

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND FOOD ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE

**Executive Summary**

1. The attached report provides an update on issues emanating from the Northern Ireland Food Advisory Committee.
2. The Board is invited to **note** the report by the Chair of the Northern Ireland Advisory Committee. **No action** is required.

**Food Standards Agency Northern Ireland**

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**1. NIFAC Meetings**

Due to quorum restrictions, the NIFAC meeting scheduled for 10 August 2005 had to be cancelled. The next Open meeting of NIFAC will take place on 1 September at the FSANI offices in Belfast.

**2. Recruitment**

Interviews for the remaining two NIFAC vacancies took place on 11 August. FSANI is now submitting the recommendations of the panel to the Minister.

**3. NIFAC Development**

In addition to recruiting new members, an agreed appraisal process has been developed for existing members. Members will be appraised against: member's contribution to NIFAC work programme and meetings, the wider work of FSA NI as well as their attendance record. Development of the forward work plan and improvement of working practices will be discussed at the Away Day in November when it is hoped all four new members will be present.

**4. Meetings with Others**

July and August are holiday periods in N. Ireland and the Chairman met only with Bertie Kerr, Chairman of the Food Safety Promotion Board. The meeting helped to build on existing relationships with the Food Safety Promotion Board. The Chief Executive of FSPB has been invited to present to the next meeting of NIFAC and a joint meeting of Chairs and Chief Executives of FSPB, FSA NI and the Food Safety Authority of Ireland has been agreed for Autumn.

**5. Future NIFAC meetings**

The programme and provisional agenda for future meetings of the Committee is described below.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Potential Topics</b>
21 September 2005	Open Session, Belfast	<b>BRIEFS &amp; DISCUSSIONS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consumer Engagement</li> <li>• FSPB's Role and Relationships with FSANI</li> <li>• Nutrient Profiling</li> <li>• The FSA's Draft Science Strategy 2005/2010</li> </ul>
1/2 November 2005	Away Day and Closed Meeting, venue to be confirmed	<b>TOPICS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chemical Contaminants in Food</li> <li>• Fit Futures</li> </ul>