



WELSH FOOD ADVISORY
COMMITTEE PAPERS

OPEN MEETING

13 SEPTEMBER 2018

MEETING OF THE WELSH FOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE
13 SEPTEMBER 2018
FSA WALES, 11TH FLOOR, SOUTHGATE HOUSE, WOOD ST, CARDIFF, CF10
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AGENDA
OPEN MEETING

Registration and coffee 09:15 – 09:25

Introductions and apologies 09:25 – 09:30

Preparation for Board discussion items

Animal welfare update 09:30 – 09:55
Paper FSAW 18/09/04

Incidents and resilience annual report 09:55 – 10:15
Paper FSAW 18/09/05

Regulating our future - Assurance framework for 10:15 – 10:45
primary authority national inspection strategies and
next steps on regulated private assurance
Paper FSAW 18/09/06

Comfort Break 10:45 – 11:00

Risk Analysis: Process, Governance, Communication 11:00 – 11:25
Paper FSAW 18/09/07

Update on the FSA's activities on antimicrobial resistance 11:25 – 11:40
including the report of the ACMSF task and finish group
Paper FSAW 18/09/08

Committee issues

Last open meeting and matters arising 11:40 – 11:50
Paper FSAW 18/09/01

Report from Chair 11:50 – 12:00
Paper FSAW 18/09/02

Update from Director 12:00 – 12:10
Paper FSAW 18/09/03

Feedback from Committee Networks 12:10 – 12:20

General question and answer session

12:20 – 12:25

Any other business

12:25

Close of open meeting

12:30

Papers to note – available for viewing on www.food.gov.uk

Schedule of dates for committee meetings

Register of Members' interests

WFAC Biographies

**FSAW 18/09/04
FOR DISCUSSION**

ANIMAL WELFARE UPDATE

Executive Summary

1.1 The attached paper, due to be considered by the Board on 19 September, provides an update on FSA activities to drive improvements under the “**Deter, Prevent, Detect, Enforce**” animal welfare programme in slaughterhouses in England and Wales.

1.2 Julia Williams will present the paper to the Committee.

1.3 Members of the Committee are invited to:

1. **consider** the Board paper.
2. **consider** any advice the WFAC wishes the Board to consider as part of its deliberations.

The full paper (FSA 18-09-05) can be found at: <https://www.food.gov.uk/about-us/fsa-board-meeting-september-2018>

**FSAW 18/09/05
FOR DISCUSSION**

INCIDENTS AND RESILIENCE ANNUAL REPORT

Executive Summary

1.1 The attached paper, due to be considered by the Board on 19 September, provides the annual report ending March 2018 of the FSA’s incidents and resilience function. The central theme of the paper is the Unit’s focus on continuous improvement. It details the efforts being made to strengthen the FSA’s resilience, capability and capacity, so that we may continue to do the ‘day job’ exceptionally well, following EU Exit. The previous annual report for 2016/17 was discussed at the December 2017 FSA Board meeting.

1.2 Philip Randles will present the paper to the Committee.

1.3 Members of the Committee are invited to:

1. **consider** the Board paper.
2. **consider** any advice the WFAC wishes the Board to consider as part of its deliberations.

The full paper (FSA 18-09-06) can be found at: <https://www.food.gov.uk/about-us/fsa-board-meeting-september-2018>

**FSAW 18/09/06
FOR DISCUSSION**

**REGULATING OUR FUTURE – ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK FOR PRIMARY
AUTHORITY NATIONAL INSPECTION STRATEGIES AND NEXT STEPS ON
REGULATED PRIVATE ASSURANCE**

Executive Summary

1.1 The attached paper, due to be considered by the Board on 19 September, provides an update on progress made to explore Primary Authority national inspection strategies (NIS) and to develop FSA NIS Standards as part of the Regulating Our Future (ROF) Programme and describes the impact for the FSA of introducing new assurance frameworks into the delivery model and the opportunity this presents to align activities. It also provides an update on the next steps to be undertaken within the programme in respect of regulated private assurance.

1.2 Nina Purcell and Michael Jackson will present the paper to the Committee.

1.3 Members of the Committee are invited to:

1. **consider** the Board paper.
2. **consider** any advice the WFAC wishes the Board to consider as part of its deliberations.

The full paper (FSA 18-09-07) can be found at: <https://www.food.gov.uk/about-us/fsa-board-meeting-september-2018>

**FSAW 18/09/07
FOR DISCUSSION**

RISK ANALYSIS: PROCESS, GOVERNANCE, COMMUNICATION

Executive Summary

1.1 The attached paper, due to be considered by the Board on 19 September, sets out how the basic elements of an effective regulatory regime (as previously discussed at the September 2017 Board Meeting) are being further developed in preparation for EU exit.

1.2 Steve Wearne will present the paper to the Committee.

1.3 Members of the Committee are invited to:

1. **consider** the Board paper.
2. **consider** any advice the WFAC wishes the Board to consider as part of its deliberations.

The full paper (FSA 18-09-09) can be found at: <https://www.food.gov.uk/about-us/fsa-board-meeting-september-2018>

**FSAW 18/09/08
FOR DISCUSSION**

**UPDATE ON THE FSA'S ACTIVITIES ON ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE
INCLUDING THE REPORT ON THE ACMSF TASK AND FINISH GROUP**

Executive Summary

1.1 The attached paper, due to be considered by the Board on 19 September, provides an update on the FSA's science activities concerning antimicrobial resistance and the food chain since the Board paper in December 2017; it includes:

- the report and recommendations of the ACMSF Task and Finish Group; and
- the FSA's programme of research and surveillance in this area, which positions us well to respond to the Task and Finish Group's recommendations.

1.2 Steve Wearne will present the paper to the Committee.

1.3 Members of the Committee are invited to:

1. **consider** the Board paper.
2. **consider** any advice the WFAC wishes the Board to consider as part of its deliberations.

The full paper (FSA 18-09-11) can be found at: <https://www.food.gov.uk/about-us/fsa-board-meeting-september-2018>

**FSAW 18/09/02
FOR DISCUSSION**

**WELSH FOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE (WFAC) CHAIRMAN'S REPORT ON
ISSUES RAISED AT LAST OPEN BOARD MEETING**

Executive Summary

1. The attached report provides a brief summary of matters introduced by the Board Chairman at the Board meeting held in June 2018 and key issues of discussion relating to the FSA remit within Wales. The complete minutes from

the Board meeting are available on the FSA's website at <http://www.food.gov.uk/>

2. Members of the Committee are invited to:

- **note** the Board discussions
- **invite** the Chairman to expand on any issues for further discussion.

FSA Wales Contact: Elora Elphick (elora.elphick@food.gov.uk)

FSAW 18/09/02

FOR DISCUSSION

WFAC CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2018

1. Board Chair's Report to the June 2018 Board meeting

1.1 The Board Chair provided an update on recent engagements primarily focused around increasing the FSA's engagement at a political level with several meetings with Ministers. Further, the Chair reported that she had strengthened the FSA's relationships in the House of Lords, with a series of meetings including meetings involving Lord Krebs and Lord Rooker (former Chairs of the FSA), Other meetings had been held with the British Retail Consortium, Food Industry Intelligence Network (FIIN), the Food and Drink Federation, the National Farmers Union, and also with representatives of the Responsible Use of Medicines in Agriculture Alliance to discuss their progress with respect to tackling anti-microbial resistance.

2. Summary of Main Discussion Items

2.1 At the June 2018 meeting the Board considered the following papers:

- **The Development of the National Food Crime Unit:** The paper updated on progress with plans to develop the National Food Crime Unit towards having end to end operational capabilities.
- **Raw Drinking Milk Controls:** The paper considered the current arrangements for the delivery of controls for raw drinking milk and considered possible options for future arrangements. The paper discussed the principle of addressing raw drinking milk sales within the context of (Regulating Our Future) principles and the Risky Food Framework and provided recommendations to improve the existing controls.
- **A Review of Cutting Plants and Cold Stores:** The interim paper summarised progress being made by the FSA and Food Standards Scotland on its UK wide review of cutting plants and cold stores in the wake of non-compliance issues identified at various cutting plants.
- **Regulating Our Future – Mid-point Programme Report:** The paper set out progress made across the Regulating Our Future programme since June 2017.

The paper described the key changes that will be made to the regulatory regime in time for the UK leaving the EU and also preparations for delivery post EU exit.

- **International Strategy:** The paper set out a draft international strategy for the FSA with options for delivering a more strategic and coherent approach to future international engagement.
- **Review of Food Advisory Committees:** The paper reported on findings of a review commissioned to consider how the valued contribution of the Food Advisory Committees in Wales and Northern Ireland might be improved and strengthened particularly given the current uncertainties about the future role of the FSA post EU exit. I am now in the process of developing an implementation plan to take forward the recommendations emanating from the review.

2.2 The draft minutes from the June 2018 Board meeting, which provide more context and the Board's conclusions on the above papers, can be found at: <https://www.food.gov.uk/about-us/fsa-board-meeting-june-2018>

3. Other Matters

3.1 Since the last meeting, I have been extensively involved in a recruitment process to appoint two new members to the WFAC. I have been assisted in this process by colleagues in Welsh Government and Public Health Wales. Interviews have now taken place and subject to confirmation by the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Services, it is anticipated that two new appointments will commence in mid-September.

Dr Ruth Hussey CB, OBE

Chair of Welsh Food Advisory Committee
September 2018

PAPER FSAW 18/09/03 FOR DISCUSSION

UPDATE FROM INTERIM DIRECTOR

Executive Summary

1. The attached paper signposts to issues introduced by the Chief Executive at the last Board meeting which was held on 20 June 2018. The complete minutes from the Board meeting are available on the FSA's website at <http://www.food.gov.uk/>. The paper also provides an update on issues of relevance to Wales and forms the basis of the update to the Welsh Food Advisory Committee (WFAC).
2. The interim Director for FSA Wales will supplement the information provided in this report with an oral update where necessary.

3. Members of the Committee are invited to:

- **note** the update
- **invite** the interim Director to expand on any issues for further discussion

FSA Wales Contact: Elora Elphick (elora.elphick@food.gov.uk)

**PAPER FSAW 18/09/03
FOR DISCUSSION
UPDATE FROM DIRECTOR**

1 Summary of Chief Executive's Report to Open Board Meeting 20 June 2018.

1.1 The Board received the written report (FSA 18/06/04) of the Chief Executive (CE) as at: <https://www.food.gov.uk/about-us/fsa-board-meeting-june-2018>

2 Interim Director for Wales' Report on Matters Pertaining to Wales

External Engagement

2.1 I have been involved in the following engagement opportunities since WFAC last met on 14 June 2018:

- 19 June – Welsh Local Government Association and FSA Wales liaison meeting
- 22 June – meeting with Directors of Public Protection Wales (DPPW)
- 5 July – meeting with the Welsh Food Fraud Co-ordination Unit
- 17 July – meeting with National Food Crime Unit
- 19 July – Welsh Government Health Protection Advisory Group meeting

Royal Welsh Showground

- 22 July – NFU - 'We are Welsh Farming 2018' campaign launch
 - 23 July – NFU breakfast
 - 23 July – Hybu Cig Cymru breakfast
 - 23 July – NFU *Where are we now, and where are we heading* event
 - 25 July – British Veterinary Association reception
 - 25 July – Farmers' Union Wales reception
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- 30 August – Service review of Pembrokeshire County Council
 - 6 September – Civil Service Local Wales Steering Group meeting

Wales Food Fraud Coordination Unit

2.2 A Wales Food Fraud Co-Ordination Governance Group meeting has been held to provide an overview of the Phase 2 development of the National Food Crime Unit (NFCU), the Board discussion and potential implications for the current delivery model in Wales. The Governance Group were broadly supportive of the proposals but requested that more detail on how the NFCU will operate in Wales be shared with them as it becomes available. Work is continuing to align the Welsh Food Fraud Co-ordination Unit to the NFCU and to identify options for the future.

Stakeholder engagement

2.3 FSAW has continued a programme of engagement activities focussed around schools, public events and with key stakeholders. This included attendance at two public engagement events during July and August – the Royal Welsh Agricultural Show and the National Eisteddfod – where we launched a new corporate FSAW stand. FSA Wales presence at the show provided the opportunity to engage with consumers and key stakeholders. Over 3000 stakeholders visited the new stand and, following evaluation, I will be considering which events the FSA is likely to attend in 2019.



Food Law Code of Practice

2.4 In 2017, FSAW issued amendments to Food Law Code of Practice (the Code) for Wales¹ to clarify arrangements for food business registration and the inspection of mobile food establishments, ships and aircrafts. It revised the competency and qualification requirements for officers involved in delivering official controls and other enforcement activities. The Code was updated earlier in 2018 in Wales to align the guidance with the Codes for England and Northern Ireland². Further amendments are necessary and a 12-week public consultation exercise commenced, in Wales in August 2018 to amend the Code in Wales to

¹ <https://www.food.gov.uk/about-us/food-and-feed-codes-of-practice>

² <https://www.food.gov.uk/about-us/food-and-feed-codes-of-practice>

introduce operational changes identified through the Regulating Our Future (ROF) programme. This consultation focuses on proposed changes, that will come into effect from April 2019, to the process of food business registration, the application of the food establishment intervention rating scheme and to recognise National Inspection Strategies. The consultation process will also elicit early views from stakeholders on other co-dependent aspects of the ROF programme which are still in development. Consultations on these proposals are also being carried out in England and Northern Ireland.

Work with Local Authorities

- 2.5 In May 2018, I met with the Chief Executive of Gwynedd Council to discuss the delivery of the authority's food law enforcement service. The meeting was prompted by the number of overdue food hygiene and food standards interventions reported by the authority in its Local Authority Enforcement Monitoring System (LAEMS) return and information obtained earlier in the year at a FSA audit revisit.
- 2.6 Following my meeting the authority provided assurances that action was being taken to address the identified shortfalls and ensure the delivery of due interventions. The FSA will continue to monitor performance at this authority.
- 2.7 In August 2018, I wrote to Chief Executives of all local authorities in Wales to advise of the findings of the three-year review of the FHRS and to seek their continued commitment to satisfying the requirements of the scheme, including the requirement to ensure minimum frequencies of inspections are met.

Food and Drink Action Plan

- 2.8 Welsh Government has invited stakeholders to share their views on how the food and drink sector should develop between 2020 and 2025 in order to inform the development of a successor to the existing Food and Drink Action Plan, which comes to an end in December 2019. Work on the successor plan is underway between Welsh Government and the Food and Drink Wales Industry Board. The FSA in Wales will input into this development and help inform proposals further.

EU Exit additional funding

- 2.9 We have been successful in a bid to obtain additional funding of £476,000 spread over 3 years from WG for EU Exit, which will enable us to acquire additional resource to support our work.
- 2.10 FSAW is fully engaged with all aspects of the central EU exit work programme to ensure that Welsh needs are taken into account. This includes representation on all workstreams.

3 Forward Look

3.1 Between now and the next open meeting of the WFAC on 29 November, I have made the following commitments of relevance to the FSA in Wales:

- 18 & 20 September – FSA/DPPW liaison meeting
- 8 October – FSA/Welsh Government liaison meeting
- 18 October – Welsh Government Health Protection Advisory Group meeting
- 19 October – FSA/DPPW liaison meeting
- 15 November – FSA/Welsh Government liaison meeting

Richard Bowen

Interim Director, FSA Wales
September 2018