

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL FEEDINGSTUFFS

75th Meeting of ACAF on 15 February 2018

Information Paper

Update on the Work of other Advisory Committees

Secretariat

February 2018

UPDATE ON THE WORK OF OTHER ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Purpose

1. This paper outlines issues from other advisory committees that may be of interest to ACAF.

Advisory Committee on Microbiological Safety of Food (ACMSF)

2. Two ACMSF subgroups have been very active preparing reports: the Ad Hoc Group on Campylobacter and the fixed-term task and finish group on antimicrobial resistance. The report from the antimicrobial resistance group and a first draft of the report from the Ad Hoc Group on Campylobacter will be presented to the full Committee at its meeting on 25 January in Manchester. Other items on the agenda will be
 - a presentation from the Food Standards Agency on the results of Wave 4 of the Food and You Survey;
 - an update on the work of the Epidemiology of Foodborne Infections Group;
 - an item on raw milk; and
 - a discussion on the outcomes of a horizon scanning exercise to be held on 24 January.

Advisory Committee on Novel Foods and Processes (ACNFP)

3. A meeting of the ACNFP took place on 22 November 2017. An open meeting of the Committee is scheduled to take place on 22 February 2018. Details of all meetings are available on the ACNFP website: <https://acnfp.food.gov.uk/>

The Advisory Committee on Releases to the Environment (ACRE)

4. The Advisory Committee on Releases to the Environment (ACRE) met on 23 January 2018.
5. In recent months, the Committee has considered the environmental aspects of an EFSA scientific opinion on an application for the placing on the market for food and feed uses, imports and processing (not cultivation) of glufoniste - and glyphosate-tolerant and insect resistant maize. ACRE was content with EFSA's opinion.

6. ACRE agreed advice on an application from the University of Southampton to release GM bacterium, *Neisseria lactamica*, in order to test the effectiveness of a potential vaccine against meningitis. Defra Ministers acted on the advice, and issued consent.

7. More information about ACRE, including the advice it issues, is available at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/advisory-committee-on-releases-to-the-environment>

The Committee on Carcinogenicity (COC)

8. Items discussed at joint committee meeting (COC, COM, COT) on 9 October 2017 -
 - Epigenetics (whether epigenetics should be included in chemical risk assessment) and joint horizon scanning topics.

9. The COC is next scheduled to meet on 8 March 2018.

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

10. Items discussed at the last meeting held on 16 November 2017 included:
 - Less than lifetime exposure to carcinogens – to incorporate margin of exposure for children.
 - Update to Guidance Statement G05: Points of Departure and Potency Estimates
 - i. Update on benchmark dose modelling.
 - ii. Recent developments on the Threshold of Toxicological Concern (TTC) approach.
 - iii. Updated Guidance Statement G05: Points of Departure and Potency Estimates.

- Updated Guidance Statement G06: Cancer Risk Characterisation Methods.
- Statement from the joint committee workshop on the use of epigenetics in chemical risk assessment – first draft.
- Horizon Scanning
 - i. Presentation on Adverse Outcome Pathways.
 - ii. Papers of interest on cancer etiology and causal inference.
 - iii. Follow up on horizon scanning topics from July 2017 and joint committee meeting in Oct 2017.
- FSA Consultation on Declarations of Interest.

11. COM are scheduled to meet on 22 February 2018 and items on the agenda for this meeting include:

- Joint committee meeting epigenetics paper.
- QSAR – update/scoping.
- COM Testing Guidance document – review and update if necessary.
- Quantitative methods in genotoxicity – 2nd draft statement.
- Annual report 2017.
- Horizon scan output.

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

12. Items discussed at the COT meeting held on 13 December 2017 included:

- Review of potential risks from ochratoxin A (OTA) in the diet of infants aged 0 to 12 months and children aged 1 to 5 years.
- Review of potential risks from manganese in the diets of infants aged 0-12 months and children aged 1 to 5 years.
- First draft statement of T2-toxin (T2) and HT2-toxin (HT-2) in the diet of infants aged 0 to 12 months and children aged 1 to 5 years.

- Discussion paper on the potential risks from copper in the diet of infants aged 0 to 12 months and children aged 1 to 5 years.
- Potential toxicological risks from e-cigarettes. Paper 1: Characterisation of the aerosol droplet particle fraction.
- Statement on maternal and infant dietary exposures and risk of development of atopic outcomes and autoimmune disease.
- Third draft guidance for submission of papers to COT regarding irritant sprays and information required.

13. COT is scheduled to meet on 6 and 7 February 2018 and the agenda and papers will be uploaded on the Committee's website - <https://cot.food.gov.uk/cot-meetings>.

FSA Science Council

14. The Science Council held its second meeting on 13 December 2017, and the following items were discussed:

- the meeting included reports and discussion on the three working groups of the Science Council on: science capability and assurance; risk and uncertainty; food systems risks and horizon scanning;
- the Council received an update on FSA science from the FSA Chief Scientific adviser Guy Poppy and a short update on the FSA's preparations for the UK exiting the European Union;
- the Council discussed its future work programme, and its engagement with the FSA's scientific advisory committees (SACs). There is an action for the Council Chair and Chief Scientific Adviser to discuss further how the Council could engage with the SACs;
- the meeting papers are published on the Science Council website at <https://science-council.food.gov.uk/>; and
- the draft minutes will be published in January 2018.

15. Key dates for the future:

- the Science Council Chair, Professor Sandy Thomas, will present her annual report to the Board at the open meeting on 14 March 2018;
- the next Science Council meeting is planned for June 2018 in London (provisional date 27 June); and
- the Science Council will publish an Annual Report for 2017/18 in April/May.

Appointments

ACMSF

The post of ACMSF Chair has not yet been filled and will be re-advertised.

Advisory Committee for Social Science

The FSA is seeking to appoint a Chair and nine members to join its newly formed Advisory Committee for Social Science. The closing date for applications was 26 January 2018.

ACAF Secretariat

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