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Advisory Committee on Animal Feedstuffs

ANNUAL REPORT 2007

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Foreword



The Committee had another busy and productive year. One of the main issues has been the potential use of co-products from the production of biofuels and the subsequent impact on the animal feed sector. This is a complex issue and I am grateful to relevant stakeholders for their contribution to ACAF deliberations, which helped the Committee to focus on key issues and to reach a consensus on the likely impact. The Committee's draft position paper on biofuels reflects current opinion and will be reviewed regularly as further information develops.

During the year the Committee received a number of presentations. I believe that sharing the experience of individual members by way of presentations to the Committee assists informed discussion about issues relating to the terms of reference of ACAF and several members were able to contribute in this way. As in previous years, the Committee also kept abreast of EC developments, receiving regular updates from the Food Standards Agency and Defra.

The Committee continues to liaise with other advisory committees. It was a disappointment that a planned joint workshop with the Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition on the manipulation of animal diets in order to enhance the nutritional value of animal products for human consumption has had to be deferred. I am optimistic that there will be early progress with consideration of this important topic.

ACAF is committed to having regular contact with all our stakeholders. I am particularly proud that all Committee meetings are open to the public and that one meeting per year is held outside London. Regular visits to farms and industry have served to keep members focused on evidence and the practices which must inform our deliberations and decisions. The annual out of town meeting in 2007 was held in Edinburgh on 5 June. The day before the meeting the Committee visited two establishments – BioMar Ltd in Grangemouth which is part of a multinational manufacturer of fish feeds and Wellington Farm a pig farm on the outskirts of Edinburgh.

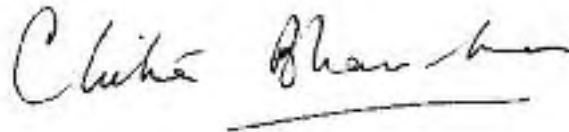
During my term of office I was able to have a meeting with the European Food Safety Authority (Animal Feed Panel) when they were still based in Brussels. I would suggest that all advisory committees should develop formal contact with the relevant EC counterpart in order to ensure early alignment in deliberation of issues.

The Committee has completed two important reviews during my chairmanship. The first was the Review of On-Farm Feeding Practices which was undertaken to identify practises, with a view to making recommendations on 'best practice' for all stakeholders and their advisors. Following the review the Committee made 12 recommendations which were published in a report. The review has been well received by the agriculture industry, with farmers adopting the recommendations. Key points in the review have been incorporated into training courses for local authority enforcement officers and a popular A3 poster summarising the main points for farmers was produced.

The second review was on Feed Law Enforcement. The review was wide ranging and the conclusions and recommendations were published. Once again, the review was welcomed and endorsed by a wide range of stakeholders. The Food Standards Agency drew up an 'action plan' in response to the Committee's recommendations and I am pleased to note that most of the actions have been completed. The result is a significant increase in consistency of approach and co-ordination between the various agencies throughout the UK that are responsible for feed law enforcement.

It has been an honour and a pleasure serving as the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs I have served for six years and I valued the high calibre of the membership of the Committee. I am grateful for the unstinting loyalty and support I received throughout my two busy terms of office. Discussions were always well informed by both the 'lay' and 'professional' views and the desirability of achieving consensus did not stifle enthusiastic debate.

Finally, I wish to thank the Committee and the Secretariat for their efficient support. Staff changes were managed smoothly and preparation for meetings, thorough. Two important Reviews could not have been completed without a great deal of hard work. The work plan for each year was ambitious and the forward work plan is no different. I have every confidence that the Committee, assisted by the Secretariat will continue to provide the Agency with high quality advice which is based on evidence.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Chitra Bharucha". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

Chitra Bharucha MB BS, FRCPATH, FRSA, DMedSc

Chairman of ACAF

About the Committee

1. The Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs (ACAF) was set up in June 1999 to advise on the safety and use of animal feeds and feeding practices, with particular emphasis on protecting human health and with reference to new technical developments and new feed materials and products.

2. The decision to set up the Committee was made in the light of concern about the integrity of animal feeds, particularly over the implications of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) and the use of genetically modified (GM) feed ingredients. The decision was announced in the White Paper, "The Food Standards Agency: A Force for Change", published in January 1998 and it implemented the principal recommendation of the report of the Expert Group on Animal Feedingstuffs, published in July 1992.

3. The Committee's primary purpose is to advise on the safety and use of animal feed in relation to human health. However, it also covers animal health aspects and a wide range of contemporary issues including advice on the UK negotiating line on new European Community (EC) proposals, animal feed ingredients including genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and labelling and information for purchasers of animal feed.

4. ACAF is a UK-wide advisory committee and is made up of independent experts who are appointed by UK Ministers and the Food Standards Agency (FSA). Members are appointed for their individual expertise and experience and are not representative of any sector or organisation.

Terms of Reference

5. ACAF advises the Food Standards Agency, the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Ministers of the Scottish Government and the National Assembly for Wales, and the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development in Northern Ireland on the safety and use of animal feeds and feeding practices, with particular emphasis on protecting human health and with reference to new technical developments. In carrying out its functions, the Committee liaises with other relevant advisory committees as appropriate.

How to Contact the Committee

6. ACAF welcomes your views and suggestions on all aspects of its work. Please address your comments and any requests for information to:

The ACAF Secretariat
Food Standards Agency
Room 315
Aviation House
London WC2B 6NH

Tel: 020 7276 8083
Fax: 020 7276 8478

Email: acaf@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

If you would like to receive ACAF documents regularly, please complete the form at Annex I and return it to the Secretariat at the address above.

The Committee's Work in 2007

The Use of Co-Products in Feeds

7. As part of its remit to advise on the safety and use of various feed types, the Committee undertook an examination of the use in animal feeding of co-products from food production and processing. The Committee also examined the use for animal feeds of surplus or out of date food products such as some bakery and confectionery products.

8. Co-products are materials from the food and drink, and milling industries which have a value as feed materials and have been traditionally used for this purpose. Examples of co-products include soybean meal from the extraction of soybean oil, beet pulp and molasses from sugar refining, and grains from the brewing and distilling industries. These materials are produced as an integral part of the production process and must not be considered as rejected or discarded products. They often have a high nutritional content and when marketed as feed materials they comply with the requirements of feedingstuffs legislation (i.e. they are fit for their intended purpose and free from harmful ingredients).

9. To assist it in its examination, the Committee received a presentation from Robin Crawshaw, an independent feed advisor, who provided information on the various types of co-products and their uses.

10. Food businesses may not have a food use for certain co-product fractions for reasons unrelated to safety (e.g. because products are of the wrong specification, or have been mislabelled). These food products, which may otherwise have to be disposed of via landfill or incineration, represent potential feed materials subject to animal acceptability and feed law controls.

11. The Committee was informed of the possible classification of co-products or surplus food products as waste. This is important because there are a number of onerous requirements on operators handling waste products – producers require a waste disposal licence, end-users require a waste user licence, and hauliers are required to exchange waste transfer notes. There are additional concerns that consumers may reject the feeding of waste materials.

12. Following a number of decisions in the European Court of Justice it had been accepted that co-products destined for feed use should not be classed as waste. However, the EC Waste Directive was being reviewed and there was a possibility that such materials would be brought within the scope of that Directive.

13. The Committee concluded that co-products and surplus products from the food industry were valuable feed ingredients and their use was adequately controlled by existing EC feed legislation. If such products conformed to feed law, and their eventual use was known, there was no reason why they should be classified as waste. Bringing co-products and other food products suitable for feed use within the scope of waste legislation would add another layer of unnecessary administrative controls, and may directly lead to the wastage of a large quantity of perishable feed materials. Since alternative disposal routes for food co-products included landfill and incineration, the Committee concluded their use for animal feeding was a good example of sustainability in action.

Biofuels

14. As part of the Committee's work programme for 2007, the Committee examined the impact of biofuel production on the safety, composition and availability of animal feed. In particular, it reviewed the types of co-products derived from the production of biofuels that have, or may have, a use in animal feeding. This took into account the possible new types of co-products from the biofuel industry. The Committee also examined the implications of the increasing use of crops for biofuel production on the continued supply of materials for use as animal feed.

15. Biofuel production has already made a significant impact on world food and feed markets. There has been an increase in the demand for biofuels due to the perceived need to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from other fuels (petrol, diesel). European Parliament and Council Directive 2003/30/EC of 8 May 2003 on the promotion of the use of biofuels and other renewable fuels for transport (the Biofuels Directive) established targets for the use of biofuels and other renewable sources of fuel as a means of reducing the transport sector's contribution to the emissions thought to be causing climate change. In the UK, the Renewable Transport Fuels Obligation (RTFO) incorporates the targets which are to be implemented in stages up to 31 December 2010.

16. As part of the Committee's examination of this subject area, representatives from various sectors of industry and other stakeholders were invited to give presentations from their perspective with regard to the impact of biofuels on animal feeds.

17. The main co-products of biofuel production are rapeseed meal (from biodiesel production) and distiller's grains (from bioethanol production). Both co-products, derived from other processes, are already used as feed materials in the UK. Another co-product of biodiesel production is glycerol which is a high energy feed material, although not currently widely used in livestock diets.

18. The Committee did not consider that there were currently any significant concerns about the safety of co-products from biofuel production for use in animal feeds. However, the Committee identified a number of issues relating to:

- the use of co-products with a value as feed ingredients in direct incineration for power generation;
- the impact of biofuels on the global market in relation to the availability of cereal crops for feed; and
- targets under the legislation which also reduced the availability of crops for feed use.

19. At its meeting in December 2007 the Committee agreed that a position paper should be prepared setting out various issues relevant to animal feeds. This should include the impact of biofuels on the safety of materials used in animal feeds, animal nutrition, and the availability/quality of feed crops and co-products for feed use. The views of other relevant government departments would be sought and a draft of the paper would be presented to the Committee for its first meeting in 2008. The Committee agreed that the issue of biofuels was subject to rapidly changing developments and the topic should be kept under regular review to reflect new information as it became available.

20. *The report has since been lodged on the ACAF website and drawn to the attention of relevant stakeholders.*

Regulating the Use of Coccidiostats and Histomonostats

21. In March 2007 the Committee was invited by the Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD) to give its view on the current regulation of coccidiostats and histomonostats as feed additives as veterinary medicines. Coccidiostats and histomonostats are substances intended to kill or inhibit certain protozoa usually found in the gut of poultry. Article 11 (1) of the EC Feed Additives Regulation (1831/2003) requires the Commission to provide a report to the European Parliament and the Council by 1 January 2008 with a view to making a decision on the phasing out the use of coccidiostats/histomonostats as feed additives by 2012. This might then result in such products being approved and controlled under EC veterinary medicines legislation.

22. In preparing the report the Commission sought information from Member States on sales of coccidiostats and histomonostats, the use of alternative products and the incidence and prevalence of coccidiosis. VMD had sought advice from stakeholders in this respect and members of the Committee were invited to consider this issue and contribute to VMD's consolidated response to the Commission's data gathering exercise.

23. The Committee said that coccidiosis in poultry flocks is a serious problem that required preventative action with the use of coccidiostatic products. The need to treat coccidiosis would therefore remain. The main issue with the classification of coccidiostats and histomonostats as veterinary medicines was that farmers would need to obtain these products on prescription; this would make their use for preventative purposes more difficult. They would need to wait for clinical symptoms to present themselves before acting. It was also noted that manufacturers of the products were already anticipating the outcome and were anticipating a possible need to get coccidiostats authorised as veterinary medicines.

24. Several members of the Committee were concerned that the cost of approval of veterinary medicines was significantly higher than that for feed additive approval, and some manufacturers may therefore decide to cease production of certain products, thus reducing the number available for use. Because of possible build up of antimicrobial resistance, it has been common place for farmers to switch from using one coccidiostat to another. With fewer products on the market there might be potential for resistance problems to increase.

25. Some members of the Committee questioned whether there was data to back up the concern over the build up of antimicrobial resistance in animals. VMD confirmed that Defra, the Food Standards Agency and the Department of Health took the issue of antimicrobial resistance in farmed animals seriously; surveillance data available demonstrated the extent of the problem.

26. At the Committee's meeting held in September 2007 the VMD reported that consultation responses received from industry organisations indicated opposition to any change in the regulation of these products. The main reason was that the change would bring about additional costs, which in turn would compromise control of coccidiosis by reducing the availability of products. Industry was also concerned that the current tight controls on the use of coccidiostats (there are currently no authorised histomonostat feed additives available in the EU) could not be replicated under veterinary medicinal product legislation.

27. ACAF noted the new arguments put forward by the VMD and agreed to review its position once the European Commission has reported, which is likely to be in Spring 2008.

Presentations

28. During 2007 the Committee received several presentations from external experts to help facilitate their consideration of a wide range of animal feed issues. Summaries of some of these presentations are set out below.

Control of feed imports

29. Mr Stephen Nixon, an official from the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development for Northern Ireland (DARDNI), provided the Committee with an overview of the EC legislation that applies to imported feed including that relating to genetically modified feed and veterinary medicinal products. The Committee was also informed that a European Community Food and Veterinary Office (FVO) mission to the UK at the end of 2006 on undesirable substances in food and feed at import level was content with the controls in place and had made no specific recommendations.

30. Nevertheless, the Food Standards Agency was not being complacent and continued to work hard to keep imports high on the list of priorities of local authorities, whose responsibility it was to conduct inspections in Great Britain. DARD carries out these inspections in NI. The Food Standards Agency will also consider the production of improved guidance for enforcement authorities and training on imported feed controls. Work is already underway aimed at encouraging the European Community to consider more practical methods for the sampling of bulk consignments of feed materials.

Aquaculture

31. As part of its forward work plan the Committee reviewed the latest developments in aquaculture and fish feed. As part of this review, the Committee received a presentation from Dr Ralph Bickerdike, Product Developer and Food Safety Officer at BioMar Ltd (a fish feed manufacturing company) at its June 2007 meeting.

32. During the presentation the Committee was informed that the demand for fish had steadily increased over the past thirty years. Most of the demand had been met through expansion of farmed fish. The UK aquaculture industry produces mainly salmon, trout and cod. Fish feed production is approximately 1.5% of total feed production, with three

major fish feed manufacturers operating in the UK. The key materials used in fish feed are fishmeal and fish oil, both of which originate from wild caught fish.

33. The growth in aquaculture was driving an increase in demand for feed and therefore an increase in demand for wild caught fish for use in such feeds. In view of the attendant sustainability issues, the industry has started to use alternative materials such as plant oils (e.g. rapeseed in the UK). The industry was becoming increasingly aware of the presence of environmental contaminants (e.g. dioxins) in fishmeal and fish oil.

34. The Committee noted that viable options have been found in partly substituting fish oil with plant oil. Land animal products (LAPs) such as blood meal and feather meal can be used as substitutes for fishmeal. Land animal products are used in Europe and other parts of the world in aquaculture feeds. However no LAPs are used in salmon feeds for the Scottish industry. The reluctance in the UK market to substitute LAPs for fishmeal was thought in part to be due to the concerns which supermarkets and consumers had with the use of such materials. The Committee agreed that, whilst noting consumers' concerns for this practice, the UK aquaculture industry should move towards using more LAPs for sustainability reasons.

Responsible Use of Medicines in Agriculture Alliance (RUMA)

35. At its September 2007 meeting ACAF Member Tim Brigstocke provided a presentation on the work of the Responsible Use of Medicines in Agriculture (RUMA) Alliance, an organisation of which he is a member. It was explained that RUMA is a government/industry alliance that was established in 1997 to promote the highest standards of food safety, animal health and animal welfare in British livestock farming.

36. The Committee noted that RUMA is a unique initiative involving organisations representing every stage of the food chain, facilitating transparency and accountability in the process. RUMA has issued detailed guidelines on a variety of issues, including the responsible use of antimicrobials and vaccines. The Alliance's advice is disseminated through its industry members and via its website:

ruma.org.uk or info@ruma.org.uk.

Genetically Modified (GM) Issues

Unauthorised Bt10 GM Maize

37. In April 2005 a Commission Decision introduced emergency measures requiring imports of corn gluten feed and brewers' grain from the USA to be certified as free from unauthorised Bt10 maize. At its November 2006 meeting the Committee was informed that no consignments imported into the EU had tested positive for Bt10 since November 2005. At the March 2007 meeting Members were informed that the European Commission and Member States had agreed to revoke the emergency requirements introduced in April 2005. The Committee, noting the action taken, considered this to be a proportionate and reasonable way forward.

Approval of GM lines

38. At the September 2007 meeting it was reported that four GM lines (sugar beet H7-1, NK603-Mon810, 1507-NK603 and 59122 maize) were currently going through the European Community approval system and were soon to be voted on by the Council of Ministers. It was confirmed at the December 2007 meeting that these GM lines had received authorisation. It was also noted that the feed industry was experiencing difficulties arising from asynchronous authorisation of GM plant materials. This related in particular, to the fact that approval for a new GM event can be granted on average within fifteen months in the US, yet can take between two and ten years in the EU, with consequential trade implications. The Committee expressed concern about the tardiness of the EU approval system and asked to be kept informed of developments in this important area.

ACAF GM Sub-group

39. The sub-group is accountable to the full Committee via the former's Chairman who provides a report at each ACAF meeting. As a further accountability measure, the Committee's Chairman is an *ex-officio* member of the sub-group. Membership of the sub-group is set out in Annex II.

40. At its June 2007 meeting the Chairman of the GM sub-group informed the Committee that the sub-group had been asked by the Advisory Committee on Releases to the Environment (ACRE) for views on the EFSA position on the use of nptII antibiotic resistance marker gene as a selective marker in crops used as feedingstuff and its relevance to the authorisation of GM maize MON863 in relation to animal feeding. The Chairman of the sub-group reported that the response supported, as a matter of principle, moves to exclude any antibiotic resistance determinants used as selection markers in the development of transgenic plants from the final construct. The sub-group's view on the safety of GM maize MON863 when used as animal feed remained unchanged, i.e. there is no difference in safety between this and any other strain of maize.

41. The Chairman of the GM sub-group informed the Committee at its September 2007 meeting that the sub-group had been asked by ACRE for views on the EFSA review of the statistics applied to the MON863 rat study. The Chairman of the sub-group reported that the response made on behalf of ACAF supported the EFSA review. The sub-group agreed with the EFSA conclusion that the statistically significant differences seen in body weights at various times during the 90 day study were probably attributable to fluctuations in food intake and not indicative of an adverse response. Similarly, the sub-group agreed that differences seen in the various biochemical parameters and organ weights measured arose largely by chance and were without toxicological significance. Consequently, the sub-group, responding on behalf of ACAF, saw no reason to revise its original opinion on the safety of MON 863 when used for animal feed purposes.

EC Developments

42. In addition to those already mentioned, the Committee received updating reports on a wide range of EC policies and legislation throughout 2007 in the form of EC Development information papers.

EC Feed Hygiene Regulation (183/2005)

Community Guides

43. At its meeting held on 6 March 2007 the Committee discussed the European Commission's and Member States' assessment of three Community guides to good practice, which were developed in accordance with Article 22 of Regulation 183/2005. The guides may be used on a voluntary basis by feed business operators as an aid to compliance with the requirements of Regulation 183/2005. They were published in the 'C' series of the Official Journal of the European Union and covered the following areas:

- compound feed and premixture manufacturing for food producing animals (submitted by the European Feed Manufacturers' Federation - FEFAC);
- safe pet food manufacturer (submitted by the European Pet Food Industry - FEDIAF); and
- feed additive and premixture operator (submitted by the European Association for Feed Additives and Premixtures Quality System - FAMI QS Asbl).

The Committee concluded that the documents contained extremely useful guidance in support of the Feed Hygiene legislation and demonstrated the industry's commitment to maximising good practice.

44. The Secretary to the Committee reported that the UK farming industry had drawn up a Code of Practice on On-Farm Feeding, based on ACAF's report on the same subject. The intention was that the organisation representing the European farming industry would submit a draft European guide (based on the UK code) for approval by the European Commission and Member States.

45. These Guides, which may be developed or extended in the light of experience of their operation, can be found at the following link:

ec.europa.eu/food/food/animalnutrition/feedhygiene/guide_goodpractice_en.print.htm

National Guides

46. In addition to the Community Guides, Article 21 of the Feed Hygiene Regulation provides for the development, assessment and dissemination of voluntary National Guides to good practice. An update was provided on these requirements at the ACAF meeting held on 5 June 2007.

47. A public consultation exercise launched on 29 March 2007, on draft guidelines setting out the proposed mechanism and criteria by which the UK will conduct its assessment and recognition process, closed on 21 June 2007. Responses were received from six organisations and these were generally supportive of the procedures set out in the draft guidelines and subsequently only minor amendment of the guidelines was required. The Committee was very supportive of the proposed assessment and recognition process and asked the FSA assessor to inform the Committee of any National Guides drawn up.

48. A summary of responses and a full copy of the consultation package can be found on the Agency's website at:

food.gov.uk/consultations/consulteng/2007/feedguidegoodpractice

49. To view a copy of the revised guidelines, please visit the Agency's website at:

food.gov.uk/foodindustry/farmingfood/animalfeed/animalfeedlegislation

Article 18(3) Requirements

50. At the Committee's meeting in December 2007 the FSA assessor stated it was reported that Regulation 183/2005 required virtually all feed businesses to be approved or registered with their enforcement authority by 1 January 2006. Article 18(3) of the Regulation required certain feed businesses to declare by 1 January 2008 'that the conditions laid down in this Regulation are being met'. This mainly includes those businesses, including farms which were not registered under previous legislation (Directive 95/69/EC). Such businesses included feed importers, merchants, hauliers, food businesses selling co-products for feed use, livestock farms, fish farms (other than on-farm mixers) and arable farms selling crops for feed use.

51. The Agency's Animal Feed Unit issued guidance to local authorities and the feed industry, including farmers to further publicise the requirement for feed businesses to submit a compliance statement to their local authorities that enforce the requirements of the Regulation.

52. A copy of this documentation can be found on the Agency's website:

food.gov.uk/foodindustry/farmingfood/animalfeed/animalfeedlegislation

53. The Committee noted with interest that the comprehensive controls on feed businesses were consistent with views expressed in the Committee's report on Feed Law Enforcement.

Microbiological Criteria

54. At its meeting held in June 2007 the FSA assessor advised the Committee that Article 5(3) (a) of Regulation 1831/2003 enables specific microbiological criteria to be adopted (e.g. measures to control salmonella). The European Commission had requested an opinion from EFSA on the microbiological risks from feedingstuffs for food-producing animals. It was understood that this would be addressed by EFSA's biological hazards (BIOHAZ) panel, but other interested panels would be consulted. The Committee will be updated on this issue during 2008.

The Feed (Specified Undesirable Substances) Regulations 2006

55. Between May and August 2007 the Food Standards Agency undertook a public consultation on the draft Feed (Specified Undesirable Substances) England Regulations 2007. The Committee was one of the consultees. Parallel consultations on similar regulations took place in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. These contain provisions to implement Commission Directive 2006/77/EC of 29 September 2006 amending and extending the maximum permitted levels (MPLs) for a range of organochlorine compounds, chiefly pesticides, in animal feed.

56. The finalised Regulations came into force on 30 November 2007 (SI 2007 No 3007). The Regulations were lodged on the Office of Public Sector Information website:

opsi.gov.uk/si/si200730.htm

Official Feed and Food Controls Regulation (EC) No 882/2004

57. This Regulation sets out the general approach that must be taken, and the principles that must be adopted by the competent authorities in EU Member States that have responsibility for monitoring and enforcing feed and food law and animal health and animal welfare rules. It also provides the legal basis for the European Commission to assess the effectiveness of national enforcement arrangements. The aim is to create a more comprehensive and integrated, risk-based, EU-wide, 'farm to fork' approach to official controls. The objective is to improve the consistency and effectiveness of controls across the EU and as a consequence, raise standards of food safety and consumer protection and provide a more level playing field for businesses. Most of the provisions applied from 1 January 2006, with others applying from 1 January 2007.

58. The Committee was consulted and updated throughout 2007 regarding progress on the development of a series of legal and administrative application measures and associated guidance material. The Committee said it was pleased to note that the work it had undertaken during its review of feed law enforcement had been taken into account in the guidance that had been drawn up.

Annual Report on implementation of the National Control Plan (NCP)

59. The Head of the Animal Feed Unit's enforcement team informed the Committee about the development of a single, integrated National Control Plan (NCP) for the UK covering the period January 2007 to March 2011. This was prepared jointly by the Agency and the four UK Agriculture/Rural Affairs Departments. It describes the regulatory landscape in the UK in the feed and food sectors (as well as the animal health, animal welfare and plant health sectors). The Plan sets out details of the roles and responsibilities of the different authorities and associated bodies that are involved and provides an overview of how they work together to safeguard public, animal and plant health and to protect consumer interests. The strategic objectives of the Plan and the planned official control activities during the duration of the Plan are also set out. In the summer of 2007 the Agency and the four agriculture departments undertook a review of the UK National Control Plan. No substantive amendments were made as a result of the review but the Plan has been updated to reflect organisational and legislative changes. The revised Plan is available on the FSA website at:

food.gov.uk/foodindustry/regulation/europeleg/feedandfood/ncpuk

60. Member States are required to report annually on the implementation of their respective national control plans. The Food Standards Agency is working closely with the four agriculture/rural affairs departments to prepare the first UK report for submission to the European Commission by the end of June 2008. Guidelines for the preparation of reports were adopted by Member States in December 2007 and will be published in the Official Journal of the European Union in due course.

Implementation of Article 28 – expenses arising from additional official controls

61. Article 28 requires that the competent authorities charge feed or food business operators for expenses arising from additional official controls that are undertaken following the detection of non-compliance with feed or food law, and where these activities exceed normal control activities. In 2007 a public consultation exercise on the implementation of Article 28 took place. Following the consultation, the legal measures needed to give this requirement effect were included in the Official Feed and Food Controls (England) Regulations 2007 and parallel legislation was also made in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Associated guidance notes aimed at ensuring consistency in application were also finalised. The Guidance notes were published in December 2007 and can be accessed on the link below:

food.gov.uk/foodindustry/guidancenotes/foodguid/offcexpenses

Implementing rules for import controls for 'high-risk' products of non-animal origin

62. Discussions at EU level on implementing rules for import controls for high risk feed and food of non-animal origin took place throughout 2007. The Food Standards Agency undertook a full public consultation on the proposals between March and May 2007 and stakeholders views including those of the Committee have been taken into account in developing the UK position during these discussions. Progress has been slow and a number of issues remain unresolved. Despite this the Commission is optimistic that the rules will be agreed in the first half of 2008. Stakeholders have been kept up to date with developments via the Rapidly Developing Policy page on the Agency's website. The latest update is at:

[food.gov.uk/foodindustry/regulation/europeleg/euupdates/euupdateof
fcont0710](http://food.gov.uk/foodindustry/regulation/europeleg/euupdates/euupdateof
fcont0710)

Feed incidents

63. During 2007, Agency officials reported a number of feed incidents, which were subsequently discussed by the Committee.

Unauthorised GM line Bt63 in Rice Protein Concentrate from China

64. At its June 2007 meeting, the Committee was informed that in March 2007 the European Commission circulated a notification under the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) advising that, following investigations in Cyprus, the GM line Bt63 had been found in rice protein concentrate imported from China via the Netherlands. This GM line had not been authorised in the EU. In this case, the rice protein concentrate was accompanied by two certificates provided by the Chinese exporter describing the product as GM-free.

65. The Netherlands provided details of the distribution of the rice protein concentrate in a follow-up RASFF notification, which showed that four companies in the UK had received consignments of the potentially affected product in January, February and March 2007. When contacted by the Agency and enforcement authorities, all four companies advised that they had already been contacted directly by the Dutch importer and asked to quarantine any remaining stocks for eventual return.

66. Companies in Belgium, Greece, the Netherlands, Poland and Spain were also named as receiving consignments of the rice protein concentrate. The Committee expressed its concern at the increasing number of problematical consignments from China and asked to be kept informed of developments under the regular GM update agenda item.

Dioxins in Copper Sulphate from Canada

67. The Committee was informed at its June 2007 meeting that in March 2007, the European Commission circulated a RASFF notification which advised that, following sampling by the Canadian authorities, excess levels of dioxins had been found in a copper sulphate product exported to a number of EU Member States. As a precaution, the Canadian manufacturer had initiated a worldwide voluntary recall of all its, copper sulphate product manufactured and distributed since 6 December 2006.

68. Three companies in the UK were identified as having received potentially contaminated product, much of which was still unused. Although the incorporation rate of the additive in a finished feed would mean that the assessed risk to animal and human health is not significant, unused stocks were nevertheless quarantined for disposal outside the feed and food chains.

Melamine in Pet Food from the USA

69. The Committee was first informed of this incident at its June 2007 meeting. The Committee received subsequent updates on this incident at its meetings held in September and December. In March 2007, the Commission was advised by the US Food and Drug Administration that a pet food manufacturer based in Ontario, Canada had recalled all pet food produced at its facility in Kansas between 3 December 2006 and 6 March 2007. This was because there appeared to be a link between the EU consumption of the pet food and reports of kidney failure in cats and dogs. Information from both the manufacturer and the US authorities suggested that although some consignments of the pet food had been distributed to a number of EU Member States, none had been despatched to the UK.

70. The contaminant was identified as melamine, in wheat gluten, corn gluten, corn meal, soy protein, rice bran and rice protein that originated from China. The Committee was advised that due to continuing concerns about possible adulteration of imports of protein isolates from China, the European Commission had requested Member States to put in place increased surveillance for the possible presence of melamine and structurally related compounds (such as cyanuric acid, ammelide and ammeline) in consignments of these products. The Food Standards Agency worked closely with selected feed authorities and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Northern Ireland and collated the UK returns which were subsequently sent to the EC on a weekly basis. The Agency was commended by the Commission for its reliability and dedication to reporting the UK results. Only one positive sampling result was reported by the UK in response to this increased surveillance.

71. The Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health (Animal Nutrition Section) considered that the control measures put in place in China were adequate to prevent the adulteration of protein isolates intended for export. Both the Commission and Member States agreed that specific control action for the presence of melamine and structurally related compounds in protein isolates could be discontinued.

ACAF Visit to Edinburgh

72. ACAF held its 38th meeting in Edinburgh on 5 June 2007. The previous day the Committee visited BioMar, the second biggest supplier of fish feed to the aquaculture industry. The Committee also visited Wellington Farm a sow pig breeding unit on the outskirts of Edinburgh owned by Robin and Anna Traquair. This was the first time that the Committee had been to a large pig breeding unit and observed the various types of feeding regimes in place.

73. The Committee found both visits extremely informative and useful and were most grateful to their hosts.



Feed material stored at Biomars facilities in Grangemouth



Piglets at Wellington Farm



Committee members visit to Wellington Farm – Pig farmer Robin Traquair

74. The Committee is committed to holding one of its meetings each year outside London. This enables the Committee to be more accessible and to aid its consideration of regional issues. The Committee is also keen to continue to make relevant industry visits to enable it to see at first hand the issues it considers. The Committee will have an opportunity to build on its external contacts when it meets in Belfast in 2008.

Forward Work Programme and Horizon Scanning

75. At its September 2007 meeting the Committee carried out a combined exercise that considered its Forward Work Programme and items suggested for horizon scanning. The Committee decided that a few amendments to its existing programme were necessary and the following future work areas might be worthy of consideration:

- developments in analytical techniques for forage analysis;
- developments in pig and poultry feeding systems;
- development of links with the Farm Animal Welfare Council (FAWC); and
- feed implications from the research work carried out to assess the potential for multiple residues of pesticides and veterinary medicines in food to produce effects on human health.

A copy of the Committee's Forward Work Programme is set out in Annex III.

Food Standards Agency – Governance of Science

76. During 2006 the Committee was actively involved in helping to develop Good Practice Guidelines for scientific advisory committees that advise the Food Standards Agency. This came on the back of a drive to strengthen systems and processes used for science governance within the Food Standards Agency and making them more transparent.

77. Since its foundation in April 2000, the Food Standards Agency has based its policy decisions on scientific evidence. The network of independent scientific advisory committees that provide external scientific expertise and advice are fundamental to the Food Standards Agency's work and reputation. The Dean Review¹ showed that there was overwhelming support for the Food Standards Agency's policy of basing decisions on scientific evidence, and that this policy should be maintained and developed further. In response, the Food Standards Agency made proposals for strengthening the systems and processes used for science governance and making them more transparent, the development of the Good Practice Guidelines being one of them.

78. The Guidelines set out in Annex IV list the basic principles which are followed by scientific advisory committees when assembling and using scientific advice.

¹ An independent review of the Food Standards Agency conducted by The Rt Hon Baroness Dean of Thornton-le-Fylde in 2005

Membership

Meet the Members

79. ACAF currently consists of a Chairman and 13 members from wide-ranging backgrounds including consumer affairs, farming, the feed industry and science. Members are appointed in accordance with the Nolan Principles and guidance issued by the Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments (OCPA), which aim to ensure fairness and transparency in appointments to public bodies. ACAF members and their main areas of expertise are listed below.



Dr Chitra Bharucha (Chairman) is a registered specialist in haematology. She is Vice-Chairman of the BBC Trust, an Associate Member of the General Medical Council (GMC) and a member of Council of the Advertising Standards Authority (ASA). Until 2000, she was Deputy Director of the Northern Ireland Blood Transfusion Service and Consultant Haematologist in Belfast City Hospital. She was a Member of the Independent Television Commission (ITC) and has held professional appointments in the World Health Organisation (WHO) and on a number of national and international councils, committees, and panels including the GM Science Review Panel.



Dr Dozie Azubike (lay person/consumer) is a part-time Inspector with the Health and Safety Executive. He has a wide range of experience in the voluntary sector and is a Magistrate, a Member of the Board of the Thames Valley Housing Association and a non-executive Director of a friendly society. He is also a Member of the General Optical Council Fitness to Practice Committee.



Dr Paul Brantom (toxicology) is an independent consultant in toxicological risk assessment and was previously Head of the Toxicology and Information Department of BIBRA International Ltd (an independent contract research organisation specialising in research in toxicology and chemical safety). He is currently a member of the Veterinary Products Committee, Veterinary Residues Committee, the Advisory Committee on Novel Foods and Processes and the EFSA Panel on additives and products or substances used in animal feed (FEEDAP).



Tim Brigstocke (feed materials) is an independent farm livestock consultant who specialises in animal feeds. He is currently Chairman of the Royal Association of British Dairy Farmers and Executive Director for Cattle Health Certification Standards. Tim serves on a large number of bodies including the Board of RUMA and the Institute of Agricultural Management and is Chairman of the Institute of Biology's Science Policy Board.



Professor Andrew Chesson (animal nutrition) was Head of Biological Chemistry at the Rowett Research Institute until July 2003 and is now based at the University of Aberdeen. He acted as vice chair of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Task Force on the Safety of Novel Foods and the European Commission's Scientific Committee on Animal Nutrition (SCAN) until its responsibilities were transferred to EFSA in 2003. He now chairs the EFSA panel on additives and products or substances used in animal feed (FEEDAP) and is a member of the overarching EFSA Scientific Committee.



Dr Bruce Cottrill (animal nutrition) is a senior research scientist at ADAS. He has over 25 years experience of a wide range of farming and livestock practices and in advising government departments (MAFF/Defra and the Food Standards Agency) on feed-related issues. He has served on a number of expert national and European Community committees, and the CONTAM Panel of EFSA.



Dr Gilbert Domingue (microbiology) is a HACCP/Hygiene consultant who also works in a food analysis laboratory as a Microbiologist/Legislation Advisor. He is a state-registered clinical scientist with membership of several professional societies and has considerable experience derived from public, academic and private sector posts. Dr Domingue has researched various pathogens in the food chain from the domestic situation through to feed mills, where he has audit experience. He takes a great interest in various food chain-related activities in Edinburgh and the Lothian.



Professor Julie Fitzpatrick (veterinary science) left the Committee in August 2007 – is Chief Executive of the Moredun Group and Scientific Director of the Moredun Research Institute. She has 25 years experience as a veterinary surgeon with a long-standing interest in farm animal medicine and infectious disease. She is currently a member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Research Committee and sits on the Veterinary Policy Group of the British Veterinary Association. In Scotland, she is a member of the Scottish Science Advisory Committee and of the group implementing the Animal Health and Welfare Strategy in Scotland.



Professor Nigel Halford (novel technology) is a Principal Investigator leading a research group at Rothamsted Research, the UK's largest crop and agricultural research institute. He has been involved in research using the genetic modification of plants for almost 20 years. Professor Halford has considerable experience of assessing the risks of GM technology and also has the practical experience of running a field trial on GM wheat. He is the author of more than 70 refereed scientific papers, many relating to plant biotechnology and has written a book and numerous articles on GM crops.



Mrs Heather Headley (feed manufacturer) is Managing Director of her own independent feed material supply company. She has 24 years experience in the animal feed supply industry holding various posts since graduating in Animal Nutrition and Biochemistry. She has a working knowledge of practical farming to complement other skills.



Diane McCrea (consumer) is a consultant in food and consumer affairs and is also the Chair of the Consumer Council for Water Wales Committee. She has considerable experience of consumer representation and committee work, having been a member of several advisory committees and boards, including the Meat and Livestock Commission and the Food Standards Agency's Advisory Committee on Research. Ms McCrea has also represented Consumers International for more than 10 years at international food standards committees of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (including the Codex Task Force on Animal Feeding).



Richard Scales (local authority enforcement) is Principal Trading Standards Officer at Hampshire County Council with 16 years experience of Trading Standards work, including feed law enforcement. He currently specialises in agricultural aspects of enforcement and is a member of the Local Authorities Co-ordinators of Regulatory Services (LACORS) Feeds and Fertilisers Panel. Mr Scales also chairs the Trading Standards South East Authorities Feeds Sub-Group.



Dr Nigel Shepperson (feed industry) is an animal nutritionist who has worked in the animal feed industry for 25 years. He has experience in the feed industry, feed additive and veterinary medicines and animal healthcare industries. Dr Shepperson has represented the industry on committees of the Agricultural Industries Confederation (AIC) and the British Association of Feed Supplement Additive Manufacturers (BAFSAM).



Marcus Themans (farmer) runs a 150 acre mixed unit in South Shropshire, producing bacon pigs and lambs, most of which are processed in the on-farm licensed butchers' shop and sold pre-packed, retail and wholesale under the Wenlock Edge Farm brand. He is the National Farmers Union (NFU) spokesman for Feeds, Transport and Farm Inputs. He is also a member of the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) Agriculture Advisory Committee. He is a member of Meadow Quality Livestock (co-operative marketing group) Heart of England Fine Foods and is Chairman of the Shropshire Rural Hub Food Group.

Current Terms of Office of ACAF Members

80. To ensure continuity, re-appointments to ACAF (usually for periods of three years) are staggered so that only a proportion of the membership falls vacant each year. The terms of office of ACAF members are as follows:

Until 31 March 2008

- Dr Chitra Bharucha (Chairman)

Until 31 May 2008

- Professor Andrew Chesson (animal nutrition)

Until 30 June 2008

- Mr Tim Brigstocke* (feed materials)
- Mrs Heather Headley* (feed manufacturer)

Until 30 September 2008

- Dr Paul Brantom (toxicology)
- Dr Bruce Cottrill (animal nutrition)
- Dr Gil Domingue* (microbiology)

Until 31 August 2009

- Ms Diane McCrea (consumer)
- Mr Marcus Themans (farmer)

Until 31 June 2010

- Dr Dozie Azubike (lay person)
- Professor Nigel Halford (novel technology)
- Mr Richard Scales (local authority enforcement)

* first term of office

Appointments 2007

81. No new appointments to the Committee were made in 2007.

Re-appointments 2007

82. The period of appointment for three members – Dr Azubike, Prof Halford and Mr Scales – was extended to a second three year term lasting until the end of June 2010. The period of appointment for Dr Shepperson was extended until the end of June 2008.

ACAF Secretariat

83. The Committee's secretariat is staffed by officials from the Food Standards Agency. Andrew Watton and Oladapo Fakoyede left the Secretariat in September and November 2007 respectively. From November 2007 Mandy Jumnoodoo replaced Andrew Watton. The Committee wishes to thank Andrew and Oladapo for their valuable input during their time on the Secretariat and wish them all the best in the future.



From left to right – Raj Pal, Keith Millar and Mandy Jumnoodoo.

Dr Paul Foxcroft

84. The Committee were saddened to hear of the death of former Committee member Dr Paul Foxcroft. Dr Foxcroft served on the Committee between June 1999 and May 2004.

The Committee's Commitment to Openness

85. ACAF is committed to a policy of openness and engagement with stakeholders. Copies of agendas, papers, advice, reports and minutes of meetings can be found on the Committee's website at:

acaf.food.gov.uk

86. Paper copies of these documents can be obtained by contacting the ACAF Secretariat at the address shown at paragraph 6.

87. The nature of the expertise and experience required for ACAF membership means that some members have links with the feed industry, farming and other relevant sectors. Details of members' interests can be found in the Register of Members' Interests at Annex V. These details are regularly updated in the on-line version of the Register on the website. ACAF members are required to declare all relevant interests in writing when they are appointed and are reminded to update as necessary at the beginning of each meeting. Members are also required to declare any direct commercial interests, or those of close family members, in matters under discussion at each meeting. This declaration is recorded in the minutes of meetings, which are freely available to members of the public.

88. The Committee held all four of its meetings in 2007 in open session, one of which was in Edinburgh. These meetings were attended by observers from a range of stakeholders. Observers were not allowed to contribute to discussions, but were able to ask questions at the end of the meeting. ACAF is committed to continue to hold open meetings. Following each open meeting observers are canvassed for their views on the subject matter and conduct of the meeting.

Annex I: Request for Information on ACAF

Information on ACAF can be found on its website. If you do not have internet access and you would like to receive further information about the work of the Committee *free of charge* please complete and return the form below:

Name:

Address:

.....

.....

Company/Organisation:

e-mail address:

(if you would prefer to receive papers by e-mail)

Please send me the following ACAF papers as they become
available:

(tick as appropriate)

Minutes of meetings Annual & other reports

News Releases Consultation documents

ACAF recruitment exercises Other information
(please specify)

Please return your completed form to:

The Food Standards Agency
ACAF Secretariat
Room 315
Aviation House
125 Kingsway
London WC2B 6NH
Tel: 020 7276 8083
Fax: 020 7276 8478
Email: acaf@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

PLEASE CUT HERE



Annex II: Membership of ACAF Sub-groups

The Committee had one sub-group operating in 2007.

GM Sub-group

Prof. Andrew Chesson (Chairman)
Dr. Chitra Bharucha (*ex-officio*)
Dr. Paul Brantom (Deputy Chairman)
Dr. Bruce Cottrill
Prof. Nigel Halford

Annex III: ACAF Forward Work Programme

Topic	Progress
<p>The manipulation of animal feed to enhance the nutritional value of food.</p>	<p>The Committee received a presentation from Dr Minihane of Reading University on manipulating feed to affect the 'fat' content of animal products for human consumption at its meeting on 30 November 2004. The Committee also discussed the issue at its meetings in February and April 2005. Plans are being progressed to hold an exploratory workshop in conjunction with the Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition (SACN).</p>
<p>Non-feed use of additives (boluses, additives in water, etc.).</p>	<p>In November 2006 the Committee received a presentation from James McCulloch on non-feed use of nutritional supplements. Members requested additional information on the range and types of products available.</p>
<p>Aquaculture.</p>	<p>The Committee considered aquaculture at its meeting on 25th June 2003. The Committee also visited a fish farm in Scotland. The Secretariat will look for opportunities to bring this important subject area back before the Committee.</p> <p>EFSA has issued an opinion on astaxanthin and intends to issue opinions on other colours in fish feed. No firm timescale currently available.</p>

Topic	Progress
Aquaculture (continued).	<p>More recently the Committee decided to examine the expanding range of aquaculture species and the consequences for sources of fish protein in feeds and the extent to which alternatives are used.</p> <p>The Committee received a presentation from Dr. Ralph Bickerdike of BioMar on aquaculture at its meeting on 5 June 2007. Dr. Bickerdike gave some background to the UK's aquaculture industry and outlined specific issues the industry was currently facing. The Committee were particularly interested in hearing how changes in the composition of fish feed were improving the sustainability of farmed fish for human consumption.</p>
EC proposals on feed labelling.	<p>The Committee had an initial discussion on the forthcoming EC proposals on feed labelling at its meeting in April 2006. The Commission intends to issue its proposals in 2007.</p>
EC Feed Hygiene Regulation (183/2005) and related issues.	<p>The Committee discussed the microbiological criteria provision in the Feed Hygiene Regulation at its meetings in April 2005 and November 2005. The Committee will be kept informed of progress via regular EC development information papers and discussion papers.</p>

Topic	Progress
<p>Herbal additives.</p> <p>The Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition's (SACN) Vitamin A Report.</p> <p>Whenever possible to forge closer links with other advisory committees and to tackle issues of common interest.</p> <p>To be aware of animal welfare implications arising out of the use of certain feeds or feed management.</p> <p>Feed issues relating to organic production.</p> <p>Nanoscience.</p> <p>Potential carry-over of allergens from animal feed into derived animal products.</p>	<p>At its meeting on 8 February 2005 the Committee had a brief discussion on the use of herbal additives. EFSA are currently undertaking a self-tasking study on the assessment of herbs, essential oils and other plant products as "additives" for use in animal nutrition.</p> <p>Specifically the recommendation² on animal feed – was discussed at the July 2005 meeting. The Agency's Animal Feed Unit is pursuing this matter with the European Commission and EFSA.</p> <p>Ongoing.</p> <p>Yet to be considered in isolation, but regularly arises during discussions.</p> <p>Yet to be considered.</p> <p>The Committee discussed nanotechnology and the impact on animal feed at its meeting in February 2006 and agreed to put the subject on its forward work programme.</p> <p>The Committee discussed this issue at their November 2006 meeting. Members agreed some research was needed.</p>

² A reduction in retinol content of poultry and livestock feed as part of a strategy to reduce the retinol intake of regular consumers of liver should be explored further. The implications of lower levels of retinol supplementation for the welfare and productivity of poultry and livestock would need to be determined should such a strategy be considered.

Topic	Progress
<p>Imports of feed materials – information flow, sampling, testing and inspection, movement of small consignments of ingredients which are used at low concentrations, etc.³</p>	<p>At its 6 March 2007 meeting the Committee received a presentation from Stephen Nixon of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development for Northern Ireland (DARDNI) on the practical considerations of implementing rules on the control of imports from non-EU countries.</p>
<p>Use of co-products.</p>	<p>The Committee received a presentation from Robin Crawshaw on the use of co-products in animal feed at its meeting on 6 March 2007. The Committee were informed of the wide range of products from food, drink and biofuel industries that go into animal feed.</p>
<p>Qualifications for those providing feeding advice to farmers</p>	<p>The Committee discussed this issue at their November 2006 meeting. Members agreed that only “suitably qualified persons” should be able to offer advice on-farm. It was decided that this was not an issue for the Committee to take forward but that it should follow developments.</p>
<p>EC’s intention requirement to phase out coccidiostats and histomonostats as feed additives by 31 December 2011.</p>	<p>At their meeting on 6 March 2007 the Committee discussed the European Commission’s intention to phase out the use of coccidiostats and histomonostats as feed additives by 31 December 2011. Their use would only be available on prescription after this date.</p>

³ Suggestion by DARDNI

Topic	Progress
<p>Proportionate regulation in relation to animal feed.⁴</p> <p>Biofuels – possible impact of the demand on the availability and cost of selected feedstuffs widely used in animal feeding.</p> <p>The presence of acrylamides in animal feed.</p> <p>Emerging environmental concerns and the potential knock-on effects for the animal feed industry.</p> <p>Future developments in biotechnology (e.g. use of second generation GMOs) and possible links with GM nutritional work.</p>	<p>Yet to be considered.</p> <p>The Committee received a presentation from Julian Bell of the Scottish Agricultural College on the impact on the animal feed market from the increased production of biofuels and its impact on world food and feed markets at its meeting on 5 June 2007. At its meeting in December 2007 the Committee discussed the impact of biofuel production on Feeds for livestock. Members were provided with three presentations, from delegates from the Agricultural Industries Confederation, Monsanto UK Ltd and Associated British Agriculture.</p> <p>After the presentations, the Committee agreed to issue a 'Position Paper' based on their current understanding on this evolving issue.</p> <p>Yet to be considered.</p> <p>Yet to be considered.</p> <p>Yet to be considered.</p>

⁴ Suggestion by Defra

Continuous work:

Topic	Progress
GM issues.	The Committee receives a report from the GM sub-group Chairman at every meeting and has agreed to consider GM topics in more depth at least twice a year. This includes future developments in biotechnology and the possible links GM with nutritional work.
Horizon scanning.	The Committee regularly horizon scans for topics of future consideration.
European Food Safety Authority's (EFSA) work in relation to animal feed.	The Committee received a paper on the work of EFSA at its meeting on 21 September 2004 and the ACAF Secretariat met with EFSA representatives at their offices on 12 January 2005. An EFSA representative attended ACAF's meeting in September 2005 to give a presentation on the work EFSA do in relation to animal nutrition. Contact will be maintained with EFSA's FEEDAP Panel and Secretariat.
Discussions on future EFSA Opinions on additives and contaminants in animal feed.	The Committee will discuss EFSA opinions on additives and contaminants in animal feed when appropriate.
To make proposals for R&D and surveillance projects as the need is identified.	The Committee make suggestions for R&D and surveillance work when necessary.
The Committee to receive regular updates on EU developments as they affect animal feedingstuffs and to advise/comment on the UK negotiating line.	The Committee receives updates on relevant feed items at every meeting.

Annex IV: Good Practice Guidelines for Independent Scientific Advisory Committees

Preamble

*Guidelines 2000: Scientific Advice and Policy Making*⁵ set out the basic principles which government departments should follow in assembling and using scientific advice, thus:

- think ahead, identifying the issues where scientific advice is needed at an early stage;
- get a wide range of advice from the best sources, particularly where there is scientific uncertainty; and
- publish the scientific advice they receive and all the relevant papers.

The *Code of Practice for Scientific Advisory Committees*⁶ (revised in December 2007) provided more detailed guidance specifically focused on the operation of scientific advisory committees (SACs). The Agency subsequently commissioned a *Report on the Review of Scientific Committees*⁷ to ensure that the operation of its various advisory committees was consistent with the remit and values of the Agency, as well as the Code of Practice.

The Food Standards Agency's Board has adopted a **Science Checklist** (Board paper: FSA 06/02/07) to make explicit the points to be considered in the preparation of papers dealing with science-based issues which are either assembled by the Executive or which draw on advice from the Scientific Advisory Committees.

The Board welcomed a proposal from the Chairs of the independent SACs to draw up **Good Practice Guidelines** based on, and complementing, the **Science Checklist**.

⁵ Guidelines on Scientific Analysis in Policy Making, OST, October 2005. *Guidelines 2000: Scientific advice and policy-making*. OST July 2000

⁶ Code of Practice for Scientific Advisory Committees, OST December 2001

⁷ Report on the Review of Scientific Committees, FSA, March 2002

The Good Practice Guidelines

**These Guidelines have been developed by
9 advisory committees:**

Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingsuffs ⁸

Advisory Committee on Microbiological Safety of Foods

Advisory Committee on Novel Foods and Processes

Advisory Committee on Research

Committee on Carcinogenicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer
Products and the Environment ⁹

Committee on Mutagenicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products
and the Environment ¹⁰

Committee on Toxicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and
the Environment ¹¹

Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition ¹²

Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee ¹³

These committees share important characteristics. They:

- are independent;
- work in an open and transparent way; and
- are concerned with risk assessment not risk management.

The Guidelines relate primarily to the risk assessment process since this is the committees' purpose. However, the Agency may wish on occasion to ask the independent scientific advisory committees whether a particular risk management option is consistent with their risk assessment.

Twenty seven principles of good practice have been developed. However, the different committees have different duties and discharge those duties in different ways. Therefore, not all of the principles set out below will be applicable to all of the committees, all of the time.

⁸ FSA Secretariat

⁹ Joint FSA/HPA Secretariat, HPA lead

¹⁰ Joint FSA/HPA Secretariat, HPA lead

¹¹ Joint FSA/HPA, FSA lead

¹² Joint FSA/DH Secretariat

¹³ Joint Defra/FSA/DH Secretariat

This list of principles will be reconsidered by each committee annually as part of the preparation of its Annual report, and will be attached as an Annex to it.

Principles

Defining the issue

1. The FSA will ensure that the issue to be addressed is clearly defined and takes account of stakeholder expectations. The committee Chair will refer back to the Agency if discussion suggests that a re-definition is necessary.

Seeking input

2. The Secretariat will ensure that stakeholders are consulted at appropriate points in the committee's considerations and, wherever possible, SAC discussions should be held in public.

3. The scope of literature searches made on behalf of the committee will be clearly set out.

4. Steps will be taken to ensure that all available and relevant scientific evidence is rigorously considered by the committee, including consulting external/additional scientific experts who may know of relevant unpublished or pre-publication data.

5. Data from stakeholders will be considered and weighted according to quality by the committee.

6. Consideration by the Secretariat and the Chair will be given to whether expertise in other disciplines will be needed.

7. Consideration will be given by the Secretariat or by the committee to whether other scientific advisory committees need to be consulted.

Validation

8. Study design, methods of measurement and the way that analysis of data has been carried out will be assessed by the committee.

9. If qualitative data have been used, they will be assessed by the committee in accordance with the principles of good practice, e.g. set out in guidance from the Government's Chief Social Researcher¹⁴.

¹⁴ There is of guidance issued under the auspices of the Government's Social Research Unit and the Chief Social Researcher's Office (Quality in Qualitative Evaluation: A Framework for assessing research evidence. August 2003. www.strategy.gov.uk/downloads/su/qual/downloads/qqe-rep.pdf and The Magenta Book. www.gsr.gov.uk/professional_guidance/magenta_book/guidance.asp).

10. Formal statistical analyses will be included wherever possible. To support this, each committee will have access to advice on quantitative analysis and modelling as needed.

11. When considering what evidence needs to be collected for assessment, the following points will be considered:

- the potential for the need for different data for different parts of the UK or the relevance to the UK situation for any data originating outside the UK; and
- whether stakeholders can provide unpublished data.

12. The list of references will make it clear which references have either not been subject to peer review or where evaluation by the committee itself has conducted the peer review.

Uncertainty

13. When reporting outcomes, committees will make explicit the level and type of uncertainty (both limitations on the quality of the available data and lack of knowledge) associated with their advice.

14. Any assumptions made by the committee will be clearly spelled out, and, in reviews, previous assumptions will be challenged.

15. Data gaps will be identified and their impact on uncertainty assessed by the committee.

16. An indication will be given by the committee about whether the database is changing or static.

Drawing conclusions

17. The committee will be broad-minded, acknowledging where conflicting views exist and considering whether alternative hypotheses fit the same evidence.

18. Where both risks and benefits have been considered, the committee will address each with the same rigour.

19. Committee decisions will include an explanation of where differences of opinion have arisen during discussions, specifically where there are unresolved issues and why conclusions have been reached.

20. The committee's interpretation of results, recommended actions or advice will be consistent with the quantitative and/or qualitative evidence and the degree of uncertainty associated with it.

21. Committees will make recommendations about general issues that may have relevance for other committees.

Communicating committees' conclusions

22. Conclusions will be expressed by the committee in clear, simple terms and use the minimum caveats consistent with accuracy.

23. It will be made clear by the committee where assessments have been based on the work of other bodies and where the committee has started afresh, and there will be a clear statement of how the current conclusions compare with previous assessments.

24. The conclusions will be supported by a statement about their robustness and the extent to which judgement has had to be used.

25. As standard practice, the committee secretariat will publish a full set of references (including the data used as the basis for risk assessment and other committee opinions) at as early a stage as possible to support openness and transparency of decision-making. Where this is not possible, reasons will be clearly set out, explained and a commitment made to future publication wherever possible.

26. The amount of material withheld by the committee or FSA as being confidential will be kept to a minimum. Where it is not possible to release material, the reasons will be clearly set out, explained and a commitment made to future publication wherever possible.

27. Where proposals or papers being considered by the Board rest on scientific evidence, the Chair of the relevant scientific advisory committee (or a nominated expert member) will be invited to the table at Open Board meetings to provide this assurance and to answer Members' questions on the science. To maintain appropriate separation of risk assessment and risk management processes, the role of the Chairs will be limited to providing an independent view on how their committee's advice has been reflected in the relevant policy proposals. The Chairs may also, where appropriate, be invited to provide factual briefing to Board members about particular issues within their committees' remits, in advance of discussion at open Board meetings.

Annex V: Register of members' interests

PERSONAL			NON-PERSONAL	
MEMBER	COMPANY/ ORGANISATION	NATURE OF INTEREST	COMPANY/ ORGANISATION	NATURE OF INTEREST
Dr D Azubike	Defra, Agricultural Dwelling House Advisory Committee (ADHAC) for Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hampshire, Isle of Wight and Oxfordshire.	Independent Member	None	None
Dr C Bharucha	General Medical Council	Associate Member	None	None
	Council of Advertising Standards Authority	Member		
	British Broadcasting Corporation	Vice Chairman, BBC Trust		
Dr P Brantom	Veterinary Residues Committee	Member	None	None
	Veterinary Products Committee	Member		
	EFSA FEEDAP Panel and other EFSA Working Groups	Member		
	Advisory Committee on Novel Foods and Processes	Member		
	Pfizer Animal Health	Consultancy		
	Elanco Animal Health	Consultancy		
Mr T Brigstocke	Tim Brigstocke Associates	Managing Partner	Rare Breeds Survival Trust	Trustee
	Cattle Health Certification Standards (UK)	Exec. Director	National Cattle Association (Dairy)	Executive Secretary
	Cogent Breeding Ltd	Non Exec. Director	Silcock Fellowship for Livestock Research	Trustee
	Institute of Biology	Chair, Science Policy Board	RUMA Alliance	Hon Treasurer
	Defra England Implementation Group for Animal Health and Welfare Strategy	Member		
	Defra, Business Assurance Group, Vet Surveillance Strategy	Member		

PERSONAL			NON-PERSONAL	
MEMBER	COMPANY/ ORGANISATION	NATURE OF INTEREST	COMPANY/ ORGANISATION	NATURE OF INTEREST
Prof A Chesson	Various scientific advisory committees	Member	University of Aberdeen	Holds an honorary chair at the University of Aberdeen which, in common with all other universities, receives support for its research and other activities from commercial sources.
Dr B Cottrill	None	None	A range of companies from the agricultural and food industries. Government departments including the Food Standards Agency	Senior Research Consultant with ADAS.
Dr G Domingue	Express Microbiology Ltd	Microbiologist/ Legislation Advisor	IFR Norwich	Project Consultant
	GALVmed	R&D Project Manager	University of Exeter	Project Consultant
	Various scientific societies	Member		
	Health Professionals Council	Clinical Scientist		
	Slow Food Movement	Member		
Prof J Fitzpatrick	Pfizer	Consultancy Member	Multiple animal health companies	Clients of MSL (subsidiary company of the Moredun Group)
	Various scientific advisory committees	Member		
	Genecom Ltd	Director		Commercialisation of PRSE research

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PERSONAL			NON-PERSONAL	
MEMBER	COMPANY/ ORGANISATION	NATURE OF INTEREST	COMPANY/ ORGANISATION	NATURE OF INTEREST
Prof N G Halford	Institute of professionals, managers and specialists	Member	Advanced Technologies Cambridge	Research Collaborator
	Society of Experimental Biology	Member	Biogemma UK	Research Collaborator
	American Society of Plant Biologists	Member	Reading University	Research Collaborator
	Association of Applied Biologists	Member of Crop Physiology Committee	Cardiff University	Research Collaborator
			Food Standards Agency	Research Collaborator
			Shanghai Academy of Agricultural Sciences	Honorary chair
Mrs H Headley	Withernay Ltd	Shareholder, Managing Director	None	None
Ms D McCrea	Various consumer Non Governmental Organisation groups, EU funded research projects and the Food Standards Agency	Consultancy work – project based	None	
	Consumer Council for Water	Board member and Chair of Wales Committee		
	Assured Food Standards	Board Member		
Mr R Scales	Feedingsuffs and Fertilisers Focus Group of the Local Authorities Co-ordinators of Regulatory Services	Member	None	None
	Trading Standards South East Feeds Subgroup	Chairman		
Dr N Shepperson	Air Products plc	Employee	The Pharmaceutical Quality Group	Member
	The British Society of Animal Science	Member	The Organisation of Professionals in Regulatory Affairs	Member
	The Institute of Biology	Fellow		
	The Nutrition Society	Member		
Mr M Themans	E M Themans Company. Also Trading as: Wenlock Edge Farm	Farming Licenced Butchers	National Farmers Union	Spokesman for Feeds and Transport COPA feedingsuffs representative

Annex VI: Abbreviations

ACRE	Advisory Committee on Releases to the Environment
AIC	Agricultural Industries Confederation
BSE	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
CONTAM	EFSA Scientific Panel on contaminants in the food chain
DARD NI	Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Northern Ireland
Defra	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
EC	European Community
EFSA	European Food Safety Authority
EU	European Union
FEEDAP	EFSA Scientific Panel on additives and products or substances used in animal feed
FEFAC	European Feed Manufacturers' Federation
FSA	Food Standards Agency
FVO	Food and Veterinary Office (of the European Commission)
GM	Genetically Modified
GMO	Genetically Modified Organism
HACCP	Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points
HSE	Health and Safety Executive
LAPs	Land Animal Products
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
NCP	National Control Plan
NFU	National Farmers Union
OCPA	Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments
RASFF	Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
RUMA	Responsible Use of Medicine in Agriculture
SACN	Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition
TFAF	Task Force on Animal Feeding (Codex)
UK	United Kingdom
VMD	Veterinary Medicines Directorate
VPC	Veterinary Products Committee
VRC	Veterinary Residues Committee
WHO	World Health Organisation

Annex VII: Papers Considered by ACAF in 2007

ACAF INDEX FOR PAPERS – 2007

NO. OF PAPER	NAME OF PAPER	MEETING INFORMATION	
		NUMBER	DATE
ACAF/07/01	Co-product Feeds and their Use	37th	6 March 2007
ACAF/07/02	Control of Feed Imports – on paper and in practice	37th	6 March 2007
ACAF/07/03	Regulating the Use of Coccidiostats and Histomonostats	37th	6 March 2007
ACAF/07/04	EC Developments	37th	6 March 2007
ACAF/07/05	Update on the work of other advisory committees and the Food Standards Agency	37th	6 March 2007
ACAF/07/06	EFSA Scientific Panels Current and Future Work Plans	37th	6 March 2007
ACAF/07/07	Biofuels - potential impact on the animal feed market	38th	5 June 2007
ACAF/07/08	Aquaculture	38th	5 June 2007
ACAF/07/09	Animal Feed Law Enforcement Liaison Group	38th	5 June 2007
ACAF/07/10	EC Developments	38th	5 June 2007
ACAF/07/11	Update on the work of other advisory committees and the Food Standards Agency	38th	5 June 2007
ACAF/07/12	EFSA Scientific Panels current and future work plans	38th	5 June 2007
ACAF/07/13	Intersessional Paper - Consultation on the Update to the Code of Practice for Scientific Advisory Committees		
ACAF/07/14	Opportunities and Implications of Using the Co-products from Biofuel Production as Feeds for Livestock	39th	11 September 2007
ACAF/07/15	Forward Work Programme Review (including Horizon Scanning)	39th	11 September 2007
ACAF/07/16	European Commission Review of the Regulation of Coccidiostats and Histomonostats as Feed Additives - update	39th	11 September 2007
ACAF/07/17	Responsible Use of Medicines in Agriculture Alliance (RUMA)	39th	11 September 2007
ACAF/07/18	Annual Scientific Advisory Committee Review and Member Self Assessment	39th	11 September 2007
ACAF/07/19	EC Developments	39th	11 September 2007
ACAF/07/20	Update on the work of other advisory committees and the Food Standards Agency	39th	11 September 2007
ACAF/07/21	EFSA Scientific Panels current and future work plans	39th	11 September 2007
ACAF/07/22	Feed Hygiene Regulation (183/2005/EC): Financial Guarantees	39th	11 September 2007
ACAF/07/23	Biofuels – Need for balanced approach against food requirements	40th	4 December 2007
ACAF/07/24	How will the biofuels market impact the animal feed sector: a view from the plant breeding and seed supplier	40th	4 December 2007
ACAF/07/25	Biofuels developments, 'Implications for the feed industry'	40th	4 December 2007
ACAF/07/26	EC Developments	40th	4 December 2007

Annex VIII: Code of Practice for Members of the Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs

Public service values

1. Members of the Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs must at all times:

- observe the highest standards of **impartiality, integrity** and **objectivity** in relation to the advice they provide and the management of this Committee;
- be **accountable** through Ministers, to Parliament and the public for its activities and the standard of advice it provides; and
- in accordance with the Government policy on **openness**, comply fully with the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information.

2. The Ministers of the sponsoring departments (the Food Standards Agency, DEFRA, Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland, Scottish Executive and National Assembly for Wales) are answerable to their respective Parliaments for the policies and performance of this Committee, including the policy framework within which it operates.

Standards in Public Life

3. All Committee members must:

- follow the Seven Principles of Public Life set out by the Committee on Standards in Public Life (see Appendix I);
- comply with this code, and ensure they understand their duties, rights and responsibilities, and that they are familiar with the function and role of the Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs and any relevant statements of Government policy. New Committee members should consider the need for relevant training;
- not misuse the information gained in the course of their public service for personal gain or political purpose, nor seek to use the opportunity of public service to their private interests or those of connected persons, firms' businesses or other organisations;
- not misuse the influence gained in the course of their public service for personal gain, political purpose or promoting personal views; and

- not hold any paid or high-profile unpaid posts in a political party, and not engage in specific political activities on matters directly affecting the work of this Committee. When engaging in other political activities, Committee members should be conscious of their public role and exercise proper discretion. These restrictions do not apply to local Councillors.

Role of Committee members

4. Members of the Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs have collective responsibility for the operation of the Committee. They must:

- engage fully in collective consideration of the issues, taking account of all relevant factors, including any guidance issued by the sponsor departments or the responsible Ministers;
- ensure that the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information is adhered to;
- agree an Annual Report and, where appropriate, provide suitable opportunities to open up the work of the Committee to public scrutiny;
- not divulge any information that is provided to the Committee in confidence;
- respond appropriately to complaints, if necessary with reference to the sponsor departments; and
- ensure that the Committee does not exceed its powers or functions.

5. Communication between the Committee and Ministers will generally be through the Chair, except where the Committee has agreed that an individual member should act on its behalf. Nevertheless, any Committee member has the right of access to Ministers on any matter, which he or she believes raises important issues relating to his or her duties as a Committee member. In such cases the agreement of the rest of the Committee should normally be sought.

6. Individual members can normally be removed from office by Ministers if they fail to perform the duties required of them in line with the standards expected in public office.

Role of the Chair

7. The Chair has particular responsibility for providing effective leadership on the issues above. In addition the Chair is responsible for:

- ensuring that the Committee meets at appropriate intervals, and that the minutes of meetings and any reports to Ministers accurately record the decisions taken and, where appropriate, the views of individual members;
- representing the views of the Committee to the general public; and
- ensuring that new Committee members are briefed on appointment (and their training needs considered), and providing an assessment of their performance, on request, when members are considered for re-appointment to the Committee or for appointment to the Committee of some other public body.

Handling conflicts of interests

8. The purpose of these provisions is to avoid any danger of Committee members being influenced, or appearing to be influenced, by their private interests in the exercise of their public duties. All Committee members should therefore declare any personal or business interests which may, or may be *perceived* (by a reasonable member of the public) to influence their judgement. Members' interests will be recorded in a register of interests which should be kept up to date and open to the public. A guide to the types of interest which should be declared and how to declare them is at Appendix II.

Declaration of interests to the Secretariat

9. Members of the Committee should inform the Secretariat in writing of their current personal and non-personal interests, when they are appointed, including the principal position(s) held. Only the name of the company and the nature of the interest is required, the amount of any salary etc. need not be disclosed. Members are asked to inform the Secretariat of any change in their personal interests at the time the change occurs. Members will also be invited to complete an annual declaration of interests form. Where members are uncertain as to whether an interest should be declared they should seek guidance from the Secretariat. If members have interests that are not specified in Appendix II, but which they believe could be regarded as influencing their advice, they should declare them. However, neither the members nor the Secretariat are under any obligation to seek out links of which they might reasonably not be aware. For example not being aware of all the interests

of family members or not being aware of links between one company and another. Failure to declare interests could lead to dismissal from the committee.

Declaration of interests and participation at meetings

10. Committee members are required to declare any direct commercial interests, or those of close family members, in matters under discussion at each meeting. Having fully explained the nature of their interests, the Chair may, having consulted with other members present, decide whether and to what extent the member should participate in the discussion and determination of the issue. If it is decided that the member should leave the meeting, the Chair may first allow them to make a statement on the item under discussion. Where members are uncertain as to whether an interest should be declared they should seek guidance from the Chair.

Personal liability of Committee members

11. Legal proceedings by a third party against individual Committee members of advisory bodies are very exceptional. A Committee member may be personally liable if:

- he or she makes a fraudulent or negligent statement which results in a loss to a third party; or
- he or she commits a breach of confidence under common law or a criminal offence under insider dealing legislation, by misusing information gained through their position.

However, the Government has indicated that individual members who have acted honestly and in good faith will not have to meet out of their own personal resources any personal civil liability which is incurred in the execution or purported execution of their Committee functions, save where the person has acted recklessly.

Openness and Confidentiality

12. The Government is committed to increasing the openness and transparency with which advisory committees and other public bodies operate. To further this aim, the agendas of ACAF meetings will be made available to the public and will be publicised by means of news releases. A news release will be issued after each meeting and minutes will also be available to the public. As a general rule, individual papers for information or discussion at meetings will also be available to the public on request. An annual report will also be published, summarising the Committee's activities and advice over the year.

13. However there will be some exceptions to this general principle of openness, for example:

- where individual papers contain commercially sensitive information such as product formulations/specifications, methods of manufacture, company evaluations and safety assessments, the general principle of the common law duty of confidentiality will apply, except in cases where the information was provided under legislation which deals specifically with disclosure and non-disclosure. Papers, which are deemed to be confidential, will be marked “For members” use only by the Secretariat and their contents should not be disclosed outside of the Committee.
- draft papers or reports which are due to be published at a later date but are not yet in the public domain should not be disclosed outside of the Committee.

14. Questions or approaches from the media should normally be directed to either the Chair who will act as official ACAF spokesman or the Food Standards Agency press office. Although members are encouraged to promote the role of the Committee in general terms, if asked for views on subjects that have been or are being considered by ACAF, members should always give the line agreed by the Committee.

Appendix I

The Seven Principles of Public Life

Selflessness

Holders of public office should take decisions solely in terms of the public interest. They should not do so in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends.

Integrity

Holders of public office should not place themselves under any financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might influence them in the performance of their official duties.

Objectivity

In carrying out public business, including making public appointments, awarding contracts, or recommending individuals for rewards and benefits, holders of public office should make choices on merit.

Accountability

Holders of public office are accountable for their decisions and actions to the public and must submit themselves to whatever scrutiny is appropriate to their office.

Openness

Holders of public office should be as open as possible about all the decisions and actions they take. They should give reasons for their decisions and restrict information only when the wider public interest clearly demands.

Honesty

Holders of public office have a duty to declare any private interests relating to their public duties and to take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interests.

Leadership

Holders of public office should promote and support these principles by leadership and example.

Appendix II

Types of Interest and their Notification

The following is intended as a guide to the kinds of interest that should be declared and indicates how they should be declared.

1. Personal interests – involve the member personally e.g.

	Type of interest	Notification
Consultancies:	any consultancy, directorship, position in or work for the industry, or other relevant bodies, which attracts regular or occasional payments in cash or kind.	To be notified to the Secretariat in writing on appointment to the Committee and at the time of any change to these interests. To be confirmed annually on the declaration of interests form.
Fee-paid work:	any work commissioned by industry or other relevant bodies for which the member is paid in cash or kind.	As above.
Shareholdings:	any shareholding or other beneficial interest in shares of industry. This does not include shareholdings through unit trusts.	As above.
Membership or affiliation:	to clubs or organisations with interests relevant to the work of the Committee.	As above.

Definition of “industry”

For the purposes of the Advisory Committee on Animal Feedingstuffs, “industry” means:

- companies, partnerships or individuals who are involved in the production, manufacture, packaging, advertising, supply, sale or use of animal feedingstuffs. This definition includes those involved in the supply of animal feed raw materials and any other substance incorporated or otherwise used in the production of feedingstuffs. It also includes the users of animal feedingstuffs such as farmers;
- trade associations representing companies involved in such products;
- companies, partnerships or individuals who are directly concerned with research, development or marketing of an animal feedingstuff which is being considered by the Committee.

Definition of “other relevant bodies”

Organisations (not included in the definition of “industry”) with interests relevant to the work of the Committee. This could include charitable organisations and lobby groups.

2. Non-personal interests – involves payment which benefits a department for which a member is responsible, but is not received by the member personally e.g.

Type of interest		Notification	
		£1000 or more from a particular company in the previous twelve months	less than £1000 from a particular company in the previous twelve months
Fellowships:	the holding of a fellowship endowed by industry and other relevant bodies.	To be notified to the Secretariat in writing on appointment to the Committee. Any changes over the year should be declared on the annual declaration form and does not need to be notified at the time of change.	Does not need to be notified.
Support by industry and other relevant bodies*: e.g.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a grant from a company for the running of a unit or department for which the member is responsible. • the grant of a fellowship or other payment to sponsor a post or member of staff in the unit for which the member is responsible. • the commissioning of research or other work by, or advice from, staff who work in a unit for which the member is responsible. 	As above.	As above.
Trusteeships**:	any investment in industry held by a charity for which the member is a trustee.	As above.	As above.

* Members are under no obligation to seek out knowledge of work done for, or on behalf of, industry and other relevant bodies by departments/units for which they are responsible, if they would not normally expect to be informed. Where members are responsible for organisations which receive funds from a very large number of companies in the industry and from other relevant bodies, they can agree with the Secretariat a summary of non-personal interests rather than draw up a detailed portfolio.

** Where a member is a trustee of a charity with investments in the industry, they can agree with the Secretariat a general declaration to cover this interest rather than draw up a detailed portfolio.

