

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE MICROBIOLOGICAL SAFETY OF FOOD

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 8th JUNE MEETING AND MATTERS
OUTSTANDING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The attached schedule records action taken on matters arising from the Committee's fifty-ninth meeting held on 8 June 2006. Outstanding action points from earlier meetings are also updated in this paper.

**Secretariat
September 2006**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE MICROBIOLOGICAL SAFETY OF FOOD

RECORD OF ACTION TAKEN ON MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE FIFTY-NINETH MEETING (ACM/MIN/59) AND ACTIONS OUTSTANDING FROM EARLIER MEETINGS

ACM/MIN/ 58 para	Topic and action required	Action taken
4.1	<p>Minutes of 58th meeting Members approved minutes as a correct record of meeting. Secretariat asked to arrange putting these on website.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actioned.
5.3	<p>Matters arising Request that FSA invite HPA to address the impact of cuts in funding on the timeliness and quality of data from HPA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An intersessional paper on this matter will go to the FSA Board in the autumn
6.4	<p>Vacuum packaged and modified atmosphere packaged foods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FSA to convene a small group to deliver simple summarised guidance • FSA to bring guidance to the attention of other Member States via the Commission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FSA are finalising membership of the drafting group and will shortly approach them for availability for the first meeting (aiming for October 2006) • When the draft guidance is revised by the drafting group FSA will seek ACMSF approval for its publication. Once published we will bring it to the attention of the Commission
7.4	<p>Update on poultry surveillance</p> <p>Dr Meldrum to consider the following for future surveys:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of information on speciation of <i>Salmonella</i> and <i>Campylobacter</i>; • Quantification of bacterial load; • Determination of antibiotic resistance of isolates; • Quality Assurance protocols to ensure comparability of data between laboratories in Wales and Northern Ireland; • Carry out retrospective power of surveillance calculations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information received. Inclusion in progress • Under review • Information received. Inclusion in progress • Work in progress – protocols being obtained • Retrospective power calculations completed and reported to Surveillance Group (June 2006)

8.4	<p>Safe cooking of burgers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secretariat to publish report for public consultation as soon as possible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actioned. Draft report was issued for formal consultation on 18 July 2006. Deadline for responses is 20 October 2006.
9.1	<p>ACMSF report on infant botulism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secretariat to publish the consultation table of responses on the web site Secretariat to submit final report to FSA Chair for approval for final publication in the autumn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actioned. Response table published on web site in July. FSA published electronic and hard copy of report on 7 September 2006
10.5	<p>Listeria update</p> <p>HPA to provide a further update in December 2006 which is to include data for the first 6 months of 2006.</p>	<p>Work in progress. Paper on this item scheduled for the December ACMSF meeting.</p>
11.4	<p>Horizon scanning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members to submit suggestions for horizon scanning topics to Secretariat Secretariat to circulate revised list to Members and Members to rank list in terms of priorities for consideration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agenda item 12 refers Actioned
12.3	<p>EFIG</p> <p>Secretariat to provide a written paper on EFIG activities for future ACMSF meetings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A paper on EFIG activities will be provided at the December meeting
14.3	<p>Working group on avian influenza</p> <p>Secretariat to incorporate editorial changes suggested by Dr Brown</p>	<p>Actioned</p>
16	<p>AOB</p> <p>Secretariat to provide MSD's Forward Look of Research for information and information on how to access MSFFG research database</p>	<p>Actioned</p>
17.6; 17.7	<p>Public Q&A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Bassett to provide information on E.coli O157 data used in modelling work for the burgers report FSA to consider whether the 10 day rule proposed in the guidance on vacuum packaging would create barriers to trade. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actioned FSA are aware that shelf lives differ across the EU and appreciate some stakeholder views that to impose restrictions could be a barrier to trade,

		<p>unless they are to be applied equally throughout the EU. FSA will take a first step towards addressing this issue by bringing the guidance to the attention of the Commission once published</p>
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ACTION POINTS CARRIED FORWARD FROM PREVIOUS ACMSF MEETINGS		
ACM/MIN/ 58 para	Topic and action required	Action taken
5.1	Matters arising Request that FSA invite HPA to address the impact of cuts in funding on the timeliness and quality of data from HPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actioned. Jon Bell has raised this issue with HPA's CE. Judith Hilton has also contacted Brian Bradley (HPA)
13.2	Public Q&A Paul Cook to seek a response from FSA officials on whether wider discussions on labelling had taken place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in progress - FSA have included examples of best practise in the draft Guidelines for the meat industry. Issue to be addressed once requirement to comply with the Regulation has been satisfied.
ACM/MIN/ 57para	Topic and action required	Action taken
6.3	DWI report case study on MAP risk factors FSA to consider further the survival of MAP in solid foods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actioned. Research on MAP survival in solid foods is under review
10.4	Working group on surveillance Committee to consider the design of sampling programmes and sample numbers at a future meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actioned. Working Group on surveillance provided oral report to June ACMSF meeting Agenda item 13 refers