

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL FEEDINGSTUFFS

66th Meeting of ACAF on 2 February 2015

Information Paper

GACS ISSUES

1. The ACAF Chairman will refer to the attached presentation that was given to GACS at its meeting on 20 October 2014.
2. Please note that ACAF will be meeting at Queen's University Belfast on 19 June 2015. Professor Chris Elliott heads the Institute for Global Food Safety at Queen's University.

**Secretariat
January 2015**



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THE ELLIOTT REVIEW - “THE INTEGRITY AND ASSURANCE OF FOOD SUPPLY NETWORKS”

Steve Wearne

Director of Policy

Food Standards Agency



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Horsemeat Incident 2013 – Headline News



Review of Food Standards
Agency response to the incident
of contamination of beef
products with horse and pork
meat and DNA

An Independent Report

Professor Troop Review

NAO National Audit Office

Commons Select Committee

Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Committee



Expert Food Group
Report for Scottish Government

Elliott Review into the Integrity and Assurance of
Food Supply Networks – interim report

December 2013

HM Government

Timeline...

Date	Event
15 Jan 2013	FSAI publish survey results
16 Jan	Raised at PM's questions. FSA meets industry and publishes four-point plan
6 Feb	FSA announces survey re: horse and pig DNA in processed meat products
7 Feb	Findus recall beef lasagne; FSA demand extra testing by industry.
9 Feb	Environment Secretary holds summit meeting with industry
13 Feb	European Commission instructs all MS to carry out DNA tests for horsemeat
15 Feb	FSA announces industry testing of beef products
10 Jul	EFRA Commons Select Committee issues report
12 Jul	FSA publishes action plan following Troop report
8 Oct	National Audit Office report published
15 Nov	Scottish Government publishes Jones and Scudamore reports
12 Dec	Elliott review – interim report published
4 Sep 2014	Elliott review – final report published

Elliott Review: GACS perspectives

WG Science in Emergencies

- Recommendations on roles, communications, fraud risk assessment, skills and capabilities
- Comments on draft Incident Plan
- Report sent to Professor Elliott

Co-ordination across safety + authenticity

- GACS Chair wrote to GCSA, copied to Prof Elliott

WG on Data Exploitation

- Recommendations relevant to better use of data and intelligence

Framework for use of data from other sources

- Clear starting point for sharing testing data and intelligence

Elliott Review: themes and action

CONSUMERS FIRST
LEADERSHIP
INTELLIGENCE GATHERING
LABORATORY SERVICES
CRISIS MANAGEMENT

Elliott Review: themes and action

LEADERSHIP

Elliott says: “There is a need for clear leadership and co-ordination of effective investigations and prosecutions relating to food fraud and food crime...”

FSA actions: We are creating a Food Crime Unit within the FSA with the intelligence hub at its core. The unit will be operational before end 2014. Initial priority to build the intelligence and evidence picture of risks and nature of food fraud and food crime in the UK.

Elliott Review: themes and action

INTELLIGENCE GATHERING

Elliott says: “The Government should ...

- Work with the FSA ...and regulators to collect, analyse and distribute information and intelligence; and
- Work with industry to help it establish its own ‘safe haven’ to collect, collate, analyse and disseminate information and intelligence”

FSA actions: We have put in place mechanisms to receive information in anonymised format and to facilitate sharing and analysis of potentially sensitive information on a routine basis between industry and government.

Elliott Review: themes and action

LABORATORY SERVICES

Elliott recommendations on:

- standardising test methods for food authenticity;
- Centres of Excellence on authenticity testing;
- guidance on surveillance to inform national sampling
- partnerships across food surveillance and testing
- Work with PHE and LAs + their labs to consider options for integrated shared service on food standards

FSA actions: Working with Defra, PHE & DH and with PAs and LAs to support implementation

Continuing GACS engagement?

- Input to FSA Strategy and Science Strategy to ensure these aspects properly reflected and addressed (fraud, intelligence, horizon-scanning, data...)
- Input and challenge on skills and capabilities
- Review of implementation of recommendations from WGs on Data and on Science in Emergencies