

COMMITTEE ON TOXICITY OF CHEMICALS IN FOOD, CONSUMER PRODUCTS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Paper for Information:

FSA Scientific Advisory Committees (SACs) update – October 2018 meeting

This paper provides Members with an update on the work of the Food Standards Agency's Scientific Advisory Committees (SAC) and other items of general interest.

Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs (**ACAF**)

<http://acaf.food.gov.uk/>

The Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs met on 28 June 2018.

The following items were discussed:

- Follow-up on visit to the University of Liverpool's Dairy Unit.
- Update on the EU proposal on medicated feed
- Animal Feed Official Control Delivery Strategy
- Feed Additives and Over-supplementation
- Raw pet food

The October 2018 meeting has been cancelled and we have yet to set a date for the February 2019 meeting.

Advisory Committee on the Microbiological Safety of Food (**ACMSF**)

<http://acmsf.food.gov.uk/>

The next ACMSF meeting will take place on 18 October. Items to be discussed are expected to include:

- a presentation on the FSA's surveillance strategy
- an update on ongoing work on vacuum and modified atmosphere packed chilled foods
- a paper on Shiga toxin producing *E.coli* (STEC) in food
- an update on the Epidemiology of Foodborne Infections Group meeting held on 27 July
- a discussion on how to take forward outputs from the January 2018 horizon scanning workshop.

Following a meeting of the ACMSF Acting Chair and the Chair of the Committee on Pesticide Residues in Food earlier in the year, a letter has been sent to industry bodies to gather information on the use of, and alternatives to, quaternary ammonium compounds for disinfection/sanitation in the food industry as a consequence of changes to maximum residue levels.

A new subgroup is being set up to consider introducing a 2-dimensional approach to risk assessment.

Advisory Committee on Science Council (ACSS)
<https://acss.food.gov.uk/>

The ACSS will meet on the 4th of December to discuss working group updates, collaborative working and continuous.

The working group for risk communications will meet on the 24th of October to discuss the SC principles and the other or wider contextual issues relevant to the development of a risk communications framework.

The working group for food and you are conducting interviews with relevant stakeholders who use the data to find out how they use it and if it's suiting their needs.

Science Council
<https://food.gov.uk/committee/science-council>

The final reports and recommendations from two of the Science Council's working groups on: science capability and assurance; and on risk and uncertainty have been formally handed over to the FSA and are available on the Science Council website¹. The reports will be considered by the FSA Board at its open meeting on 5 December 2018 together with proposals from the FSA executive for an action plan.

The Science Council Working Group on global food systems and horizon scanning will provide an interim report at the Council's next open meeting in December. The Council met in September to discuss draft terms of reference for a new working group on data. An update on this will also be provided at the December meeting.

Key dates for the future:

The Science Council's fourth plenary meeting is planned for 12 December 2018 in London.

Secretariat
October 2018

¹ <https://science-council.food.gov.uk/science-council-subgroups/science-council-working-group-on-science-capability-and-assurance>

<https://science-council.food.gov.uk/science-council-subgroups/science-council-working-group-on-risk-and-uncertainty>