

Science Council Register of Interests

Expert Register of Interests FSA Science Council

(June 2022)

In line with FSA policy and established good practice for accessing external expertise, Scientific Advisory Committee members are required to declare any personal or non-personal interests which represent a real or potential conflict in respect of general or specific aspects of work undertaken. Interests will be managed in accordance with the FSA's policy and guidance.

If members have interests not specified in these notes, but which they believe could be regarded as influencing their advice or other work for FSA, they should declare them. However, members are not under any obligation to search out interests of which they might reasonably not be aware. For example, either through being unaware of all the interests of family members, or of not being aware of links between one company and another.

Professor John O'Brien - Chair

Updated: December 2025

Current Interests

Personal:

- **Direct employment** : The Food Observatory, Founder and Director (2018-)
- **Consultancies and other fee-paid work**: Scientific Advisory Board, Danone Food Safety Centre, Utrecht, Netherlands (2018-present); Yakult Honsha Co. Ltd - Consultancy on probiotic products (Oct 2024-Oct 2026).
- **Shareholdings**: Deere & Co

- **Clubs, other organisations and advocacy groups:** Member, Policy & Engagement Committee, IFST (UK); Chair, External Advisory Board, Nutrition Innovation Centre for Diet and Health (NICHE), University of Ulster.
- **Other personal interests:** Occupational pensions: Nestle SA, Danone SA, Food Safety Authority of Ireland, Elsevier PLC. Spouse works on consultancy project for Kenvue Healthcare.

Non-personal:

- **Fellowships:** Royal Society of Chemistry, FRSC, Institute of Food Science and Technology (UK), FIFST; Society of Toxicology; Institute of Food Technologists; Society for Risk Analysis; Society of Chemical Industry; Association of Official Analytical Chemists; International Association for Food Protection. Advisory Council Member, Campden BRI
- **Indirect support:** None
- **Trusteeships:** None
- **Land and property:** None
- **Other public appointments:** None
- **Other non-personal interests:** Strategic Advisory Committee, Need For Nutrition Education/Innovation Programme (NNEDPRO), Cambridge, UK

Historic Interests

Personal:

- **Direct employment :** Nestlé SA, Head of Food Safety & Integrity Research Programme (until 2018)
- **Consultancies and other fee-paid work:** Editor, *Trends in Food Science & Technology* (until 2024); ThermoFisher Scientific Inc. USA (2018-2022); Crème Global, Dublin, Ireland, Consultancy project on food factory risk management (2019). Arthur D. Little, Consultancy on Food Quality Management (2021)
- **Shareholdings:** Nestle SA
- **Clubs, other organisations and advocacy groups:** None
- **Other personal interests:** Spouse worked for Johnson & Johnson Inc. until 2020

Non-personal:

- **Fellowships:** None

- **Indirect support:** None
- **Trusteeships:** Board Member, Campden BRI (2015-2023); Trustee: Institute of Food Science & Technology, UK (2020-2023). Member, International Scientific Advisory Board, Queens University Belfast (2013); Executive Advisory Board, Institute for Food Safety & Health, Chicago (2015-2017); Chair, ILSI Europe Branch (2013-2017); Trustee, ILSI, Washington (2014-2018); Trustee, Feeding Tomorrow, IFT, Chicago (2014-2017).
- **Land and property:** None
- **Other public appointments:** None
- **Other non-personal interests:** None

Professor Peter Borriello CB

Updated: December 2024

Current Interests

Personal:

- **Direct employment :** None
- **Consultancies and other fee-paid work:** Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation- consultancy on improving veterinary medicines regulation in SSA (8/6/22-present). Chair of RUMA Independent Scientific Panel (1/9/23-present). Co-opted onto the Council of the British Society of Antimicrobials and Chemotherapy (BSAC).
- **Shareholdings:** None
- **Clubs, other organisations and advocacy groups:** Microbiology Society. Applied Microbiology International (Honorary Member). Member of Advisory Board of BactiVac. Member of Hong Kong Expert Committee on AMR
- **Other personal interests:** None

Non-personal:

- **Fellowships:** University College London
- **Indirect support:** None
- **Trusteeships:** Safe Medicines for Animals (SMArt).
- **Land and property:** None
- **Other public appointments:** None
- **Other non-personal interests:** None

Historic Interests

Personal:

- **Direct employment:** CEO of Veterinary Medicines agency (retired 2021).
- **Consultancies and other fee-paid work:** Review of Irish Medicines Agency (August 2023-May 2024). World Bank (September 2023-June 2024) on AMR. World Organisation on Animal Health (March 2024-July 2024) on AMR
- **Shareholdings:** None
- **Clubs, other organisations and advocacy groups:** British Infection Society
- **Other personal interests:** None

Non-personal:

- **Fellowships:** None
- **Indirect support:** None
- **Trusteeships:** None
- **Land and property:** None
- **Other public appointments:** None
- **Other non-personal interests:** None

Professor Emily Burton

Updated February 2026

Current Interests

Personal:

- **Direct Employment:** Nottingham Trent University, since 2007
- **Consultancies and other fee-paid work:** July 2022: Consultancy for Avara Foods Ltd – conducted through my current employer (NTU): Independent review of their trial data.
- **Shareholdings:** Shareholdings in Si Active Ltd - Company number 06932163
- **Clubs, other organisations and advocacy groups:** Director: Egg and Poultry Industry Conference Ltd; World's Poultry Science Association (WPSA) since 2021; European Working Group on Poultry Nutrition, UK representative

since 2021; WPSA UK branch member since 1996

- **Other personal interests:** Husband is lay member of FSA Advisory Committee on Toxicology

Non-personal:

- **Fellowships:** None
- **Indirect support:** Travel costs paid to speak at conferences for the following organisations: Animal Nutrition Association of Canada; European Federation of the World's Poultry Science Association; South African Feed Manufacturers' Association
- **Trusteeships:** Trustee: Gordon Memorial Trust since 2019; Trustee: British Poultry Science Trust since 2020
- **Land and property:** None
- **Other public appointments:** FSA Advisory Committee on Animal Feedstuffs, Member
- **Other non-personal interests:** The commissioning of research or other work by, or advice from, staff who work in a unit for which a member is responsible: research commissioned for Avara Foods Ltd, 2 Sisters Food Group, ForFarmers, ABAgri, Kemin, Danisco, Alltech, Arden Biotech, Premier Nutrition, Deepbranch Biotech; Green Plains, Clonbiotech

Historic Interests

Personal:

- **Direct Employment:** MARS UK, University of Nottingham 2005-2007, University of Nottingham 2001-2007
- **Consultancies and other fee-paid work:** None
- **Shareholdings:** None
- **Clubs, other organisations and advocacy groups:** Councillor for British Society for Animal Science 2009-2011
- **Other personal interests:** None

Non-personal:

- **Fellowships:** None
- **Indirect support:** None
- **Trusteeships:** None
- **Land and property:** None

- **Other public appointments:** None
- **Other non-personal interests:** None

Professor Steven Cummins

Updated: April 2025

Current Interests

Personal:

- **Direct employment :** The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
- **Consultancies and other fee-paid work:** I undertake occasional work for government research funders (Swiss National Science Foundation, Swedish Research Council, NIHR) for which an honorarium is paid.
- **Shareholdings:** None
- **Clubs, other organisations and advocacy groups:** None
- **Other personal interests:** I am an active researcher in food and food policy as applied to public health and author papers and reports, as well as present findings at conferences, seminars and to politicians and civil servants.

Non-personal:

- **Fellowships:** I am a current holder of a NIHR Senior Investigator award
- **Indirect support:** None
- **Trusteeships:** I am a trustee of Townley Grammar School, with a remit for school food.
- **Land and property:** None
- **Other public appointments:** None
- **Other non-personal interests:** None

Historic Interests

Personal:

- **Direct employment :** None
- **Consultancies and other fee-paid work:** None
- **Shareholdings:** None
- **Clubs, other organisations and advocacy groups:** None

- **Other personal interests:** None

Non-personal:

- **Fellowships:** Previously held fellowships from NIHR & MRC with a focus on diet and food
- **Indirect support:** None
- **Trusteeships:** None
- **Land and property:** None
- **Other public appointments:** Previously a member of the FSA Social Science Research Committee (now ACSS)
- **Other non-personal interests:** None

Professor Peter Gregory

Updated: January 2026

Current Interests

Personal:

- **Direct employment :** None
- **Consultancies and other fee-paid work:** Chair, Recommended List Board, AHDB: 2014 - present. Grant reviews and meetings for BBSRC and EU research projects: ongoing
- **Shareholdings:** None
- **Clubs, other organisations and advocacy groups:** Chair, Crops For the Future CIC: 2020 – present
- **Other personal interests:** Honorary Fellow NIAB: 2020. Deputy Chair, Science Advisory Board. ZALF, Germany: 2016 - present. Member, GIN Science Advisory Committee, Defra: 2025 - present. Member, Science Committee, Royal Horticultural Society: 2010 - present

Non-personal:

- **Fellowships:** FRSB: 1989, FRASE: 2004, FRAgS: 2020, FCIHort: 2014
- **Indirect support:** None
- **Trusteeships:** None
- **Land and property:** Partner, Alreside Meadow LLP: 2022 - present
- **Other public appointments:** None

- **Other non-personal interests:** None

Historic Interests

Personal:

- **Direct employment :** University of Reading
- **Consultancies and other fee-paid work:** None
- **Shareholdings:** None
- **Clubs, other organisations and advocacy groups:** None
- **Other personal interests:** None

Non-personal:

- **Fellowships:** None
- **Indirect support:** None
- **Trusteeships:** None
- **Land and property:** None
- **Other public appointments:** None
- **Other non-personal interests:** None

Mrs. Jacqueline Healing

Updated December 2025

Current Interests

Personal:

- **Direct Employment:** Member of FSA Science council since March 2024
- **Consultancies and other fee-paid work:** Independent Food safety consultant and expert witness since July 2023
- **Shareholdings:** J Sainsbury plc and Coles Australia
- **Clubs, other organisations and advocacy groups:**

Board Director SOFHT (Society of Food hygiene and Technology) since October 2023

Non executive Director SALSA (Safe and Local supplier approval) since September 2025

Fellow IFST since December 2023

- **Other personal interests:**

Magistrate and Justice of the Peace Since October 2025

Member of our local sailing club -Royal Victoria Yacht Club, where I advise on food safety matters relating to their in house catering operation.

Non-personal:

- **Fellowships:** IFST
- **Indirect support:** None
- **Trusteeships:** None
- **Land and property:** None
- **Other public appointments:** None
- **Other non-personal interests:** None

Historic Interests

Personal:

- **Direct Employment:**

Director of Consulting and Technical services NSF , August 2016- July 2023.

General Manager Responsible Sourcing, Quality and Product Technology, Coles Supermarkets (Australia) May 2006- Nov 2015

- **Consultancies and other fee-paid work:** None
- **Shareholdings:** J Sainsbury plc and Coles Australia
- **Clubs, other organisations and advocacy groups:** None
- **Other personal interests:** None

Non-personal:

- **Fellowships:** None
- **Indirect support:** None
- **Trusteeships:** None

- **Land and property:** None
- **Other public appointments:** None
- **Other non-personal interests:** Husband is a retired chef

Ms. Claire Nicholson

Updated: December 2025

Current Interests

Personal:

- **Direct employment :** None
- **Consultancies and other fee-paid work:** Lay/consumer member the British Pharmacopoeia
- **Shareholdings:** My husband, Robert Toms is partner at Smedvig Ventures a small private equity company with direct investments in early stage tech companies primarily in Northern Europe, and indirect investments via buy-out funds globally. Smedvig Ventures has a portfolio of direct investments mainly in technology/software businesses. The full list can be viewed at <https://smedvig.vc/portfolio/>.
- **Clubs, other organisations and advocacy groups:** British Pharmacopoeia Commission (July 2024-present.)
- **Other personal interests:** None

Non-personal:

- **Fellowships:** None
- **Indirect support:** None
- **Trusteeships:** Trustee of The Reading Foundation, a small educational charity associated with Reading School (2017- Present)
- **Land and property:** None
- **Other public appointments:** None
- **Other non-personal interests:** My son Kieran Toms is a Medical Doctor, (formerly at Barts NHS healthcare trust) currently undertaking a PhD at Institut Pasteur in Paris. His research is about the host and bacterial factors involved in *Listeria monocytogenes* invasion of the central nervous

Historic Interests

Personal:

- **Direct employment** : Independent Director for consumer interests at Red Tractor Farm Assurance (2014- January 2020)
- **Consultancies and other fee-paid work**: Previously Lay/consumer member of ACNFP (2013-2020)
- **Shareholdings**: None
- **Clubs, other organisations and advocacy groups**: None
- **Other personal interests**: None

Non-personal:

- **Fellowships**: None
- **Indirect support**: None
- **Trusteeships**: None
- **Land and property**: None
- **Other public appointments**: None
- **Other non-personal interests**: None

Professor Tom Oliver

Updated: November 2025

Current Interests

Personal:

- **Direct Employment**: University of Reading, Professor of Applied Ecology
- **Consultancies and other fee-paid work**: None
- **Shareholdings**: None
- **Clubs, other organisations and advocacy groups**: None
- **Other personal interests**: Author of popular science book with publisher W&N The Self Delusion: The Surprising Science of Our Connection to Each Other and the Natural World

Non-personal:

- **Fellowships**: None
- **Indirect support**: None
- **Trusteeships**: None

- **Land and property:** None
- **Other public appointments:** Office for Environmental Protection expert college member
- **Other non-personal interests:** None

Historic Interests

Personal:

- **Direct Employment:** None
- **Consultancies and other fee-paid work:** None
- **Shareholdings:** None
- **Clubs, other organisations and advocacy groups:** None
- **Other personal interests:** None

Non-personal:

- **Fellowships:** None
- **Indirect support:** None
- **Trusteeships:** Trustee for Wild about Wallingford, 2022 to 2025
- **Land and property:** None
- **Other public appointments:** None
- **Other non-personal interests:** None

Professor Simon Pearson

Updated: December 2024

Current Interests

Personal:

- **Direct employment:** Head of School, Agri-Food Technology and Manufacturing. The University of Lincoln. Director Freiston Associates Ltd. Director Fruitcast.AI Ltd. Director Agaricus Robotics Ltd
- **Consultancies and other fee-paid work:** None
- **Shareholdings:** Fruitcast.AI. Frieston Associates Ltd
- **Clubs, other organisations and advocacy groups:** None
- **Other personal interests:** My wife is Director of CERES Agri-Tech at the University of Cambridge and Board Member of Horticulture Crop Protection

Non-personal:

- **Fellowships:** HonFRASE, FIAGR, FRSB
- **Indirect support:** BBSRC, EPSRC, IUK, Research England, NERC, STFC, H2020
- **Trusteeships:** Douglas Bomford Trust
- **Land and property:** House in Lincolnshire
- **Other public appointments:** Advisory Group Chair IUK Bridge AI
- **Other non-personal interests:** None

Historic Interests

Personal:

- **Direct employment:** None
- **Consultancies and other fee-paid work:** Xihelm Ltd, Cibus Investments
- **Shareholdings:** None
- **Clubs, other organisations and advocacy groups:** None
- **Other personal interests:** None

Non-personal:

- **Fellowships:** None
- **Indirect support:** None
- **Trusteeships:** None
- **Land and property:** None
- **Other public appointments:** None
- **Other non-personal interests:** None

Professor Richard Smith

Updated December 2025

Current Interests

Personal:

- **Direct Employment:** Professor of Public Health Economics and Deputy Pro Vice Chancellor for the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences at the University of Exeter 01-09-2018
- **Consultancies and other fee-paid work:** Small consultancy for FSA on IID3 Study (01-08-23 to 01-07-2028)
- **Shareholdings:** None
- **Clubs, other organisations and advocacy groups:** None
- **Other personal interests:** None

Non-personal:

- **Fellowships:** None
- **Indirect support:** None
- **Trusteeships:** None
- **Land and property:** None
- **Other public appointments:** Non-Executive Director, South West Academic Health Science Network 01-09-2018
- **Other non-personal interests:** None

Historic Interests

Personal:

- **Direct Employment:** None
- **Consultancies and other fee-paid work:** Small consultancies for FSA 2020-2025 and the World Bank (11-09-2023 to 30-06-2024)
- **Shareholdings:** None
- **Clubs, other organisations and advocacy groups:** None
- **Other personal interests:** None

Non-personal:

- **Fellowships:** None
- **Indirect support:** None
- **Trusteeships:** None
- **Land and property:** None
- **Other public appointments:** None
- **Other non-personal interests:** Non-Executive Director, Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Integrated Care Board 01-09-2024 to 01-11-2025. Non-Executive Director, Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust, Truro, 01-01-2019 to 31-05-2022

Professor Michael Tildesley

Updated: December 2024

Current Interests

Personal:

- **Direct employment** : University of Warwick (Since 2016)
- **Consultancies and other fee-paid work**: None
- **Shareholdings**: None
- **Clubs, other organisations and advocacy groups**: None
- **Other personal interests**: None

Non-personal:

- **Fellowships**: None
- **Indirect support**: None
- **Trusteeships**: None
- **Land and property**: None
- **Other public appointments**: None
- **Other non-personal interests**: None

Historic Interests

Personal:

- **Direct employment** : None
- **Consultancies and other fee-paid work**: Consultancy for DEFRA on highly pathogenic avian influenza spread (2022/23).
- **Shareholdings**: None
- **Clubs, other organisations and advocacy groups**: None
- **Other personal interests**: None

Non-personal:

- **Fellowships**: None
- **Indirect support**: None
- **Trusteeships**: None
- **Land and property**: None

- **Other public appointments:** None
- **Other non-personal interests:** None

Professor Jonathan Wastling

Updated: February 2026

Current Interests

Personal:

- **Direct employment :** Brunel University, London, since 2023.
- **Consultancies and other fee-paid work:** Editor for Cambridge University Press journal on infectious disease past 25 years
- **Shareholdings:** BP, Lloyds <£250
- **Clubs, other organisations and advocacy groups:** None
- **Other personal interests:** None

Non-personal:

- **Fellowships:** Fellow of the Royal Society of Biology since 2023
- **Indirect support:** None
- **Trusteeships:** PCC Parish Church Cheshire since 2023
- **Land and property:** None
- **Other public appointments:** None
- **Other non-personal interests:** None

Historic Interests

Personal:

- **Direct employment :** University of Keele (2015-2023)
- **Consultancies and other fee-paid work:** None
- **Shareholdings:** None
- **Clubs, other organisations and advocacy groups:** None
- **Other personal interests:** None

Non-personal:

- **Fellowships:** None
- **Indirect support:** None

- **Trusteeships:** None
- **Land and property:** None
- **Other public appointments:** None
- **Other non-personal interests:** None