

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE SCOTTISH FOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Executive Summary

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

Food Standards Agency Scotland

Contact:

Graeme Millar Tel: 01224 285104
 Email: graeme.millar@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

Jane Ferries Tel: 01224 285104
 Email: jane.ferries@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE SCOTTISH FOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SFAC Meetings

1. SFAC held their Open meeting on Wednesday 28 February at the Crowne Plaza, Congress Road, Glasgow. Main topics for discussions were:

FSAS Events Calendar 2007/2008

2. Karen Minto, Assistant Communications Officer, informed members of the Stakeholder events FSAS were considering for the coming year. Members agreed that it was important for FSAS to have a presence at both large and small events and interactive activities on the stands were the best way to get across the Agency's advice. Members also gave suggestions as to how the current FSAS interactive kitchen could be improved.

FSAS Business Plan 2007/2008

3. George Paterson, Director, FSAS, Jim Thomson and Lydia Wilkie, Assistant Directors, FSAS gave a presentation highlighting FSAS's Business Plan for FSAS 2007/2008. Work being carried out within the four main themes within the FSA Strategic Plan 2005/2010 (*Food Safety, Eating for Health, Choice & How We Will Deliver*) was also covered. Members of the Committee agreed that this should come back to the SFAC Agenda once the Business Plan had been published.

HACCP Project Update

4. Peter Midgley, Head of Local Authority Food Law Enforcement Branch, FSAS gave a presentation to the Committee covering monitoring the data, business support and developments of the FSAS HACCP project now that funding for this was coming to an end, this also included information regarding CookSafe, EatSafe and RetailSafe. Peter also provided an update for the Food Hygiene Information Scheme (FHIS) Pilot and informed the Committee that an evaluation of this scheme would be presented to them in the near future.

SFAC Response to Folate

5. Members of the Committee were asked to agree their response to the FSA's consultation '***Options to Increase Folate Intake in Young Women***' This response was produced from their discussion at the open January meeting in Aberdeen. Members agreed to the response and asked for the Secretariat to forward this to the FSA Board members for their discussions in May. In summary

the Committee agreed that the best option to take was Option 2 however this had to be enhanced and was not strong enough as a stand alone option.

Meetings with Others

6. The Deputy Chair and members of SFAC attended the Food & Health Alliance Conference in Edinburgh on Tuesday 27 February. This event was planned to celebrate the successes of the Scottish Diet Action Plan (SDAP).
7. The Chair and members of SFAC attended the SCOTHOT Trade Show at the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre (SECC) in Glasgow on 27 February. ScotHot is Scotland's largest exhibition for foodservice and hospitality and is well established within the industry and benefits from strong brand heritage and a reputation from exhibitors and visitors alike as a place to be seen, do business, network and launch new products.
8. The Chair and Deputy Chair attended the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) Excellence Awards on 8 March in St Andrews. The COSLA Excellence Awards recognise projects that have demonstrated high levels of service within certain categories. These categories are used as a way of encouraging Local Government to look at methods of service delivery that are well planned, focussed on what their customers want, are efficiently delivered and are creative. Professor Graeme Millar presented the award for 'Advancing Community Wellbeing' category.

Future SFAC Meetings

9. Dates for future SFAC meetings are listed below (dates are subject to change).

Date	Location	Potential Topics
23 May 2007	Edinburgh	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Official Controls• Prior Approval• Better Regulation
4 July 2007	Aberdeen	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• FSA Scotland Diet and Nutrition Agenda