used if the route does not explicitly supply a value. For example, if the route does not specify pageSize, a default value of 10 will be used

Name	Type	Description	Default
lang	String	Must be either en-GB or cy-GB	en-GB
fhrsId	String	Unique identifier for the business	-
format	String	Must be either xml or json	-

Example for /business routes

1. To retrieve the details of a particular business using the unique identifier:

- <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/business/80928/xml>
- <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/business/en-GB/80928/xml>

Route: /authorities

This is a local authority operation that retrieves all a list of all local authorities within the system. An entry in the list, does not guarantee data will be available for the authority.

Command Syntax

Cultured

```
/authorities/{lang}/{format}
```

Non-Cultured

```
/authorities/{format}
```

Parameters

The following parameters can be used. The value in the default column is used if the route does not explicitly supply a value. For example, if the route does not specify lang, a default value of en-GB will be used.

Name	Type	Description	Default
lang	String	Must be either en-GB or cy-GB	en-GB
format	String	Must be either xml or json	-

Example for /authorities routes

1. A list of local authorities can be accessed as follows:
 - <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/authorities/en-GB/xml>
 - <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/authorities/xml>

Scheme Types

Two types of scheme are supported by the API; two (the FHIS) and six (the FHRS) tiers. A local authority can only belong to one scheme. The scheme in which they participate is determined by the country in which the local authority is located. The scheme/countries are list below:

Scheme Code	Scheme Name	Country
FHIS	Food Hygiene Information Scheme	Scotland
FHRS	Food Hygiene Rating System	England, Wales and Northern Ireland

Rating values and keys

The rating value is the result of an inspection for a business. FHRS uses a rating between 0 and 5 whereas FHIS uses 'Pass', Pass and Eat safe or 'Improvement required'. Additionally, a business may be shown as 'Awaiting inspection', 'Exempt' or 'Awaiting publication'. See below for a complete list.

The rating key can be used by developers to decide which rating image to show within their application. The keys correspond to images available on the FSA website (<https://ratings.food.gov.uk/open-data-resources/images/images.zip>). Images have been made available in the svg format. Images supplied by the FSA must only be used in accordance with the Terms and Conditions at: <https://www.food.gov.uk/terms-and-conditions>

Supported cultures are English and Welsh (en-GB and cy-GB).

FHRS		
Rating Value	Rating Key	Culture
0	fhrs_0_en-gb	en-GB
1	fhrs_1_en-gb	en-GB
2	fhrs_2_en-gb	en-GB
3	fhrs_3_en-gb	en-GB
4	fhrs_4_en-gb	en-GB
5	fhrs_5_en-gb	en-GB
exempt	fhrs_exempt_en-gb	en-GB
awaitingpublication	fhrs_awaitingpublication_en-gb	en-GB
awaitinginspection	fhrs_awaitinginspection_en-gb	en-GB
0	fhrs_0_cy-gb	cy-GB

1	fhrs_1_cy-gb	cy-GB
2	fhrs_2_cy-gb	cy-GB
3	fhrs_3_cy-gb	cy-GB
4	fhrs_4_cy-gb	cy-GB
5	fhrs_5_cy-gb	cy-GB
exempt	fhrs_exempt_cy-gb	cy-GB
awaitingpublication	fhrs_awaitingpublication_cy-gb	cy-GB
awaitinginspection	fhrs_awaitinginspection_cy-gb	cy-GB
awaitinginspection	fhrs_ratingawaited_cy-gb	cy-GB

FHIS

Pass	fhis_pass	-
Exempt	fhis_exempt	-
Improvement Required	fhis_improvement_required	-
Awaiting Inspection	fhis_awaiting_inspection	-
Awaiting Publication	fhis_awaiting_publication	-
Pass and Eat Safe	fhis_pass_and_eat_safe	-

FSA Business Types

The business types returned by the API can be found at: <https://api1-ratings.food.gov.uk/business-types/xml>

Please note: for business type category 'retailers - other' (code 4613) this returns the two separate types - codes 3 (small retailer) and 9 (retailer - other) - that comprise the category. Within the data returned the 'businessstype' are shown as 'retailers – other'.