

9th Open Meeting - 10th June 2021

Summary of the meeting

- The Chair presented a summary of the last 6 month's Science Council activity.
- Members agreed the principles and guidelines and final report for the **critical review of the appraisal of third-party evidence**.
- Update provided on FSA activity since last year's Council **recommendations on data usage & digital technology**. Further Council engagement is being considered.
- The CSA updated the Council on his recent activity and discussions (including **gene editing, labelling reform, genomic surveillance, and net zero carbon**).
- A discussion of the recommendations from the Council's review of **food hypersensitivity**, FSA current activity and future plans, and lessons learnt.
- Updates from Science Council members attending **Scientific Advisory Committees** (SACs).

Final minute of the 9th Science Council open meeting public session (approved at the 10th Science Council open meeting on 9 December 2021):

[Link to final minutes here.](#)

Agenda and papers

Update: Working Group 5 update slides added post-meeting (28/6/21).

10:00 (Item 1) Welcome and introduction (Sandy Thomas)

- Reminder of open meeting rules and [declaration of interests](#).

10:10 (Item 2) Minutes of 8th Council meeting and actions (Sandy Thomas)

- Agree [minutes from previous open meeting](#).
- Secretariat reports progress on actions from the 8th open meeting.

PDF

[View SC 9-2b - Actions from the 8th Science Council Open Meeting as PDF](#)
(82.77 KB)

10:20 (Item 3) Science Council Chair's report (Sandy Thomas)

- Meetings and activity since the 8th open meeting.

PDF

[View SC 9-3\(s\) - Science Council Chair's report \(9th open meeting\) as PDF](#)
(315.58 KB)

10:35 (Item 4) FSA Science Update (Adam Cook)

- Update on Science, Evidence and Research Division (SERD) activity.

PDF

[View SC 9-4 - FSA Science update as PDF](#) (186.6 KB)

10:55 (Item 5) Rapid Evidence Review: Critical Review of the appraisal of third-party evidence (Peter Gregory)

- Members confirm agreement to draft final report and principles & guidelines. [The draft report and principles & guidelines themselves are in draft and will be published once finalised following discussion by Science Council, no later than the week commencing 21 June].

PDF

[View SC 9-5 - Rapid Evidence Review - Critical Review of the appraisal of third-party evidence as PDF](#) (113.43 KB)

- [FSA 21-06-07 - Annual Report on Risk Assessment](#)
- FSA next steps.

11:20 (Item 6) Working Group 4 (WG4) review on data usage and digital technology: Post review update from FSA (Julie Pierce)

- An update from the FSA on how WG4 recommendations have been used over the last 12 months.

PDF

[View SC 9-6 - Working Group 4 \(WG4\) review on data usage and digital technology - Post review update from FSA as PDF \(154.31 KB\)](#)

11:35 Coffee Break

11:45 (Item 7) Chief Scientific Advisor's update (Robin May)

- High Level FSA Activities.
- CSA Activities.
- Other topics.
- [FSA 21-06-04 - Annual Science Update From the FSA'S Chief Scientific Adviser](#)

12:00 (Item 8) Working Group 5: Food Hypersensitivity Review (Paul Turner)

- Summary of recommendations and wrap-up from the Working Group Chair.
- [FSA 21-06-09 - Final Report of Science Council Working Group 5 on Food Hypersensitivity](#)
- [FSA 21-06-09 - Annex - Science Council WG5 Final Report](#)

- FSA next steps.

PDF

[View SC 9-8\(s\) WG5 food hypersensitivity review update \(June 2021\) as PDF](#)
(336.09 KB)

12:25 (Item 9) Update on FSA Scientific Advisory Committees (Sandy Thomas)

- Verbal update on participation of Science Council members in other Scientific Advisory Committees meetings since the 8th open meeting.

PDF

[View SC 9-9a - Scientific Advisory Committees \(SAC\) summary of activity
\(May 2021\) as PDF](#) (149.04 KB)

PDF

[View SC 9-9b - Table of scheduled SAC meetings 2021-22 \(May 2021\) as PDF](#)
(120.17 KB)

12:40 (Item 10) Wrap up and close session (Sandy Thomas)

12:45 (Item 11) Questions and comments from the public (Sandy Thomas)

12:55 End of the meeting

Meeting attendees

Science Council

- Sandy Thomas - Council Chair
- John O'Brien - Council Member
- Paul Turner - Council Member
- Patrick Wolfe - Council Member
- Sarah O'Brien - Council Member
- Claire Nicholson - Council Member
- Peter Gregory - Council Member

Food Standards Agency

- Robin May - FSA Chief Scientific Adviser (CSA)
- Emily Miles - FSA Chief Executive
- Julie Pierce - FSA Director of Openness, Data & Digital, Wales and Science
- Adam Cook - Head of Science Strategy, Capability and Research
- Chun-Han Chan - Science Council Secretary
- Paul A Nunn - Science Council Secretariat Lead
- Autumn Pugh - CSA Private Secretary
- Manisha Hartigan - Science Council Secretariat
- Ben Goodall - Research Co-ordination and Partnerships Lead