

First Annual Report from the Chair, Welsh Food Advisory Committee



**FSA Board meeting
July 2008**

John Spence

Content of report

Introduction

- Statutory remit of WFAC
- Membership of WFAC

Retrospective review

- Advice from WFAC to the Board
- Political and stakeholder engagement

Forward work plan

- Responsive engagement with Board agenda
- Changed focus to open meetings

Remit of WFAC

Food Standards Act 1999

“There shall be established an advisory committee for Wales... for the purpose of giving advice or information to the Agency about matters connected with its functions (including in particular matters affecting or otherwise relating to Wales...)”

“The basic terms of reference of a committee... are to carry out the purpose mentioned...”

Membership of WFAC

Professor Bob Bell*

**Professor Margaret
Griffiths***

Professor Jim Parry*

**Professor Rob
Pickard***

Dr Louise Fielding

Ms Kate Hovers

Mr Andrew Johnson

Mrs Katie Palmer

Mr Steve Bolchover**

Dr Hugh Jones**

Mrs Sue Jones**

Mr Derek Morgan**

* member of WFAC until 30 June 2008

** member of WFAC from 1 July 2008

Advice from WFAC to the Board

Recent examples:

- folic acid fortification
- food colours and hyperactivity
- EC food information proposal
- charging for official controls on meat
- ... and a range of other issues

Political and stakeholder engagement

Ministerial engagement:

- Gwenda Thomas AM, Deputy Minister for Social Services
- Elin Jones AM, Minister for Rural Affairs

Stakeholder engagement:

- a key role: taking the pulse of our stakeholder communities
- 97 external engagements in 18 months to July 2008
- from consumer and community groups, to politicians, learned societies, farmers and retailers

Forward work plan

Forward work plan

- **Responsive engagement with Board agenda, using new technologies**
- **Changed focus to open meetings, leading to better advice**