

# Health, Social Care and Sport Committee

## 3rd Meeting, 2023 (Session 6), Tuesday, 24 January 2023

### Food Standards Scotland

#### Note by the clerk

#### Background

1. Food Standards Scotland (FSS) was established on 1 April 2015 as the new public sector food body for Scotland. Its remit covers all aspects of the food chain which can impact on public health. Prior to this, FSS was known as the Food Standards Agency Scotland and had a similar remit.
2. The FSS website states its [mission](#):

“To be Scotland’s leading authority on food safety, standards and healthy eating; using data and evidence to provide assurance and advice that inspires consumer confidence and improves public health.”
3. As set out under the [Food \(Scotland\) Act 2015](#), FSS have three objectives in connection with protecting the health and wellbeing of consumers:
  - To protect the public from risks to health which may arise in connection with the consumption of food;
  - To improve the extent to which members of the public have diets which are conducive to good health;
  - To protect the other interests of consumers in relation to food.
4. FSS have a five year strategy from 2021 to 2026 entitled [Healthy, Safe, Sustainable: Driving Scotland’s Food Future](#), and a three year [Corporate Plan](#) which describes the work that will be undertaken to deliver the strategy between 2021-24.
5. FSS published its most recent [annual report and accounts](#) on 9 December 2022.

#### Today’s meeting

6. At its meeting today, the Committee will take evidence from Food Standards Scotland on a variety of topics related to their current work programme and most recent [annual report](#), including their role in the areas of food safety, Scotland’s diet, Brexit, and the [Good Food Nation \(Scotland\) Act 2022](#).

**Clerks to the Committee  
19 January 2023**