Food Standards Scotland: transition to the future

Elspeth Macdonald
Deputy Chief Executive
Introduction

• Vesting Day - 1\textsuperscript{st} April 2015
• New Chair and Board in place
• Chair – Ross Finnie
• Chief Executive – Geoff Ogle
• Broader objectives in the Food (Scotland) Act 2015
Chair and Board

Ross Finnie
Chair of FSS

- Mr George Brechin
- Ms Marieke Dwarshuis
- Mrs Heather Kelman
- Dr Carrie Ruxton
- Dr Susan Walker
- Dr Anne Maree Wallace
- Ms Louise Welsh
Broader Objectives for FSS

• Protect public from risks to health which may arise in connection with the consumption of food
• Improve the extent to which members of the public have diets which are conducive to good health
• Protect the other interests of consumers in relation to food
Food Standards Scotland...

...has consumer protection and interests at its heart
...should be the voice of authority on food matters
...is open and transparent in its dealings with the public, stakeholders and partners
...acts independently, at arm’s length from Ministers
...bases decisions upon sound science and evidence
...is an evolution of the Food Standards Agency in Scotland – we will do some things differently but have a solid foundation to build upon
Food Standards Scotland
For safe food and healthy eating
Food Standards Scotland
Inbhe Bìdh Alba
What are we transitioning to?

- Wholly Scottish focus:
  - Scottish Board
  - Scottish strategy

- Outcomes that best serve consumers in Scotland

- Direct accountability to Scottish Parliament
Vision and Strategy

“I want you to find a bold and innovative way to do everything exactly the same way it’s been done for 25 years.”
What will be different?

• Different balance between food safety and authenticity - new statutory powers
• Focus on Scottish priorities
• Working more closely with SG but retaining our independence – e.g. Good Food Nation
• Chief Scientific Advisor for FSS
• EU/international issues – role for FSS
• FSS Strategy to 2018
Opportunities:

• Building on what FSAS achieved
• Ways of working, reflecting Scottish priorities, that protect consumers and supports growth of compliant businesses
• Build on effective working relationships with LAs, industry and government, whilst maintaining focus on consumer protection
• Regulatory and compliance strategy for FSS
• Regulatory Reform Act 2015 - Scottish Regulators’ Strategic Code of Practice
• Primary Authority Scheme for Scotland
• Working closely with other Scottish regulators
## Contributing to the Scottish Government’s Purpose

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<th>Government Priorities</th>
<th>FSS Contribution</th>
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<td>Tackling Inequality</td>
<td>Improving Diet</td>
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<td>Sustainable economic growth</td>
<td>Business compliance</td>
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<td>Transforming public services</td>
<td>Intelligence led, risk-based delivery</td>
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How will we achieve this?

- Effective partnership working and stakeholder engagement
- Evidence based policy development
- Encouraging and empowering consumers - improving compliance
- Intelligence-led, risk-based approaches to delivery, with proportionate enforcement
- Good relationships with FSA
Working Together

• protecting consumers from risks to health from food and helping consumers choose diets which are conducive to good health
• FSS as regulator - compliance is good for consumers and good for business
• Protection of public health is not incompatible with business and economic growth
• By working together we can deliver better outcomes for consumers and businesses.
Next Steps – Priorities

- Ensure that FSS meets its obligations as CCA
- Developing FSS’s strategy
- Recruit CSA and develop science and evidence strategy
- Develop guidance for new statutory powers from 2015 Act
- Work with industry on a testing regime
- Implement the Scudamore post-horsemeat recommendations, including the FSS intelligence capability
- Current LA delivery – engage with LAs on future work plan for efficient and effective delivery
- Review FHIS – partnership with LAs
- With others, develop future approach to improving diet
- etc!
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