

Meeting

# **Update on the work of other Scientific Advisory Committees- March 2022**

**This is a paper for discussion.**

**This does not represent the views of the Committee and should not be cited.**

## **Scientific Advisory Committees (SAC) Summary of recent activities**

This document summarises the recent activity of the FSA's Scientific Advisory Committees (SACs). We highlight topics discussed at the most recent meeting and agenda items for the next meeting.

## **Contents**

Committee

Recent activity

Further Information

Updated: January 2022.

Last open meeting: 9  
December 2021 (Open  
session).

- The Chair presented a summary of the Science Council's activity over the last 6 months.
- The FSA provided an update on the Annual Science report to the FSA Board and the development of key performance indicators (KPIs) for FSA science.
- The CSA updated the Council on his recent activity and discussions (including the Government spending review, gene editing food, food labelling and alternative proteins).
- An update on progress of Working Group 6 on Food Safety and Net Zero Carbon (including the workshop on 18 November).
- Updates from Science Council members attending Scientific Advisory Committees (SACs).

Chair: Professor Sandy  
Thomas

Secretariat:  
[sciencecouncil@food.gov.uk](mailto:sciencecouncil@food.gov.uk)

Website: [Science Council |  
Science Council  
\(food.gov.uk\)](https://www.sciencecouncil.gov.uk)

Science Council

Next open meeting: 23 June

Updated: Jan 2022.

Last meeting: 26th Jan 2022  
(8th plenary, open session).

Key agenda items:

- FSA updated on key projects within the Analytics Unit, including new work programmes: Behavioural Trials and Wider Consumer interests.
- Updates on working group activity.
- A proposal for an economics working group was discussed.
- Update from Prof. Sandy Thomas on working group outputs from the Science Council, and recruitment.
- Strategy team presented the emerging FSA strategy and the ACSS secretariat reported an initial assessment of how well ACSS expertise, and the FSA social science research plan, address key strategy topics.

Minutes and papers will be uploaded to the [website](#)

Updated: February 2022.

Last meeting: 2 February 2022.

In addition to a dossier on Barley Protein and two new dossiers on CBD (reserved business), an update of how the CBD dossiers (225 applications) are being managed was given.

Chair: Dr Camilla Alexander-White

Minutes for the 149th and 150th meetings were agreed and a balance between transparency and data protection was further discussed.

Secretariat:  
[acnfp@food.gov.uk](mailto:acnfp@food.gov.uk)

Advisory Committee  
on Novel Foods and  
Processes (ACNFP)

The Committee was thanked for their contribution to an intersessional paper on the scientific criteria for considering Genome Edited products to support Policy in their work on this issue.

Website: [Advisory Committee on Novel Foods and Processes | Advisory Committee on Novel Foods and Processes](#)

The ongoing recruitment was highlighted to members especially on the ACNFP posts.

Next meeting: 30th March 2022.

Updated: 15 February 2022.

The Committee's last meeting was on 09 February 2022. The issues they considered include:

An information paper summarising action taken on points arising from the minutes of previous meetings [Matters arising](#).

A presentation on the FSA's path-safe project [PATH-SAFE: Tracking Foodborne Pathogens and Antimicrobial Resistance Microbes](#).

FSA's ongoing Kitchen Life 2 project [FSA's Kitchen Life 2 Project](#).

The work of the committee over the years and a forward look on future work areas [100th Meeting of the ACMSF - Reflections](#).

The UKFSR focussing on the chapter related to foodborne disease and incidents [UK Food Security Report 2021](#).

FSA surveys on frozen breaded/battered chicken products. This was considered in closed session.

Information papers sent to members include:

- [ACMSF Work plan](#)

Advisory Committee on the Microbiological Safety of Food (ACMSF)

Chair: Professor Bill Keevil

Secretariat: [acmsf@food.gov.uk](mailto:acmsf@food.gov.uk)

Website: [Advisory Committee on the Microbiological Safety of food | Advisory Committee on the Microbiological Safety of food](#)

Chair: -

Updated:

Last meeting: 27th June  
2019.

Next meeting: No dates set  
for 2021 meeting  
Epidemiology of F gs -  
Committee under review.

Secretariat:

[acaf@food.gov.uk](mailto:acaf@food.gov.uk)

Website: [Advisory  
Committee on animal  
feedingstuffs | Advisory  
Committee on animal  
feedingstuffs \(food.gov.uk\)](#)

Advisory Committee  
on Animal Feeding  
stuffs (ACAF)

Updated: March 2022.

Last meeting: 10th February 2022.

Topics discussed included:

At their December meeting the Committee discussed items including topic proposals for a [COT workshop](#) in March 2022, part 2 of a discussion paper on the risk assessment of [cow's milk](#) in children aged 1 to 5 years, in the context of the previous evaluation of plant based drinks and two Reserved items: Smoke flavourings reauthorisations and a discussion paper on vitamin D exposure levels in formula fed infants.

Chair: Professor Alan Boobis

Secretariat: [cot@food.gov.uk](mailto:cot@food.gov.uk)

Committee on Toxicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment (COT)

The Committee continued their work on maternal health, reviewing the first draft of a statement on the effects of excess [Vitamin A](#) on maternal health and a discussion paper on the potential risks from [cadmium](#) in the maternal diet.

Website: [Committee on Toxicity | Committee on Toxicity \(food.gov.uk\)](https://www.food.gov.uk/committees/cot)

Also the Committee reviewed an interim paper on the potential health risks of [bamboo](#) food contact materials and the EFSA draft opinion and exposure protocol open for public consultation on [Phthalates](#).

- Next meeting: 10th

May 2022

Updated: November 2021.

Last meeting: 18th  
November.

Chair: Professor David  
Harrison

Topics on the agenda  
included:

Secretariat:

Committee on  
Carcinogenicity of  
Chemicals in Food,  
Consumer Products  
and the  
Environment (COC)

Horizon scanning, update to  
guidance statement on  
alternatives to the  
assessment of potential  
carcinogenicity, presentation  
on patient derived cell  
models.

[COC@phe.gov.uk](mailto:COC@phe.gov.uk)

Next meeting:

Website: [Committee on  
Carcinogenicity of Chemicals  
in Food, Consumer Products  
and the Environment -  
GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

2 March 2022.

Further meetings:

21 July 2022.

17 November 2022.



Updated: October 2021.

Last meeting: 12 October 2021.

Topics discussed included:

- Review of EFSA opinion on titanium dioxide.
- Hydroxyanthracene derivatives in supplements.
- Horizon scanning.
- Draft Annual Report for 2020.
- OECD Draft Detailed Review Paper on the Miniaturised Versions of the Bacterial Reverse Gene Mutation Test.
- QSAR and Genotoxicity.

Chair: Prof Gareth Jenkins

Secretariat:

[COM@phe.gov.uk](mailto:COM@phe.gov.uk)

Website: [Committee on Mutagenicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/committee-on-mutagenicity-of-chemicals-in-food-and-the-environment)

The Committee on Mutagenicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment (COM)

Next meeting: 1 March 2022.

Further meetings:

9 June 2022.

13 October 2022.

Updated: November 2021.

Last meeting: 10th  
November.

Chair: Professor Ian Young

Nutrition and COVID-19,  
Feeding young children aged  
12-60 months, folic acid and  
National Diet and Nutrition  
Survey blood analytes,  
horizon scanning.

Secretariat:

[SACN@phe.gov.uk](mailto:SACN@phe.gov.uk)

Scientific Advisory  
Committee on  
Nutrition (SACN)

Next meeting: 11th March  
2022.

Website: [Scientific Advisory  
Committee on Nutrition  
\(SACN\) - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/scientific-advisory-committee-on-nutrition)  
([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))

Further meetings:

Friday 17th June 2022;

Friday 11th Nov 2022.