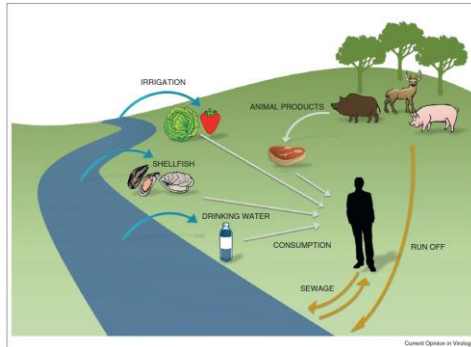
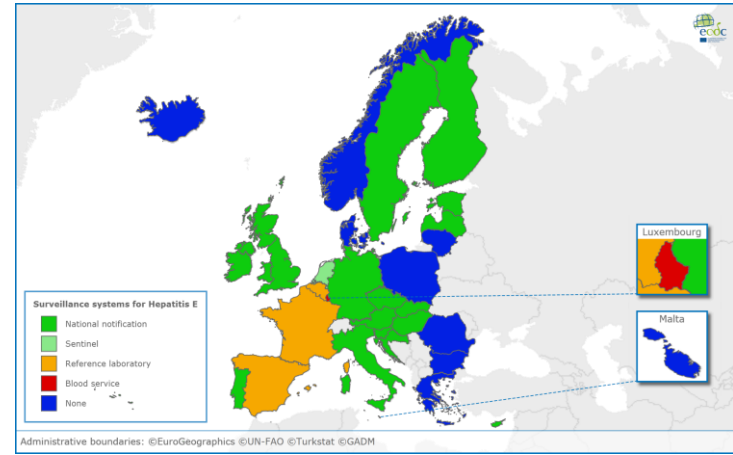
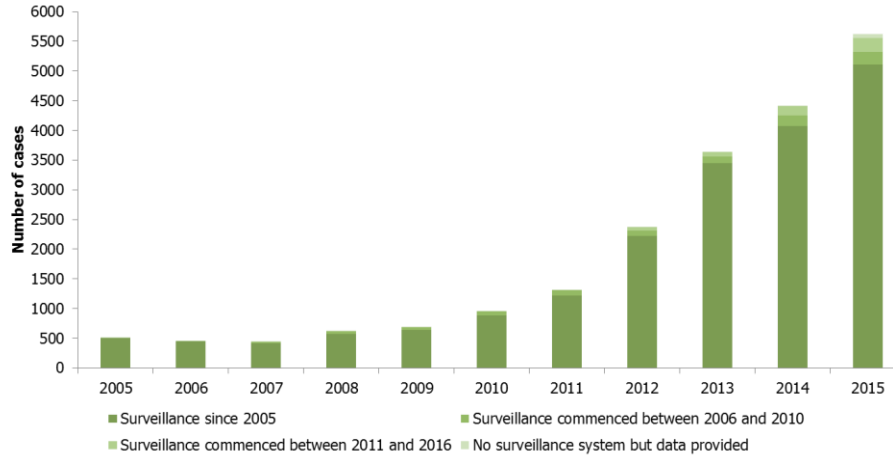




# Hepatitis E virus workshop



- **Promote scientific co-operation-** identify and plug evidence gaps, collaborate in research activities.
- **Inform policy interventions**
- Encourage **intelligence sharing** between MS- build networks of communication and collaboration between policy/decision makers and scientists.

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# Hepatitis E virus workshop

31 countries invited

**21 countries participated**

17 survey responses received\*

- What are the gaps in our understanding of HEV that pose challenges?
- What control measures are achievable in the short-term or long-term?

## **Priorities;**

1. Effective on-farm interventions
2. Achieve inactivation in high-risk products
3. Reduce human exposure

## **Output;**

- Report (Target- August 2018)
- National and international consortia including gathering industry support to test the application of potential policy interventions\*\*

# Strategic Evidence Fund (SEF)

Project	Outline
<b>Estimating the Direct Cost of Microbiological and Allergenic Foodborne Illness - further resources</b>	Extension to FS301067, allowing for greater academic input, access to data and peer review/QA.
<b>Trust in a Changing World</b>	Develop a strategic, accessible and compelling evidence base to help locate policy decisions in a sound knowledge of what will drive trust in a regulator and trust in the food system in an increasingly complex and changing world.
<b>2 years Research Fellow FSA/Centre for Analysis of Risk and Regulation-LSE</b>	Co-funding (50%) 2-year Research Fellowship to co-produce research to strengthen regulation, improve food safety and protect public health in the UK.
<b>Valuing FSA Research and Development Spend</b>	Develop and implement a new methodology to estimate and value the impact of Research and Development activities undertaken by the FSA.
<b>Barriers/Enablers of the Reporting of Food Crime Intelligence</b>	Identify enablers and barriers which support or impede the reporting of criminal intelligence (phase 1), and to devise and trial potential means of overcoming these barriers in order to increase the volume and improve the quality of intelligence about food crime received by NFCU (phase 2).
<b>DLT Pilots</b>	The use of Blockchain in abattoirs to improve Collection and Communication of Inspection Results.

# Alison Mather Fellowship

*Evolution, diversity and epidemiology of bacterial foodborne pathogens based on whole genome sequencing*

Food chain transmission pathways of AMR not fully understood- critical if effective control strategies are to be developed.

## Project objectives;

- Evaluate importance of food to the burden of pathogens and AMR in humans.
- Assess the contribution of imported vs domestically produced food to this burden.
- Investigate the role of non-pathogenic bacteria in food as a reservoir of AMR genes.

## Methodology;

- Sampling of retail food in a defined geographical region.
- Comparison with contemporaneous samples from animals and humans (collaboration with PHE and APHA).
- Sequencing to evaluate the prevalence, diversity, population structure and source attribution of pathogens and AMR in.



Visited Clive House on 31<sup>st</sup> of May

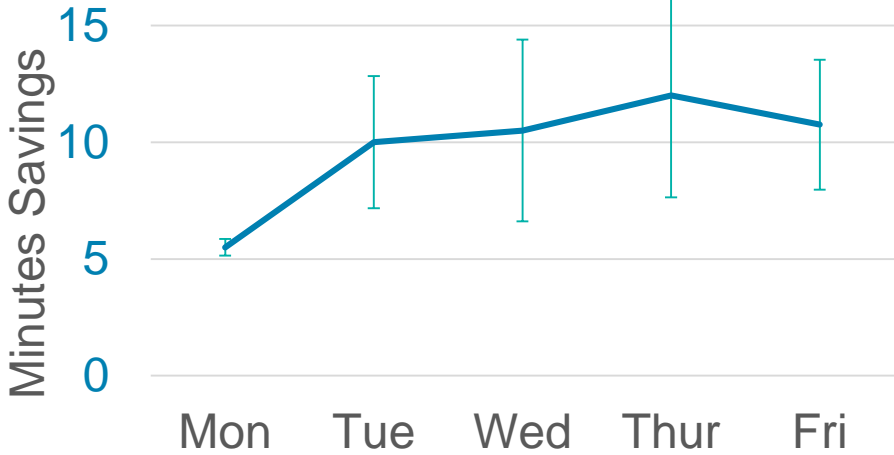
# Improved Official Controls for Meat Industry-Blockchain

Aim to develop a more efficient and effective approach to Collection and Communication of Inspection Results (CCIR)- current process is time consuming and repetitive with little added value.





## IRIS Completion



Daily Average: 10 min

Monthly Average: 3h 45min

Savings: IRIS + 'Throughput for Charging' System + Rejection Meat Receipts

## Abattoir Checks



### Historic

### Blockchain

Paperwork

Hygiene

Welfare

Health

# Data- 'hot topic'

- Meeting with **new GCSA, Patrick Vallance**, with Julie and Sian (July)
- Next CSA report to be on **'Open Data'** \*
- Scope for SC input



"The Food Hygiene Rating Scheme (FHRS) has been a significant development for food safety and one which has delivered tangible benefits for consumers across the country. The scheme has empowered people, helping them choose to eat in places with higher ratings. This in turn has pushed restaurants and other food businesses to drive up hygiene standards to attract more customers.

In September 2017, 67% of businesses with a rating were achieving the top standard of '5 – very good'. Since the introduction of mandatory display of FHRS in Wales, businesses with a rating of 5 have gone up by 21 percentage points.

This progress has been good to see. I am particularly encouraged that our research has linked higher ratings to lower levels of microbes found in food businesses, ultimately lowering the risk to consumers from foodborne illness.

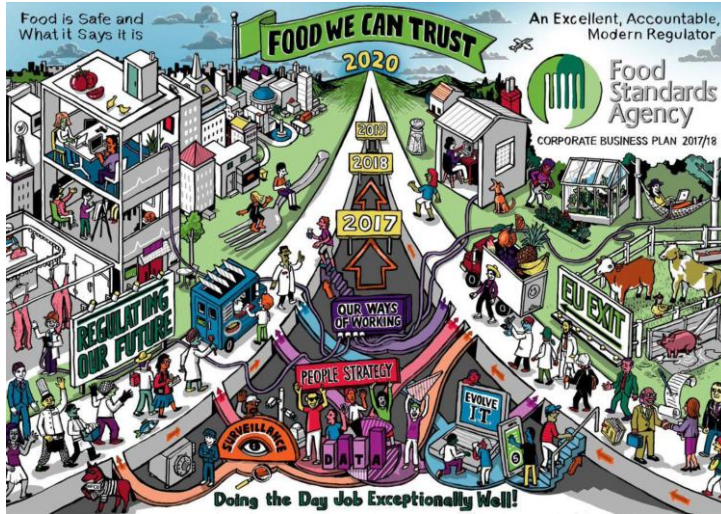
Mandatory display of hygiene ratings has been a success in Wales and Northern Ireland and I am pleased that the FSA remains committed to seeing these benefits also realised in England. This will be good for consumers and good for businesses achieving high standards. It will also be an added incentive for businesses with poorer standards to improve."

**Professor Guy Poppy**,  
FSA Chief Scientific Adviser





# Priorities and Challenges



## Funding 'Landscape'

- ↑GDP research spend uplift- 1.7% to **2.4%**
- **UKRI**
- **Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund-** academic/industrial collaborative funding
- **Strategic Prioritise Fund-** more direct focus on **Gov ARIs?**

WG outputs (Capacity & Capability, and Uncertainty & Assurance) timely- **Future of the FSA;**

For FSA to be **science and evidence** led;



- Repatriation of responsibility
- Recruitment and retention- RA vs RM