

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE MICROBIOLOGICAL SAFETY OF FOOD

INFORMATION PAPER

FUTURE OF THE FOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The attached letter from the Food Standards Agency announces the Agency's decision to abolish the Food Advisory Committee from 31 December 2001.

**Secretariat
March 2002**



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To: Interested Parties (list available on request)

17 January 2002

Reference: FAC 3/1

Dear Sir/Madam

FOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

I am writing to let you know that the Food Advisory Committee (FAC) has been abolished with effect from 31 December 2001.

As you may know, the Agency's Board set new terms of reference for the Committee from January 2001, under which it would assume the role of advising the Board on strategic issues. It was agreed that the FAC's role would be reviewed again at the end of 2001 (further details are included in the Committee's Annual Report for 2000).

The Board has considered the Agency's future requirements and concluded that these will best be met by convening groups from consumers, enforcement and industry on an *ad hoc* basis to study specific issues. As a result, the Board decided that the FAC should be abolished.

Two outstanding reports prepared by the Committee on food labelling and on distance selling are currently being finalised and should be published within the next few weeks.

In addition to these, the Committee will also be publishing its final Annual Report, covering its activities during 2001.

Yours sincerely

Dr Sandy Lawrie
FAC Secretary