

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE MICROBIOLOGICAL SAFETY OF FOOD

DISCUSSION PAPER

Draft report of the fixed term AMR task and finish group - Antimicrobial resistance in the food chain; research questions and potential approaches

1. Following discussion at FSA board level relating to the responsible use of antibiotics in food production, the Agency established a fixed term AMR task and finish group consisting of the existing ACMSF AMR working group and additional members co-opted for their expertise. The group was established in May 2017 and met a total of five times.
2. The group developed a food chain focussed AMR systems map taking into account a wider AMR systems map developed by Department. of Health, Public Health England, Department. for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Veterinary Medicines Directorate in 2014. This map guided the discussions and activities of the group, and identified eight main reservoirs with a potential AMR impact relevant to FSA, which were subsequently reviewed within the group's report. As part of this review process, the group also received presentations on antibiotic usage and AMR from a number of UK food animal production sectors (poultry meat, pigs, dairy and beef cattle, sheep). The fish, gamebird and egg sectors were not formally considered by the group.
3. The eight main reservoirs of relevance to FSA research questions were identified as:
 - Pasture & Crops
 - Amendments
 - Food Producing Animals
 - Animal Feed
 - Abattoir & Carcass Processing
 - Food Processing
 - Human Food
 - Humans
4. Given the fixed term nature of this task, the group focussed on identifying research priorities of specific relevance to the FSA, rather than generating another comprehensive literature review of the expanding literature in this area.
5. The group has prepared a draft of its report for presentation to the ACMSF. The report is attached as Annex A, the AMR broad systems map is attached

as Annex B and the food focussed systems map developed by the group is attached as Annex C. Evidence received by the group is attached as Annex D (for Members' use only).

6. The aim is for the Committee to review the report and indicate whether the key areas have been covered by the expert group so that the report can be provided to the FSA Board in the near future.

The Committee is invited to:

- Review the draft report and indicate whether it is content for the report to be provided to the FSA Board in the near future.

**Secretariat
January 2018**

Annex A – Draft report of the fixed- term AMR task and finish group

Annex B – AMR broad systems map

Annex C – AMR food focussed map

Annex C (for Members' use only)- Evidence received by the group