

**FSAW 18/11/02**  
**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 Chair at the Board meeting held in September 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 Chair to expand on any issues for further discussion.

**Contact: Elora Elphick**  
[Elora.Elphick@food.gov.uk](mailto:Elora.Elphick@food.gov.uk)

**FSAW 18/11/02**

**For discussion**

## **WFAC chairman's report – November 2018**

### **1. Board Chair's Report to the September 2018 Board meeting**

1.1 The Board Chair provided an update on recent engagements and highlighted the

session with the House of Lords and the summary of the work being carried out by the FSA's Scientific Advisory Committees. The Chair also noted the stakeholder visits made by the Board in September including the stakeholder dinner held in Cardiff. Other engagements highlighted included a meeting with the Local Government Association.

### **2. Summary of Main Discussion Items**

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

- **Animal Welfare Update:** The paper updated on FSA activities to drive improvements under the “Deter, Prevent, Detect, Enforce” animal welfare programme in slaughter houses in England and Wales.
- **Incidents and Resilience Annual Report:** The paper provided the annual report ending March 2018 of the FSA's incidents and resilience function.
- **Regulating Our Future – Assurance Framework Framework for Primary Authority National Inspection Strategies and Next Steps on Regulated Private Assurance:** The paper provided an update on progress made to explore Primary Authority National Inspection Strategies (NIS) and to develop NIS as part of the Regulating Our Future programme. The paper also provided an update on next steps in respect of regulated private assurance.
- **Risk Analysis, Process, Governance and Communication:** The paper set out approaches being taken to evolve risk analysis processes, capacity and capability in preparation for EU exit.
- **Update on the FSA's Activities on Antimicrobial Resistance:** The paper provided an update on the FSA's science activities concerning antimicrobial resistance within the food chain.
- **The Annual Reports From the Chair of the Welsh Food Advisory Committee and the Director of the FSA in Wales.**

2.2 The draft minutes from the September 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-December-2018>

### **3. Other Matters**

3.1 On 11 October, I chaired a planning session of the WFAC. This provided the opportunity for the WFAC to work through the draft implementation plan which is in development to take forward the recommendations arising from the Review of the Food Advisory Committees in Wales and Northern Ireland. This was a useful exercise and will inform the further development of the plan. During the planning session the WFAC was provided with a demonstration of the new digital business registration scheme which is being developed as part of the Regulating Our Future Programme. The WFAC also received feedback from one local authority in Wales which has been piloting the registration scheme. The feedback was positive and other local authorities in Wales are now participating in the pilot study.

3.2 On 17 October, I attended the first joint meeting between the Board of the FSA and the Board of Food Standards Scotland. The meeting was held to consider the findings and recommendations from the joint Review of Meat Cutting Plants and Cold Stores as published on Thursday 11 October 2018. I am grateful to members of WFAC for providing comments on the review which I was then able to input into the discussions. <https://www.food.gov.uk/about-us/fsa-and-fss-joint-board-meeting-october-2018>

3.3 I am pleased to welcome two new members to the WFAC. The appointments of Dr Philip Hollington and Mrs Rebecca Lyne-Pirkis were made by Vaughan Gething, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Services, National Assembly for Wales, for a period of three years from 15 October 2018. Both bring a wealth of experience from agri science to consumer and small business engagement and will better enable the Committee to provide advice to the FSA on food matters relating to Wales.

<https://www.food.gov.uk/news-alerts/news/appointments-to-the-agencys-welsh-food-advisory-committee>