



**Nathan Barnhouse,
Director of FSA in Wales**

**Professor Robin May,
FSA Chief Scientific Adviser**

How we operate – two decades of consumer protection

- The Food Standards Agency was set up 2000 in the wake of the BSE crisis to look after consumers' interests in relation to food.
- We are an independent statutory body, with a role set out in law, that works across England, Wales, Northern Ireland.
- We work transparently and base our decisions and guidance on the latest science and evidence.
- We are proud of our independence and its importance in delivering food you can trust. This will remain central to our work for the next five years.



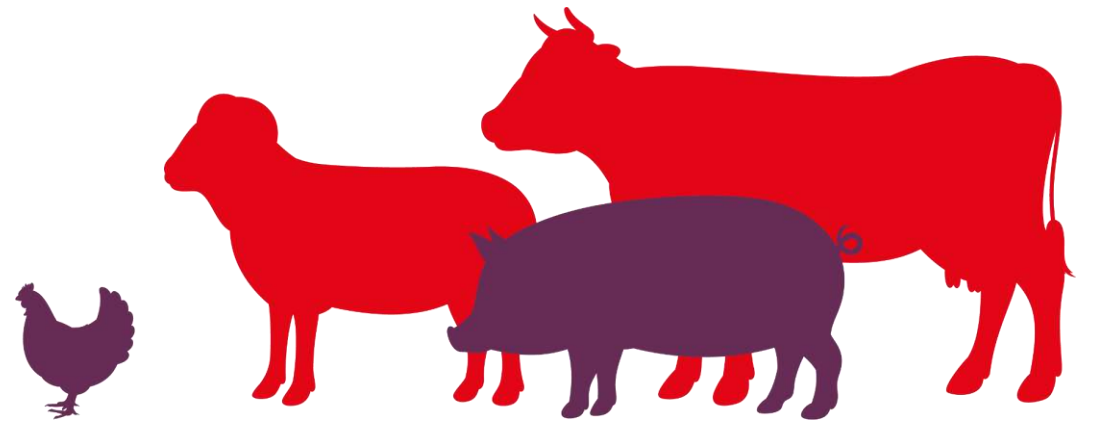
Why food standards matter

- Foodborne illness costs society and the economy **£9 billion** each year. Our work is about reducing this burden and supporting the UK economy and trade by making sure we have a strong reputation for food standards in the UK and abroad.
- Food crime is estimated to cost society up to **£3.6 billion**. It damages confidence in UK food, and can also be a health risk.
- Every year, there are 4.2 million cases of food hypersensitivity for UK adults, at a cost to society in excess of **£2.6 billion** each year.



A changing landscape

- The food system is changing rapidly. Our strategy reflects these changes and helps anticipate future changes.
- The FSA has greater responsibilities now that we are outside of the EU.
- New technologies and business models, changing consumer behaviours, and challenges, like rising food prices, mean we need to think differently about how we deliver our mission.
- There is growing public concern about the healthiness and sustainability of food.





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Food you **can trust**

FSA Strategy 2022-2027



Food
is safe



Food
is what it
says it is



Food
is healthier
and more
sustainable






Our strategy and mission

- **Food is safe:** We will continue to prioritise our core role protecting consumers by preventing and responding to disease and contamination of food, in order to keep the level of foodborne disease low.
- **Food is what it says it is:** Consumers should be confident that food is what it says it is. That is why we will continue to prioritise the second part of our core role ensuring food is authentic and properly described.
- **Food is healthier and more sustainable:** We need to play our part supporting government partners and others in the wider food system to make it easier for consumers to access a healthier and more sustainable diet.



How the FSA works

These are the roles we play in the food system:

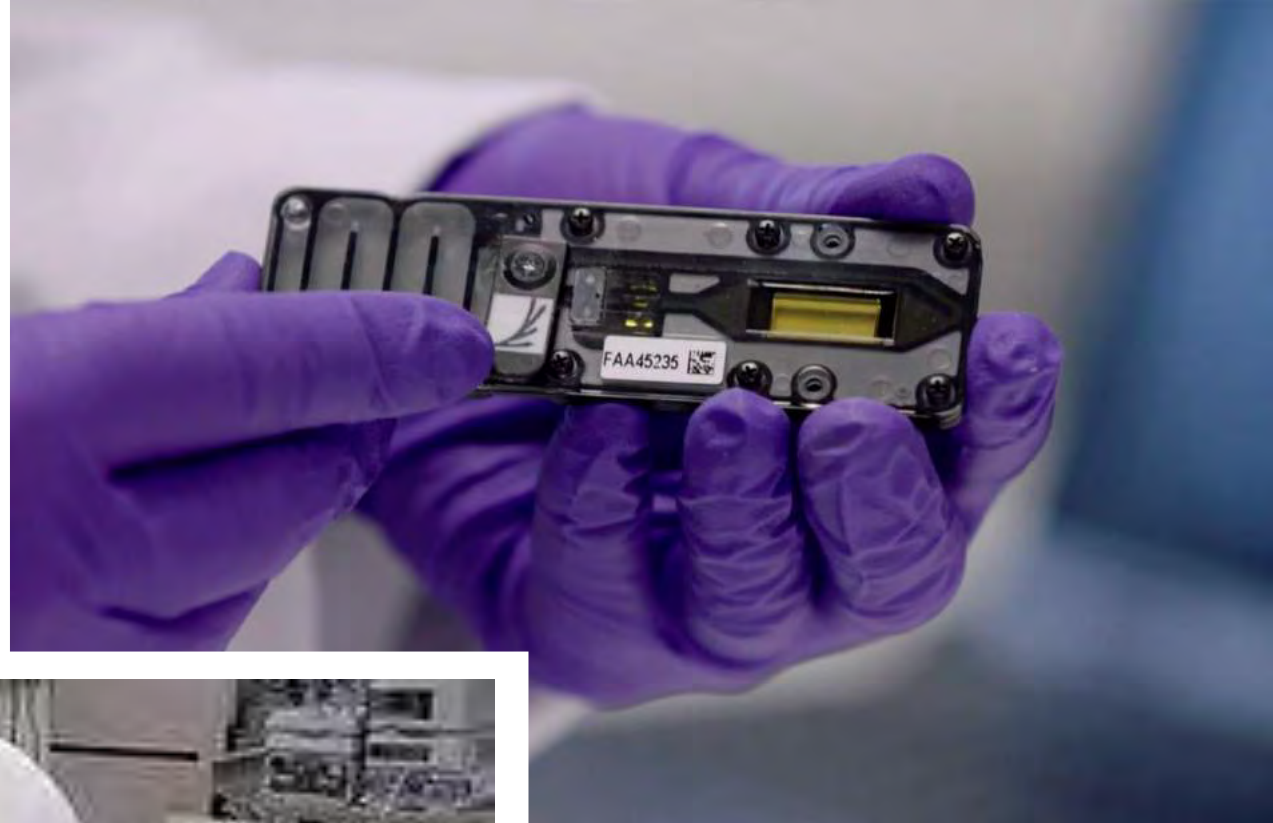
-  We are an evidence generator
-  We are a policy maker
-  We are a regulator
-  We are a watchdog
-  We are a convenor and collaborator

Our guiding principles

- 1 We are the trusted voice on food standards, protecting consumer interests
- 2 We are science and evidence led
- 3 We are open and transparent
- 4 We work with, and through, others
- 5 We make it easier for businesses to meet their obligations and do the right thing for consumers
- 6 We are risk-based and proportionate
- 7 We are innovative

We are science and
evidence led...

and science
evolves rapidly...





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...and so does
food





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So what is around the corner?

Health and sustainability are becoming ever more important.



Insect Proteins



- Insect allergies?
- Residues in animal feed?
- Compositional purity?



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Lab-grown meat – how to assess the risk of a totally novel product?

A photograph showing a variety of nuts in clear plastic containers. The containers are arranged in several stacks. The nuts include almonds, pecans, walnuts, and pistachios. A central black banner with white text reads "Novel Crops".

Novel Crops



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GM/PB crops



Healthy Food and the Medicines Interface

