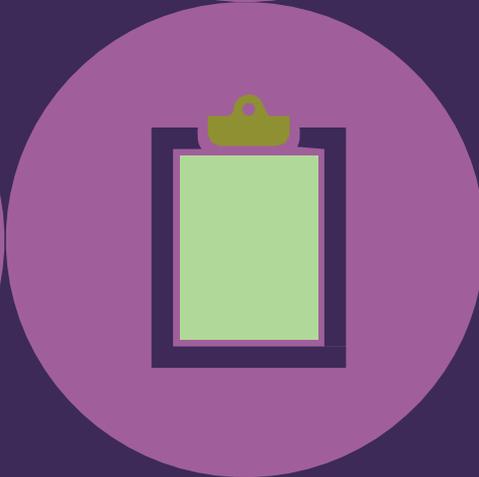
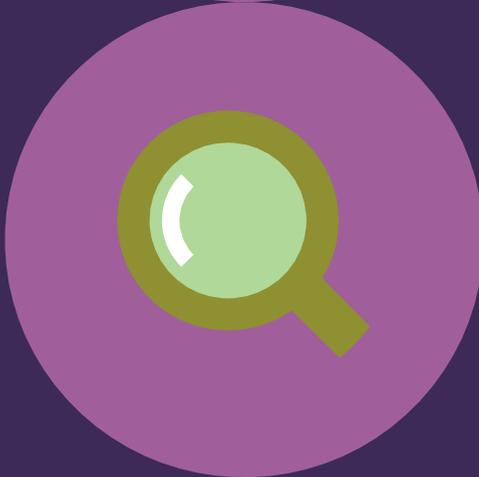


FOOD STANDARDS SCOTLAND

SIX MONTHLY OUTCOMES REPORT
30 SEPTEMBER 2018



Scottish Government (SG) Purpose

To focus on creating a more successful country with opportunities

For all of Scotland to flourish through increased wellbeing, and sustainable and inclusive economic growth

FSS vision

To create a food and drink environment in Scotland that benefits, protects and is trusted by consumers

SG Outcomes FSS map to

We are healthy and active

We grow up loved, safe and respected so that we realise our full potential

We tackle poverty by sharing opportunities, wealth and power more equally

We have globally competitive, entrepreneurial, inclusive and sustainable economy

We have thriving and innovative businesses, with quality jobs and fair work for everyone

We value, enjoy, protect and enhance our environment

We are open, connected and make a positive contribution internationally

FSS outcomes

Food is safe

Food is authentic

Consumers have healthier diets

Responsible food businesses flourish

FSS is a trusted organisation

FSS is efficient and effective

What that means for us

Food is safe

Food businesses should not sell food in Scotland which is unsafe.

Scottish consumers understand how to make sure the food they cook and eat won't do them any harm.

Food is Authentic

Food businesses meet their responsibility to ensure information provided about food and drink is true.

Scottish consumers can trust the information provided on the food and drink they buy.

Consumers have healthier diets

The Scottish food and drink environment supports a healthy balanced diet.

Scottish consumers are enabled and encouraged to make healthier choices.

Responsible food businesses flourish

Food businesses that meet their responsibility to provide safe and authentic food are supported.

Irresponsible food businesses are held to account.

FSS is a trusted organisation

Scottish consumers trust and act upon our advice

Industry, government and stakeholders listen to our recommendations and advice.

Staff are proud to work for FSS

FSS is efficient and effective

We will do what we say and clearly demonstrate this.

We make best use of our available resources.

HOW WE DO IT

What we invest

- A professional and Skilled workforce
- Programme resources to gather science, evidence and information
- Advice, guidance and legislation for food and feed safety, food standards and nutrition.
- Communication (all forms)
- Partnership and relationship building and maintenance with key stakeholders to help delivery
- Training (staff, local authorities and food and feed business operators)

What we do

- Developing, monitoring and providing guidance for food and feed legislation and policies
- Commission and managing research
- Providing risk assessment and management
- Providing guidance and advice for consumers
- Discussing and collaborating with our stakeholders for delivery
- Supporting the Scottish food and drink industry
- Developing effective information sharing frameworks with stakeholders and other parts of Government
- Providing improved methods by which consumers or those working within the food, feed and drink sector can report or provide information to us

Who we reach and work with

- Consumers
- Government in Scotland, UK and across the EU and worldwide
- Food, feed and drink Industry
- Health Professionals
- Educators
- Academics and researchers
- Consumer groups and charities e.g. Which, Cancer Research UK
- Local Authorities
- Media
- International bodies e.g. WHO, EFSA

FOOD IS SAFE

What does this mean?

Food placed on the market is compliant with food safety legislation;

Wherever appropriate, food is supplied with accurate instructions to ensure safe storage and handling; and

Consumers understand the risks and how to protect themselves and those for whom they prepare food from foodborne illness.

The FSS Board receives further detailed information on progress under this outcome through the FSS annual report, the quarterly performance reporting (including indicators of operational, audit, HR, and health and safety performance), the consumer tracker report, quarterly and annual incidents reports and regular updates on specific projects and strategies e.g. shellfish review and Campylobacter strategy.

Outcome 1 Food is safe	Baseline 2015-16	Year 1 2016-17	Year 2 2017-18	Year 3 2018-19
Number of reported human cases of Campylobacter	6264	5296	5823	3777*
Percentage and numbers of incidents in Scotland handled by FSS that were Microbiological, Biotxin and allergen food safety incidents	71% (109/154)	50% (52/104)	31% (41/134)	29% (15/52)
Percentage and numbers of incidents where food businesses had poor or insufficient food safety controls	12% (18/154)	16% (17/104)	8% (10/134)	6% (3/52)
Percentage of consumers aware of FSS remit to ensure that food in Scotland is safe to eat*	36%	37%	44%	47%
		44%	44%	

* Data from health protection Scotland <http://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/giz/surveillancesystems.aspx>, 2 Data from FSS annual report, 4 Data from FSS consumer bi annual tracker surveys

Campylobacter data

The data provided from Health Protection Scotland (HPS) is of annual positive laboratory reports of Campylobacter in Scotland. The annual number of outbreaks of Infectious Intestinal Disease (IID) in Scotland are also collected HPS through the surveillance of all general outbreaks of infectious intestinal disease in Scotland. This data is used to inform public health policy and supports FSS in monitoring trends in the incidence of IID and targeting interventions. It should be noted that this data set covers the seasonal peak (between around week 19-29) which occurs in Scotland every year. These figures will therefore be higher than those recorded during the previous 6 months. It is worth noting however that the data suggests that the seasonal peak for 2018 was higher than the average figure for the previous 5 years. It is not clear to what extent this increase can be attributed to the warmer summer period. * This figure is provisional and relates to the number of clinical laboratory reports submitted to HPS between week 13 (w/c 26 March) and week 39 (which ends on 30 Sept)

Annual Incident data

A food incident is where concerns about actual or suspected threats to the safety or quality of food require intervention to protect consumers. FSS leads on the Government response to food incidents in Scotland, and provides food businesses with advice on how to report, respond to, and prevent an incident, as well as carrying out monitoring and planning work. The annual incidents are specifically related to Scotland. In 2017/2018 FSS handled 134 incidents, of which 34 were led by FSA where a Scottish contribution was required.

FSS consumer bi-annual tracker surveys

Food in Scotland Consumer Tracking Survey is a monitor of Scotland's attitudes, behaviors and knowledge in relation to food. The survey is undertaken biannually by an independent research agency, Kantar TNS, and comprises a set of consistent questions at each wave on the FSS brand with two alternating modules: (1) food safety and authenticity and (2) diet and nutrition. 1000 adults aged 16+ in Scotland were interviewed:

between 8 and 15 December 2015 for wave one.

between 28 June and 6 July 2016 for wave two.

between 8 and 21 December 2016 for wave three.

Between 19 June and 4 July 2017 for wave four.

Between 7 and 20 December 2017 for wave five.

Between 18 June and 5 July 2018 for wave six.

Each wave uses an online self-completion approach to interview a representative sample of adults in Scotland in terms of gender, age, socio-economic status and region. The data is weighted at each wave on these demographic variables to ensure comparability over time. Consumer rating of FSS ensuring food is safe to eat has grown slightly in rating over 2015-2017 but then began to plateau. Wave 6 has seen a slight growth in these figures.

FOOD IS AUTHENTIC

What does this mean?

Food is of the nature, substance and quality as described by the supplier; and Consumers have confidence that food information is accurate and clear.

The FSS Board receives further detailed information on progress on this outcome through the FSS annual report, the quarterly performance reporting (including indicators of operational, audit, HR, and health and safety performance), the annual UK food surveillance report, the consumer tracker report, quarterly and annual incidents report and regular updates on specific projects and strategies e.g. FSS Food surveillance strategy.

Outcome 2 Food is Authentic	Baseline 2015-16	Year 1 2016-17	Year 2 2017-18	Year 3 2018-19
Percentage and number of incidents	5%	2%		
Percentage and number of incidents related to Food Fraud	(8/154)	(2/104)	(2/134)	0
Percentage of unsatisfactory samples (total number of food samples brackets) tested by local authorities for food safety and food authenticity recorded in the UK Food Surveillance System	17.4% (9,566)	18.6% (8,527)	18.5% (7,741)	18% (2877)
Percentage of consumers who are concerned that food is not what it says on the label *	79%	78%	74%	72%
		74%	73%	

*Data from FSS annual report, 4 Data from FSS consumer bi annual tracker surveys, 5 UKFSS figures presented in this year's report are different to those reported in the 2015- 2017 due to the use of a different method to analyse the data.

Annual Incident data

A food incident is where concerns about actual or suspected threats to the safety or quality of food require intervention to protect consumers. FSS leads on the Government response to food incidents in Scotland, and provides food businesses with advice on how to report, respond to, and prevent an incident, as well as carrying out monitoring and planning work. The annual incidents are specifically related to Scotland. From April to September 2018 FSS handled 52 incidents, of which 11 were led by FSA where a Scottish contribution was required.

UK Food Surveillance System database (UKFSS)

Samples are defined as unsatisfactory if they breach legislative standards or guideline values. Unsatisfactory results relate to samples which have failed for a wide range of criteria including those which could present a potential food safety risk, as well as those which are indicative of a failure in the food production process

This report covers a six monthly figure between 01/04/2018 and 30/09/2018 and comparing these figures to the previous 6 months won't provide an accurate trend as sampling changes throughout the year with higher sampling rates during certain months for one year but not necessarily during the same period in the following year. Sampling rates are dependent on LA staff available to go out and take samples and also they will target different things each year depending on the priorities which means the failure rate will vary year on year.

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between 8 and 15 December 2015 for wave one.

between 28 June and 6 July 2016 for wave two.

between 8 and 21 December 2016 for wave three.

Between 19 June and 4 July 2017 for wave four.

Between 7 and 20 December 2017 for wave five.

Between 18 June and 5 July 2018 for wave 6

Each wave uses an online self-completion approach to interview a representative sample of adults in Scotland in terms of gender, age, socio-economic status and region. The data is weighted at each wave on these demographic variables to ensure comparability over time. Wave 6 shows that the number of consumers concerned about food not being as declared on the label is on a slight decline.

CONSUMERS HAVE HEALTHIER DIETS

What does this mean?

Dietary choices of the Scottish population change towards meeting the recommended dietary balance and the Scottish Dietary Goals (SDGs).

The FSS Board receives further detailed information on progress on this outcome through the FSS annual report, the consumer tracker report, the annual Diet and Nutrition report and regular updates on specific projects and strategies e.g. Folic Acid.

Outcome 3 Consumers have healthier Diets	Baseline 2015-16	Year 1 2016-17	Year 2 2017-18	Year 3 2018-19
Percentage of consumers who know that they need to do something to eat more healthily ⁴	51%	56% 61%	58% 54%	58%
Percentage of parents who are concerned about the types of food that their children are eating ⁴	45%	51% 55%	52% 51%	55%

⁴ Data from FSS consumer bi-annual tracker surveys

FSS consumer bi-annual tracker surveys

Food in Scotland Consumer Tracking Survey is a monitor of Scotland's attitudes, behaviors and knowledge in relation to food. The survey is undertaken biannually by an independent research agency, Kantar TNS, and comprises a set of consistent questions at each wave on the FSS brand with two alternating modules: (1) food safety and authenticity and (2) diet and nutrition. 1000 adults aged 16+ in Scotland were interviewed:

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Between 7 and 20 December 2017 for wave five.

Between 18 June and 5 July 2018 for wave six.

Each wave uses an online self-completion approach to interview a representative sample of adults in Scotland in terms of gender, age, socio-economic status and region. The data is weighted at each wave on these demographic variables to ensure comparability over time. Consumer awareness of needing to eat more healthily and of parents concerned about what their children are eating has increased significantly compared to the 2015 baseline and in the first half of 2018-19 the trend has seen an increase. .

RESPONSIBLE BUSINESSES FLOURISH

What does this mean?

Food businesses that operate responsibly and do things that benefit consumers' interests benefit from risk-based and proportionate regulation that enables them to flourish, whilst effective and dissuasive action is taken with those businesses who do not step up to their responsibilities to consumers.

The FSS Board receives further information on progress on this outcome through the FSS annual report, the quarterly performance reporting (including indicators of operational, audit, HR, and health and safety performance), the annual UK food surveillance report, the consumer tracker report, quarterly and annual incidents report and regular updates on specific projects and strategies e.g. Food Hygiene information scheme and the Scottish National Database project.

Outcome 4 Responsible food businesses flourish	Baseline 2015-16	Year 1 2016-17	Year 2 2017-18	Year 3 2018-19
Number of formal enforcement notices Issued to FSS approved establishments	47	53	114	38
Percentage and number of passes for Food Hygiene Information Scheme (FHIS) listed businesses ²	91% (45,768)	92%	92%	92%
Number of written warnings issued to meat food businesses ³	238	266	346	60
Percentage of consumers who have used A food hygiene information scheme to check hygiene standards*	26%	30%	31%	*

² Data from FSS annual report, ³ Data from FSS business performance reporting, ⁴ Data from FSS consumer bi annual tracker surveys

* Measure not included in wave 6 tracker

Formal enforcement notices

Following the evident increase in the number of formal notices during period 2017-2018, we believe there is an improvement in the overall compliance of meat FBOs. This translates into a reduced number of formal notices in the first half of 2018-2019 and FBO swifter response during informal stages of enforcement.

This reduction may also be linked to better compliance in terms of presentation of carcasses for the final inspection free of visible contamination.

Food Hygiene information Scheme (FHIS)

The scheme applies to all food outlets that supply food to consumers. Each food outlet is asked to display a certificate (and/or at the end of March 2018, there were 48,451 food businesses listed on the Food Hygiene Information Scheme, with an average pass rate across all Local Authority areas of 92%. We also know that during the period 01/04/2018 to 30/09/2018 there have been 13,657 visits to FHIS webpages and 30,264 database searches on the website.

Annual written warnings to Food Businesses

The figures show the numbers of written warnings issued by FSS in approved slaughterhouses, game handling establishments and cutting plants in Scotland with a comparison over the years. The reduction in formal enforcement action can be linked the reporting period 01/04/2018 to 30/09/2018 largely excluding game handling establishments due to this being out of season and the summer months tend to see an overall reduction in throughput from all other premise types compared to the winter months. It should be noted that there have been improvements in compliance rates and better responses by FBOs to verbal advice, and more sustained compliance leads to fewer spikes in carcase contamination.

FSS consumer bi-annual tracker surveys

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Between 18 June and 5 July 2018 for wave six.

Each wave uses an online self-completion approach to interview a representative sample of adults in Scotland in terms of gender, age, socio-economic status and region. The data is weighted at each wave on these demographic variables to ensure comparability over time.

FSS IS A TRUSTED ORGANISATION

What does this mean?

Consumers in Scotland are aware of FSS and trust it to put them first in relation to food safety, food standards and healthy eating. FSS understands the other interests of consumers in relation to food, and leverages influence where appropriate to benefit consumers.

The FSS Board receives further information on progress on this outcome through the FSS annual report, the consumer tracker report, and regular updates on specific projects and strategies e.g. FSS food safety and healthy eating campaigns.

Outcome 5 FSS is a trusted organisation	Baseline 2015-16	Year 1 2016-17	Year 2 2017-18	Year 3 2018-19
Percentage of consumers who are aware of FSS and trust FSS to do its job ⁴	70%	76%	74% 78%	81%
Percentage of consumers who have rated FSS as 'Excellent', 'Very good' or 'Good' to the statement 'Being the experts when it comes to food safety' ⁴	36%	41% 47%	48% 48%	52%
Percentage of consumers who have rated FSS as 'Excellent', 'Very good' or 'Good' to the statement 'Having the necessary expertise to help people in Scotland eat healthily' ⁴	35%	40% 42%	46% 46%	51%

⁴ Data from FSS consumer bi-annual tracker surveys

The Board is asked to note that the level of trust in FSS amongst the Scottish public who are aware of the organisation continues to rise. This now stands at 81%, up from 70% in December 2015. This latest survey was undertaken in June 2018, against the backdrop of continuing negative media coverage of FSS in relation to the Errington Cheese incident, and it is important to note that this unwarranted coverage appears to have had little reputational impact.

FSS consumer bi-annual tracker surveys

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Between 7 and 20 December 2017 for wave five.

Between 18 June and 5 July 2018 for wave six.

Each wave uses an online self-completion approach to interview a representative sample of adults in Scotland in terms of gender, age, socio-economic status and region. The data is weighted at each wave on these demographic variables to ensure comparability over time. Consumer rating of FSS as a trusted organisation and in relation to public health (food safety, and diet and nutrition) has grown steadily in rating over 2015-2018. All of the trend data has shown an upward trend significantly from the 2015 baseline data, with the increase slowing down in 17/18 but beginning to rise again in 2018/19.

FSS IS EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE

What does this mean?

We are an organisation of well-motivated and appropriately skilled people committed to carrying out all our duties in a responsible way. Our resources are focused on doing the right things, and doing them in ways that are most effective for achieving our objectives.

The FSS Board receives further information on progress on this outcome through the FSS annual report, the quarterly performance reporting (including indicators of operational, audit, HR, and health and safety performance), the quarterly finance report and regular updates on specific projects and strategies e.g. reports to the audit and risk committee.

Outcome 6 FSS is efficient and effective	Baseline 2015-16	Year 1 2016-17	Year 2 2017-18	Year 3 2018-19
Percentage efficiency savings Target 3% to be reinvested ²	N/A	1.8%	2%	1%
Employee engagement index from the civil service survey ⁶	62%	63%	65%	
Percentage of female staff in FSS ⁴	39%	44%	45%	47%

² Data from FSS annual report, ⁴ Data from FSS consumer bi annual tracker surveys, ⁶ Data from Civil Service staff Survey

Efficiency Savings

We have identified savings of £181k so far in 2018/19 from across our business in order to reinvest this money in other key parts of our work.

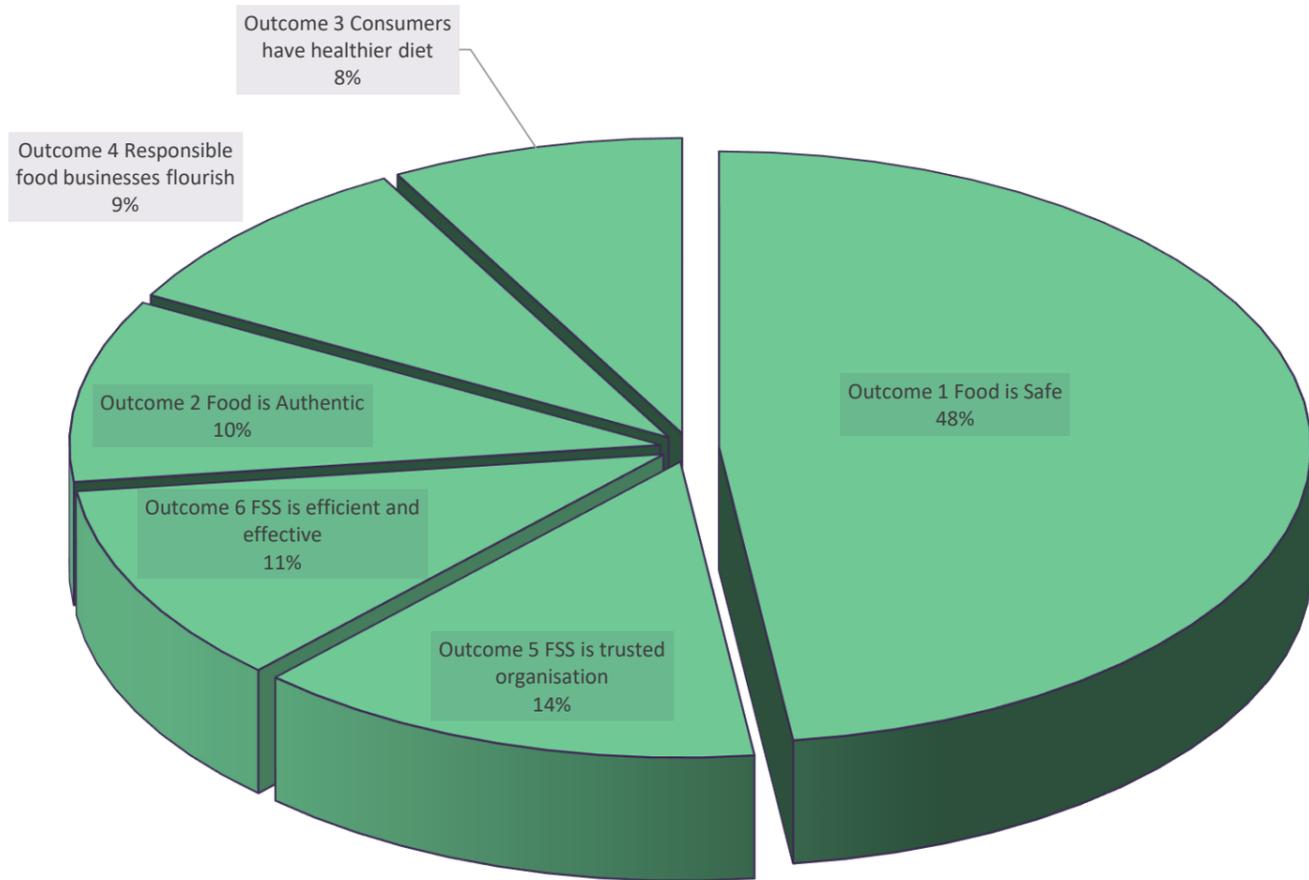
Human Resource (HR) statistics

The Human Resource Statistics are reported as on 30th September 2018. The composition of FSS staff by gender is to provide greater context as to how our workforce is represented. Food Standards Scotland is committed to equality of opportunity for all, and we want everyone who works here to be treated fairly and consistently. We value diversity in our workforce; it brings a range of talents and different perspectives to our work, and rightly should reflect the diversity of our customers. Our gender balance of staff has improved but is still below the Scottish Government average of 52% of females employed.

The disproportionately high number of males in the B1 grade reflects the large proportion of Meat Hygiene Inspectors (MHIs) in this grade (73% of all B1 grade staff in FSS). The Meat Hygiene profession has historically been male dominated and is one where there has been limited staff turnover. Only 9% of MHIs in FSS are female.

The 2017 Civil Service People Survey was conducted during October 2017. The overall engagement index for FSS was 65%. This ranks FSS as 19 out of 98 organisations of a similar size (100-399 employees) across the civil service and places the organisation above the civil service average of 61% and equals the high performers benchmark for staff engagement. The 2018 Civil Service People Survey is currently ongoing

**PERCENTAGE OF FSS
BUDGET FOR
2018/2019**



**PERCENTAGE OF FSS
BUDGET IN 2017/2018**

