

**TOX/2022/09**

**Committee on Toxicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment**

**Update on the work of other Scientific Advisory Committees**

For information

**Purpose**

This paper sets out topics being considered by other Scientific Advisory Committees that may be of interest to COT.

**Secretariat**

**December 2021**

# 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
<b>Science Council</b>	<p><b>Updated:</b> January 2022</p> <p><b>Last open meeting:</b> 9 December 2021 (Open session)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Chair presented a summary of the Science Council's activity over the last 6 months.</li><li>• 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.</li><li>• The CSA updated the Council on his recent activity and discussions (including the Government spending review, gene editing food, food labelling and alternative proteins).</li><li>• An update on progress of Working Group 6 on Food Safety and Net Zero Carbon (including the workshop on 18 November).</li><li>• Updates from Science Council members attending Scientific Advisory Committees (SACs).</li></ul>	<p><b>Chair:</b> Professor Sandy Thomas</p> <p><b>Secretariat:</b> <a href="mailto:sciencecouncil@food.gov.uk">sciencecouncil@food.gov.uk</a></p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="https://science-council.food.gov.uk/">https://science-council.food.gov.uk/</a></p>

<p><b>Advisory Committee for Social Science (ACSS)</b></p>	<p><b>Next open meeting:</b> 23 June 2022</p> <p><b>Updated:</b> Jan 2022</p> <p><b>Last meeting:</b> 26th Jan 2022 (8<sup>th</sup> plenary, open session).</p> <p>Key agenda items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FSA updated on key projects within the Analytics Unit, including new work programmes: Behavioural Trials and Wider Consumer interests</li> <li>• Updates on working group activity</li> <li>• A proposal for an economics working group was discussed.</li> <li>• Update from Prof. Sandy Thomas on working group outputs from the Science Council, and recruitment.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul> <p>Minutes and papers will be uploaded to the <a href="#">website</a> when ready.</p> <p><b>Working group highlights:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <i>Climate Change and Consumer Behaviour</i> working group are planning a second stage workshop in mid February,</li> </ul>	<p><b>Chair:</b> Professor Susan Michie</p> <p><b>Secretariat:</b> <a href="mailto:acss@food.gov.uk">acss@food.gov.uk</a></p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="https://acss.food.gov.uk/">https://acss.food.gov.uk/</a></p>
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	<p>following the expert engagement exercise in 2021 which aimed to map potential consumer behaviour trends influenced by climate change concerns (a summary of this work is available <a href="#">here</a>). The second workshop will engage across the FSA to explore possible next steps.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <i>Assurance</i> working group have commissioned a piece of work to develop a ‘good science’ quality assurance toolkit to support the production of high-quality research.</li> <li>• The <i>Kitchen Life 2</i> working group continues to support the research project Kitchen Life 2.</li> <li>• Membership and chair of the working group to support the <i>Wider Consumer Interests</i> has been decided. Members are now working on developing terms of reference for the group and scoping possible activity/input.</li> </ul> <p>The <b>next open meeting</b> of the ACSS will be June/July TBC 2022.</p>	
<p><b>Advisory Committee on Novel Foods and Processes (ACNFP)</b></p>	<p><b>Updated:</b> - November 2021  <b>Last meeting:</b> 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021</p> <p>In addition to dossiers on mung bean protein, Calcidiol and a new dossier Cetylated fatty acids, preparatory work as reserved business for the Committee’s review of further CBD dossiers and managing the future work</p>	<p><b>Chair:</b> Dr Camilla Alexander-White</p> <p><b>Secretariat:</b> <a href="mailto:acnfp@food.gov.uk">acnfp@food.gov.uk</a></p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="https://acnfp.food.gov.uk/">https://acnfp.food.gov.uk/</a></p>

	<p>on GM and Genome Editing (GE) food and feed products was discussed.  <b>Next meeting:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022</p>	
<p><b>Advisory Committee on the Microbiological Safety of Food (ACMSF)</b></p>	<p><b>Updated:</b> November 2021</p> <p>The Committee's last meeting was on 21 October 2021. The issues they considered include:</p> <p>Work of the committee's subgroup on toxin-producing Clostridia in food. <a href="#">An update was presented to the committee on the activities of this group</a> setup in April 2021.</p> <p>Botulism in cattle, sheep, and goats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">The FSA's revised systematic literature review concerning botulism in cattle, sheep, and goats</a> was presented to the committee for comments</li> <li>• <a href="#">Members received an update on the recommendations made on the ACMSF reports on botulism in cattle, sheep, and goats</a></li> </ul> <p>Epidemiology of Foodborne Infections Group. The committee received a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">report on the outcome of the 9 June 2021 EFIG meeting</a></li> </ul>	<p><b>Chair:</b> Professor Bill Keevil</p> <p><b>Secretariat:</b> <a href="mailto:acmsf@food.gov.uk">acmsf@food.gov.uk</a></p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="https://acmsf.food.gov.uk/">https://acmsf.food.gov.uk/</a></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• response to comments made by members on EFIG reports</li> <li>• presentation from the UK Health Security Agency on the use of whole genome sequencing for gastrointestinal pathogen routine surveillance and outbreak detection and investigation</li> </ul> <p>Food and You 2 – Wave 1. <a href="#">The Committee received a presentation on the FSA’s survey: Food and You 2: Wave 1 findings.</a></p> <p>The FSA’s Foodborne Disease Policy Framework. The committee discussed and commented on this draft framework in closed session.</p> <p><b>Next meeting:</b> 9th February 2022</p> <p>Updated – 4 November 2021</p>	
<p><b>Advisory Committee on Animal Feeding stuffs (ACAF)</b></p>	<p><b>Updated:</b> -</p> <p><b>Last meeting:</b> 27<sup>th</sup> June 2019</p> <p><b>Next meeting:</b> No dates set for 2021 meetings – Committee under review.</p>	<p><b>Chair:</b> -</p> <p><b>Secretariat:</b> <a href="mailto:acaf@food.gov.uk">acaf@food.gov.uk</a></p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="https://acaf.food.gov.uk/">https://acaf.food.gov.uk/</a></p>

<p><b>Committee on Toxicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment (COT)</b></p>	<p><b>Updated:</b> January 2022  <b>Last meeting:</b> 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021  Topics discussed included:  At their December meeting the Committee discussed items including topic proposals for a <a href="#">COT workshop</a> in March 2022, part 2 of a discussion paper on the risk assessment of <a href="#">cow's milk</a> 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.  The Committee continued their work on maternal health, reviewing the first draft of a statement on the effects of excess <a href="#">Vitamin A</a> on maternal health and a discussion paper on the potential risks from <a href="#">cadmium</a> in the maternal diet.  Also the Committee reviewed an interim paper on the potential health risks of <a href="#">bamboo</a> food contact materials and the EFSA draft opinion and exposure protocol open for public consultation on <a href="#">Phthalates</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Next meeting:</b> 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022</li> </ul>	<p><b>Chair:</b> Professor Alan Boobis  <b>Secretariat:</b> <a href="mailto:cot@food.gov.uk">cot@food.gov.uk</a>  <b>Website:</b>  <a href="https://cot.food.gov.uk/">https://cot.food.gov.uk/</a></p>
<p><b>Committee on Carcinogenicity of Chemicals in</b></p>	<p><b>Updated:</b> November 2021  <b>Last meeting:</b> 18th November  Topics on the agenda included:</p>	<p><b>Chair:</b> Professor David Harrison  <b>Secretariat:</b></p>

<b>Food, Consumer Products and the Environment (COC)</b>	<p>Horizon scanning, update to guidance statement on alternatives to the assessment of potential carcinogenicity, presentation on patient derived cell models.</p> <p><b>Next meeting:</b> 2 March 2022</p> <p><b>Further meetings:</b> 21 July 2022 17 November 2022</p>	<p><a href="mailto:COC@phe.gov.uk">COC@phe.gov.uk</a></p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/committee-on-carcinogenicity-of-chemicals-in-food-consumer-products-and-the-environment-coc">https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/committee-on-carcinogenicity-of-chemicals-in-food-consumer-products-and-the-environment-coc</a></p>
<b>The Committee on Mutagenicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment (COM)</b>	<p><b>Updated:</b> October 2021 <b>Last meeting:</b> 12 October 2021</p> <p>Topics discussed included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of EFSA opinion on titanium dioxide</li> <li>• Hydroxyanthracene derivatives in supplements</li> <li>• Horizon scanning</li> <li>• Draft Annual Report for 2020</li> <li>• OECD Draft Detailed Review Paper on the Miniaturised Versions of the Bacterial Reverse Gene Mutation Test</li> <li>• QSAR and Genotoxicity</li> </ul> <p><b>Next meeting:</b> 1 March 2022</p> <p><b>Further meetings:</b> 9 June 2022</p>	<p><b>Chair:</b> Prof Gareth Jenkins</p> <p><b>Secretariat:</b> <a href="mailto:COM@phe.gov.uk">COM@phe.gov.uk</a></p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/committee-on-mutagenicity-of-chemicals-in-food-consumer-products-and-the-environment">https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/committee-on-mutagenicity-of-chemicals-in-food-consumer-products-and-the-environment</a></p>



	13 October 2022	
<b>Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition (SACN)</b>	<p><b>Updated:</b> November 2021</p> <p><b>Last meeting:</b> 10th November</p> <p>Nutrition and COVID-19, Feeding young children aged 12-60 months, folic acid and National Diet and Nutrition Survey blood analytes, horizon scanning.</p> <p><b>Next meeting:</b> 11th March 2022</p> <p><b>Further meetings:</b> Friday 17th June 2022; Friday 11th Nov 2022</p>	<p><b>Chair:</b> Professor Ian Young</p> <p><b>Secretariat:</b> <a href="mailto:SACN@phe.gov.uk">SACN@phe.gov.uk</a></p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/scientific-advisory-committee-on-nutrition">https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/scientific-advisory-committee-on-nutrition</a></p>