

## **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**



Food  
Standards  
Agency  
food.gov.uk

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

**Steve Wearne**

Director of Policy

Food Standards Agency



Food  
Standards  
Agency  
food.gov.uk

# 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



Expert Food Group  
Report for Scottish Government

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

December 2013



# 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