

Prof. Sandy Thomas,
Chair, FSA Science Council
(by e-mail)
11 June 2020

Prof Susan Michie,
Chair, Advisory Committee for Social Science.
(by e-mail to s.michie@ucl.ac.uk)

Dear Susan

Finding opportunities for linkages between Science Council and ACSS Work Schedules over 2020

As Chair of the FSA Science Council I am writing to you to explore potential opportunities for our committees to engage on upcoming work we will be doing over this year.

I hope that attendance by Science Council members from time to time has been helpful and productive. This year the Science Council will be expanding so I am hopeful we will be able to more actively engage with other SACs.

Moving forward I thought it would be useful to share with you our planned schedule of work this year and ask that in return could you flag any planned topics you will be addressing in your committee which can act as the starting point of a conversation about where we could support one-another in producing our respective deliverables.

- **Working Group 4: Data usage and digital technology** – Considering future trends in data usage, availability and tools over 2-5 years.
 - Reporting recommendations to the FSA Board in August this year.

- **Working Group 5: Food hypersensitivity** – Considering FSA best practice, key issues for those affected by FHS, understanding the current state of knowledge for these issues and resultant priorities for future science and policy. COVID-19 has led to some delay in this work, with the final report expected to be presented to the FSA Board in June 2021. Activities include:
 - Analysis of public survey responses re key issues in relation to FHS.
 - Prioritisation workshop using the survey results as a starting point.
 - Review of state of knowledge for priorities
 - Horizon scanning workshop, looking at potential trends which will influence FHS policy over next 5-15 years (19 October)

In addition to our already planned work areas, we are in the process of defining new spaces to explore next year, including looking for inspiration on what strategic science focus the Science Council will address in its next Working Group. If you or your members have any ideas for strategic topics that the Council might look at especially if there is scope for co-working with your committee, I would welcome your thoughts.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sandy". The letters are cursive and slightly slanted.

Professor Sandy Thomas
Chair, FSA Science Council