



To: Chair, Health and Social Care Select Committee

Date: 01 February 2022

Food Standards Agency (FSA)

Supplementary Estimate

2021/22

An overview and analysis of the Food Standards Agency's 2021-22 Supplementary Estimate.

1. Overview

1.1 Objectives

The Food Standards Agency (FSA) is a non-ministerial government department, set up by an Act of Parliament in 2000 to protect the public's health and consumers' wider interests in relation to food. The FSA are due to launch our next multiyear strategy in March 2022 that will underpin our core work. It is expected to restate our mission: 'food you can trust' and our vision; to make sure that food is safe; food is what it says it is. We are also working to establish how the FSA can best support wider Government objectives for food to be healthier and more sustainable.

As the department responsible for food and feed safety, we are concerned with the safety and authenticity of food right along the supply chain. We are responsible for the systems that regulate food businesses and work with local authorities across England, Wales and Northern Ireland to make sure that regulations are enforced.

Our work not only protects people, but also reduces the economic burden of foodborne illness and supports the UK economy by ensuring that our food has a strong reputation for safety and authenticity in the UK and abroad. We are committed to modernising the UK food regulatory regime through our Achieving Business Compliance and Operational Transformation programmes. As a science and evidence led organisation, we work in an open and transparent manner, for example through our open Board meetings and publishing our research and evidence, which contributes to our high levels of trust.

1.2 Spending Controls

The Food Standards Agency's net spending is broken down into several different spending totals, for which Parliament's approval is sought.

The spending totals which Parliament votes are:

- Resource Departmental Expenditure Limit (RDEL) – a net limit comprising day to day running and support costs, less income from meat official controls and related work. Additional income is received for milk and dairies sampling and from assessments and consultations on radioactive discharges.
- Capital Departmental Expenditure Limit (CDEL) – investment in Research and Development, computer hardware, computer software and office-related assets.
- Resource Annually Managed Expenditure (RAME) – non-cash provision for early retirements, pensions, building dilapidation and legal liabilities / obligations.

In addition, Parliament votes a net cash requirement, designed to cover the elements of the above budgets which require the Food Standards Agency to pay out cash in year.

1.3 Comparison of spending totals sought

The table below shows how the net spending totals sought for the Food Standards Agency compare with the original budget for the 2021/22 (Main Estimate) and the final outturn for 2020/21.

	Amounts sought this year (Supplementary Estimate 2021-22)	Compared to original budget (Main Estimate 2021-22)		Compared to final outturn last year (Outturn 2020-21)	
	£m	£m	%	£m	%
Resource DEL	108.3	110.4	2%	96.8	(12%)
<i>of which EU Exit and Transition</i>	3.0	3.0	0%	13.3	77%
Capital DEL	11.1	9.0	(22%)	7.1	(56%)
<i>of which EU Exit and Transition</i>	0.0	0.0	0%	0.0	0%
Resource AME	9.6	9.6	0%	(0.8)	(1,239%)
<i>of which EU Exit and Transition</i>	0.0	0.0	0%	0.0	0%

A breakdown of spending and income within the net total is shown in section 2.1.

1.4 Key drivers of spending changes

Comparisons to the 2021/22 Main Estimate are as follows:

RDEL decrease of 2% due to an RDEL to CDEL switch of £2.0m into 2021/22. This is to allow increased investment in; IT infrastructure which will provide improved performance, resilience, and security; improving the FSA's science and evidence base, supporting policy implementation and risk management for food safety and standards.

CDEL increase of 22%, £2m, due to the above RDEL to CDEL switch.

RAME has remained constant.

Comparisons to 2020/21 Outturn are as follows:

RDEL increase of **£11.5m**, 12% mainly due to:

Increased RDEL allocation from 2020/21 Supplementary Estimate to 2021/22 Supplementary Estimate of **£4.5m** primarily due to £3.0m additional ringfenced funding for EU Exit and Transition, increased allocation year on year of £3.4m due to Budget Exchange surrender¹ in 2020/21 of £1.7m into 2021/22. These increases are partially offset by the RDEL to CDEL switch in 2021/22 of £2.0m.

2020/21 also resulted in an underspend against the RDEL Supplementary Estimate limit of **£7.0m** which further contributes to the £11.5m increase year on year. This was partly driven by a £5.5m underspend in business as usual activities, and partly by a £1.5m underspend on the EU Exit Programme. Both of these areas were directly impacted by the COVID pandemic. Although operational costs increased in field operations, to ensure that the FSA continued to provide official controls to all food business operations who needed them, these costs were more than offset by the wider implications on teams and partners of COVID. Work had to be reprioritised, most significantly across our two priority programmes, Achieving Business Compliance (ABC) and Operations Transformation Programme (OTP), as well as our science activities. There were also delays in recruitment and reduced training and travel.

Within the EU Exit Programme, our spending plans were most impacted from reduced travel, the increased difficulties in recruiting staff and from continued lockdown activity affecting scheduled training.

¹ Budget exchange is a mechanism that allows departments to carry forward a forecast DEL underspend from one year to the next. Under budget exchange, departments may surrender a forecast DEL underspend in advance of the end of the financial year (by means of a DEL reduction in the Supplementary Estimate) in return for a corresponding DEL increase in the following year, subject to a prudent limit.

Capital DEL increase of **£4.0m**, 56% mainly due to:

RDEL to CDEL switch of £2.0m in 2021/22 as detailed above, increased allocation year on year due of £0.7 due to Budget Exchange surrender in 2020/21 of £0.35m into 2021/22. Plus, the 2020/21 Capital DEL underspend of £1.3m mainly due to delays in Research and Development projects as a result of COVID and the impact on our partners including science institutions.

Resource AME increase of **£10.4m**, 1239% due to:

The Spending Review allocation allowing for the volatile nature of non-cash AME related expenditure. The actuals for 2020/21 came in significantly under the allocation due to an adjustment of the FSA Early Retirement obligations.

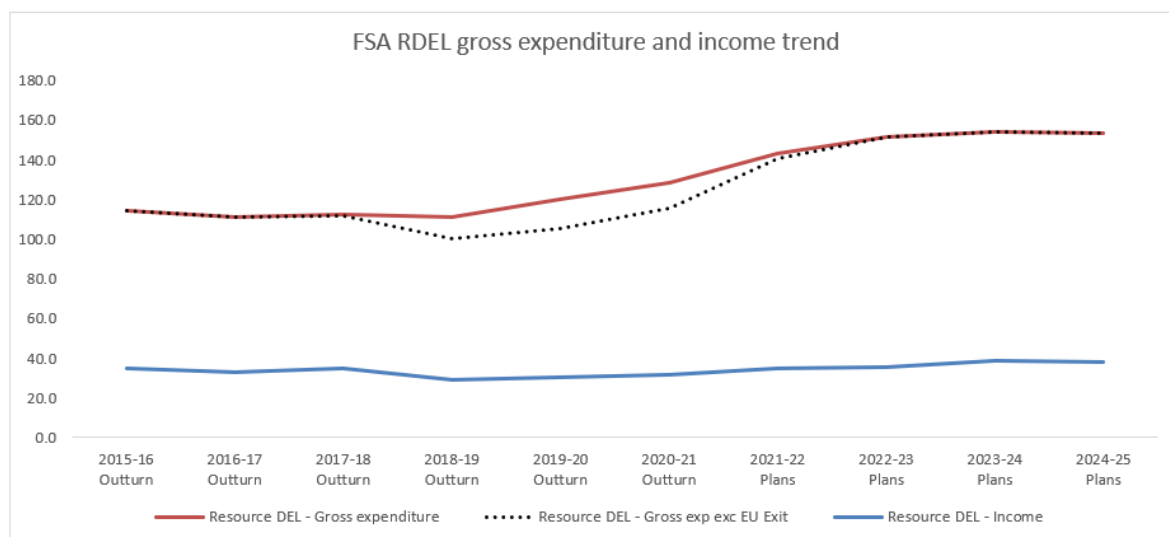
1.5 New policies and programmes; ambit changes

In 2021/22, the FSA's priorities are to ensure food safety and authenticity are not compromised as a result of EU Transition; and to deliver better outcomes for consumers from investment in Regulatory Reform; Operations Transformation; Food Hypersensitivities; and Surveillance. The FSA has reprioritised its resources to make progress in these areas whilst ensuring it continues to resource ongoing key day to day regulatory activity.

A minor revision has been made to the FSA ambit explicitly covering the FSA in protecting other consumer interests in relation to food and additional details around Animal health and Welfare work – monitoring, surveillance, and enforcement. These revisions will be added into the main body of the ambit at 2022/23 Main Estimate and currently remain a footnote.

1.6 Spending and income trends

The charts below show Gross RDEL spending and income, CDEL and RAME for 2015/16 – 2020/21 outturn, 2021/22 Supplementary Estimate and 2022/23 – 2024/25 plans.

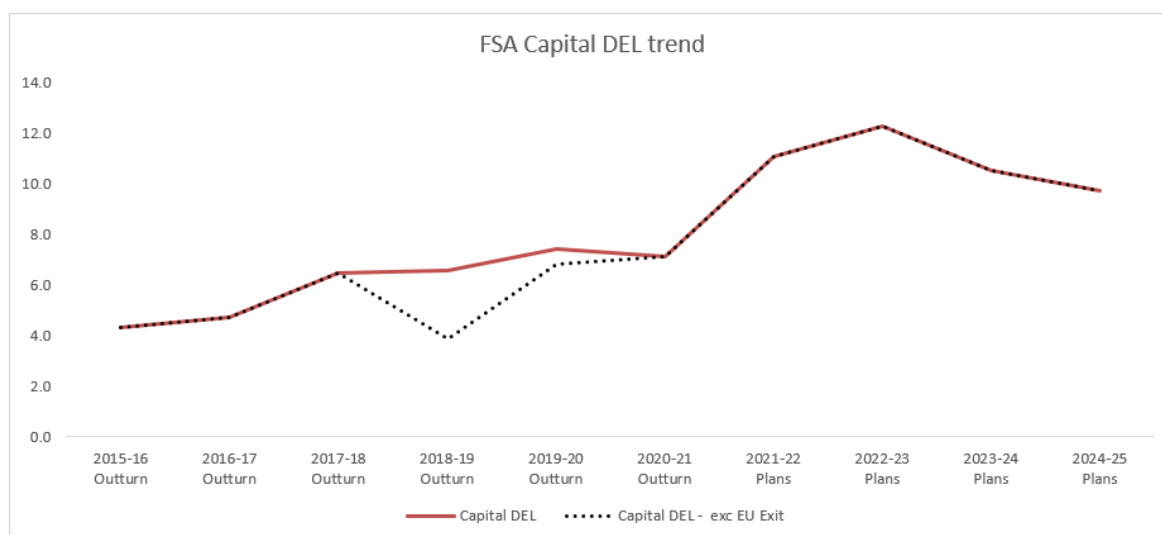


*22/23 onwards plans figures include estimated depreciation (based on 21/22 Main Estimate) as not yet confirmed.

** EU Exit funding classified as BAU from 22/23 plans.

*** Note prior year figures are not adjusted for inflation.

RDEL remains constant throughout 2015/16 – 2018/19. Expenditure then increases in 2019/20 and 2020/21 due to additional EU Exit related expenditure of £14.8m and £13.1m respectively. 2021/22 RDEL Plans increase by a further £11.5m due to £3.0m additional ringfenced funding for EU Exit and Transition, increased allocation year on year of £3.4m due to Budget Exchange surrender in 2020/21 of £1.7m into 2021/22. 2020/21 underspend against the RDEL Supplementary Estimate limit of £7.0m These increases are partially offset by the RDEL to CDEL switch in 2021/22 of £2.0m. Plans figures in periods 2022/23 – 2024/25 reflect the Spending Review (SR)21 settlement which includes additional funding for; EU Exit and Transition, support for Local Authority burden payments relating to the new allergen labelling requirements for prepacked for direct sale food (also known as ‘Natasha’s Law’), additional pressures arising from the cost of providing official controls in the post EU Exit environment and public sector compensation for employer costs of National Insurance Contributions (NICs) increase.

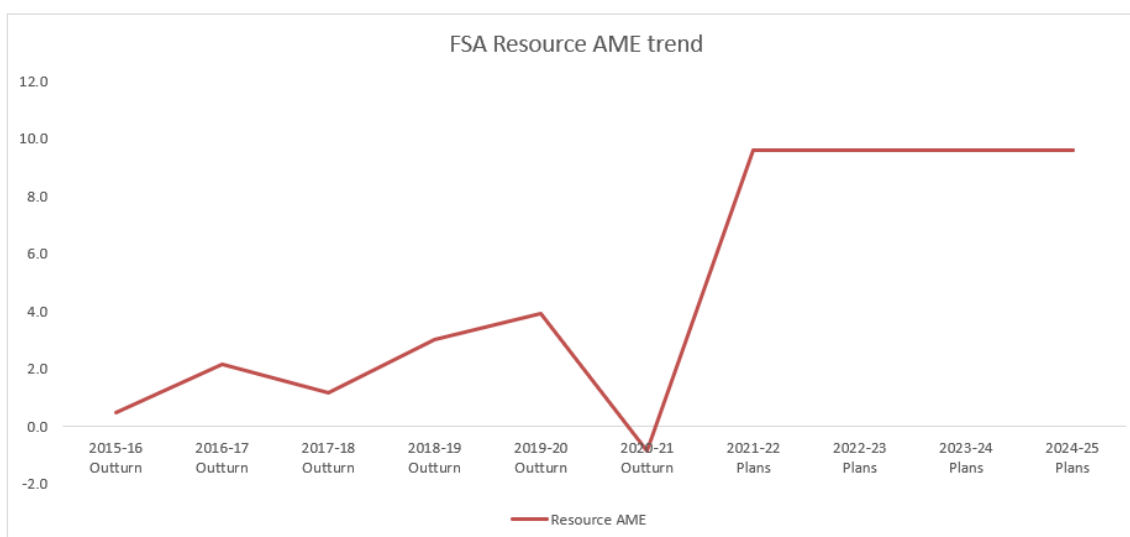


* Note prior year figures are not adjusted for inflation.

CDEL expenditure remained constant in 2015/16 and 2016/17. Investment increased in 2017/18 due to the renewal of obsolete IT hardware, the associated costs of relocating our London Office and the introduction of flexible working across the FSA. In 2018/19 this remained constant mainly due to additional EU Exit capital investment offsetting the reduction in business as usual capital investment. 2019/20 expenditure rose by £0.9m due to increased Research and Development Capital investment relating to EU Exit. 2020/21 remains constant to 2019/20 levels.

2021/22 sees a planned increase of £3.0m due to increased investment in; IT infrastructure providing improved performance, resilience and security and improving the FSA's science and evidence base, supporting policy implementation and risk management for food safety and standards. This includes 2021/22 plans of £0.7m which is the impact of Budget Exchange carrying forward £0.35m from 2020/21 to 2021/22.

Plans periods 2022/23 –2024/25 reflect the SR21 settlement which includes additional funding for IT infrastructure investments, system and equipment replacement and additional Research and Development capital funding to continue to improve the FSA evidence base.



*22/23 onwards plans figures include estimated RAME (based on 21/22 Main Estimate) as not yet confirmed.

** Note prior year figures are not adjusted for inflation.

Resource AME plans figures are non-cash and remain constant at £9.6m, actual outturn was significantly less in 2015/16 – 2020/21. The plans limit of £9.6m allows for uncertainty surrounding FSA pension provisions and the volatile nature of AME related expenditure.

1.7 Administration costs and efficiency plans

	Amounts sought this year (Supplementary Estimate 2021-22)	Compared to original budget (Main Estimate 2021-22)		Compared to final outturn last year (Outturn 2020-21) <small>* restated to 100% Admin</small>	
	£m	£m	%	£m	%
Admin DEL	108.3	110.4	2%	96.8	(12%)

* The FSA is 100% Admin funded from 21/22

Administration costs are due to decrease by 2%, £2.0m compared to the Main Estimate allocation, due to the £2.0 RDEL to CDEL switch requested in this Supplementary Estimate.

2021/22 Supplementary Estimate is a £11.5m ,12% increase when compared to the previous year's outturn see section 1.4 for details.

1.8 Funding: Spending Review and Budgets

The FSA received a reserve claim for the Shared Outcomes Fund of £0.7m relating to the PATH-SAFE workstream. This new project, led by the FSA with partners Defra, Food Standards Scotland, DHSC - UKHSA and the Environment Agency, will develop new surveillance systems for monitoring and characterising on

foodborne pathogens and Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), across the agri-food supply chain and the wider environment.

This financial year all funding has been transferred to the other Government Departments (DEFRA (£0.2m), Scottish Government (£0.1m) and Department of Health and Social Care - UKHSA (£0.4m)). The FSA did not draw down any related monies as it was able to absorb the £0.1m related expenditure.

1.9 Other funding announcements

No other funding announcements.

2. Spending detail

2.1 Explanations of changes in spending

Resource DEL

The table below shows how spending plans for RDEL compare with the previous budget established at Main Estimate 2021/22.

Subhead	Amounts sought this year (Supplementary Estimate 2021-22)	Original Budget this year (Main Estimate 2021-22)	Change to original budget (Main Estimate 2021-22)		Note
	£m	£m	£m	%	
A Gross Expenditure	143.3	145.4	2.0	1%	1
A Income	35.0	35.0	0.0	0%	
A Net Expenditure	108.3	110.4	2.0	2%	1

Note 1 - The overall 1% reduction in RDEL of £2.0m since the Main Estimate is due to the RDEL to CDEL switch of £2.0m mentioned in section 1.4.

Capital DEL

The table below shows how spending plans for CDEL compare with the previous budget established at Main Estimate 2021/22.

Subhead	Amounts sought this year (Supplementary Estimate 2021-22)	Original Budget this year (Main Estimate 2021-22)	Change to original budget (Main Estimate 2020-21)		Note
	£m	£m	£m	%	
A Capital	11.1	9.0	(2.0)	(22%)	1

Note 1 - The Capital DEL increase of £2.0m, 22% is due to RDEL to CDEL switch mentioned in section 1.4.

Resource AME

The table below shows how spending plans for Resource AME compare with the previous budget established at Main Estimate 2021/22. There is no change.

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Subhead	Amounts sought this year (Supplementary Estimate 2021-22)	Original Budget this year (Main Estimate 2021-22)	Change to original budget (Main Estimate 2021-22)		Note
	£m	£m	£m	%	
B.A.M.E	9.6	9.6	0.0	0%	

2.2 Restructuring

No machinery of government changes have taken place, and there have also been no changes to the Estimate subheads or how expenditure is recorded between the years.

2.3 Ring Fenced Budgets

Within the totals, the following elements are ring-fenced i.e. savings in these budgets may not be used to fund pressures on other budgets

RDEL – Depreciation

	Amounts sought this year (Supplementary Estimate 2021-22)	Compared to original budget (Main Estimate 2021-22)		Compared to final outturn last year (Outturn 2020-21)	
	£m	£m	%	£m	%
Depreciation	2.9	2.9	0%	2.5	(15%)

There has been no amendment to the depreciation limit established at the 2021/22 Main Estimate.

EU Exit and Transition

	Amounts sought this year (Supplementary Estimate 2021-22)	Compared to original budget (Main Estimate 2021-22)		Compared to final outturn last year (Outturn 2020-21) * restated to 100% Admin	
	£m	£m	%	£m	%
EU Exit and Transition RDEL	3.0	3.0	0%	10.1	70%
of which; EU Exit and Transition Depreciation	0.0	0.0	0%	0.2	0%
EU Exit and Transition Capital	0.0	0.0	0%	0.0	0%
EU Exit and Transition total	3.0	3.0	100%	10.1	335%

There has been no amendment to the EU Exit and Transition ring fenced allocation from the 2021/22 Main Estimate funding.

Research & Development Capital

	Amounts sought this year (Supplementary Estimate 2021-22)	Compared to original budget (Main Estimate 2021-22)		Compared to final outturn last year (Outturn 2020-21)	
	£m	£m	%	£m	%
Research and Development Capital	5.9	5.9	0%	4.4	(34%)

There has been no amendment to the Research and Development ring fenced allocation from the 2021/22 Main Estimate funding.

2.4 Changes to contingent liabilities

There is no change. The estimate for the existing contingent liability for legal claims remains the same as set in the 2021/22 Main Estimate.

FSA Legal claims: The FSA is subject to various claims and legal actions in the ordinary course of its activities the outcome of which is uncertain.

3. Priorities and Performance

3.1 How spending relates to objectives

Expenditure under subheads A and B supports all the objectives set out in section 1.1 above.

3.2 Measures of performance against each priority

In order to deliver our statutory purpose of protecting public health and the consumers' wider interests in relation to food, we defined and focused on the essential priorities for food safety and standards. Currently these are to ensure food safety and authenticity are not compromised as a result of EU Transition; Achieving Business Compliance; Operational Transformation and Food Hypersensitivity. The FSA has reprioritised its resources to make progress in these areas whilst ensuring it continues to resource ongoing key day to day regulatory activity: The FSA must continue to fulfil its regulatory role in 'doing the day job exceptionally well' with the majority of available funding is allocated to ensuring ongoing delivery of operating the FSA's core regulatory functions.

To measure our performance the FSA uses the following regular suite of performance measures which have been defined and agreed by the FSA Board in support of the FSA's strategy. They are presented quarterly at open Business Committee meetings in the Performance & Resources report and annually within the activities and performance section of the Annual Report & Accounts (links below):

1. **Foodborne disease** - Laboratory confirmed human cases in the UK of the four major bacterial pathogens (Campylobacter, Salmonella, E. coli O157, Listeria)

2. **Food Hygiene Rating Scheme (FHRS)** - Food Business Operators (FBO) achieving FHRS ratings of 5 'Very good', below 3 'Satisfactory' and the public's awareness of the FHRS Scheme.
3. **Meat FBO compliance** - The % of meat FBOs who are rated as satisfactory or above for compliance.
4. **Local Authority Performance** - The number of enforcement actions undertaken and the number of referrals and outcome of referral for prosecutions within the financial year.
5. **Trust and confidence in food** – recommended food safety practices and confidence in food safety and authenticity reported in our Food & You 2 survey.
6. **Food standards (FSA sampling activity)** – total samples and tests taken, results received, unsatisfactory results and non-compliance.
7. **Nutrition Northern Ireland** – Business engagement with the Calorie Wise scheme and active users of the MenuCal tool. Consumer demand for health options and NI average daily consumption of calories, fat, and sugar.
8. **The public's awareness and trust in the FSA** - including the FSA's public reputation score and % who believe / accept the FSA's public statements.
9. **Understanding the food crime threat (NFCU)** – Operational outcomes / disruptions, investigations, and intelligence.
10. **Food Incidents & Product Recalls** - Notifications received (food, feed, and environmental contamination) and alerts issued (allergy, product recalls and food alerts for action).
11. **Animal welfare at slaughter** - Progress against the Animal Welfare Action Plan in line with the FSA zero tolerance welfare policy.
12. **Delivering our corporate improvement priorities** – benefits from outputs achieved and progress against key milestones (route to green with issues).
13. **Making the FSA a great place to work** - inclusive of staff attrition & recruitment; workforce diversity & inclusion; Civil Service People survey results and staff health and wellbeing.
14. **Finances** – affordability and how the FSA performs against HMT limits; breakdown of corporate priorities and key areas of spend.

COVID-19 has continued an impact on our usual performance measures meaning we were unable to report our measures in our usual manner. The FSA redeveloped the reports and continued to showcase the high performance the FSA has achieved during COVID-19 as well as maintaining our normal content where possible.

15. **COVID-19 specific performance** – LA Audit of food businesses; Audit / operating capacity and businesses awaiting an FHRS inspection.

The list below details a suite of new measures that are under development:

16. **Risk Analysis and Regulated Products** – Expected to be a biannual measure first introduced during the 2021/22 reporting period.

17. **Food Hypersensitivity** – Understanding the prevalence of allergies and intolerances amongst the general public; hospital admissions due to food allergies, intolerance and coeliac disease in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.
18. **Cost of illness** – Expected to be an annual measure first introduced during the 2021/22 reporting period to coincide with Foodborne disease and Food Hypersensitivity.
19. **Making it easier for businesses** - to maintain food standards, making safe and trusted food (putting consumer interests first, through FSA service delivery; businesses awareness and confidence in the FSA and trust in the FSA to use information given to them appropriately.
20. **Sustainability** - to demonstrate where the FSA can make positive gains towards achieving net zero.

The above constitutes the standard and COVID specific reporting for the FSA.

The Performance & Resource Report links and the Annual Report & Accounts for 2020/21 will provide the most recent indicator data for the above areas and additional papers also outline progress in other areas as presented to the Board for discussion and decision.

- [FSA Board Agenda and papers](#)
- [2021/22 FSA Activity, budget and additional key priorities](#)
- [2020/21 Q3 Performance & Resources report](#)
- [2020/21 Q4 Performance & Resources report](#)
- [2020/21 Consolidated Annual Report & Accounts](#)
- [2021/22 Q1 Performance & Resources report](#)
- [2021/22 Q2 Performance & Resources report](#)

3.3 Commentary on steps being taken to address performance issues

As highlighted, the FSA Board receives updates on progress for those areas relating to responsibilities and requirements of the FSA. Specific focus for 2021/22 includes:

EU Transition

- [March 2021 – EU Transition update](#)
- [December 2021 – FSA EU Transition Update](#)

Achieving Business Compliance and Local Authority Delivery

- [May 2021 – Local Authority Recovery](#)
- [May 2021 – Achieving Business Compliance Programme](#)
- [December 2021 – Achieving Business Compliance](#)
- [December 2021 – LA Recovery Plan Update](#)

Food Hypersensitivity

- [June 2021 – Food Hypersensitivity update](#)

National Food Crime Unit (NFCU)

- [December 2021 – National Food Crime Unit Annual Update](#)

Policy and Food Standards

- [June 2021 – Strategic Priorities for FSA Policy and Regulation](#)
- [June 2021 – Annual Report on Food Standards](#)
- [September 2021 – FSA and FSS Annual Food Standards Report](#)

Operational Transformation

- [May 2021 – Development of the Operational Future Delivery Model](#)
- [September 2021 – OTP Public Consultation on the Future Delivery Model](#)
<https://www.food.gov.uk/sites/default/files/media/document/fsa-19-06-17-cutting-plant-and-cold-store-review.pdf>

3.4 Major Projects

Achieving Business Compliance

The aim of the Achieving Business Compliance (ABC) programme is to make sure consumers continue to have food they can trust in the future. In a rapidly evolving food sector, we need to regulate in a smarter way to make sure that food is safe and is what it says it is. The programme aims to work on building stronger relationships with those who can make this happen, such as Large Retailers, Local Authorities and online food aggregators.

The ABC programme will develop a set of smarter regulatory approaches which:

- Make it easier for businesses to provide safe and trusted food for consumers.
- Target regulatory resources at the areas which pose the greatest risk.
- Improve compliance across the system by working with and through others, including regulatory partners and influential businesses.

We will design new regulatory models for large retail businesses that are compliant with regulation and influential in the food chain. Working with local authorities, primary authorities and these businesses we will develop approaches to assure compliance at a whole business level rather than an individual premises level. We are designing a more targeted and proportionate approach to local authority regulation of food businesses. We will modernise the food hygiene delivery model and we are developing a new food standards delivery model, which incorporates a revised risk assessment scheme and more emphasis on intelligence as a driver for local authority regulatory activity. We are also looking at data and research to build up an evidence picture of the new online food sales landscape. We will assess the potential risks to consumers from buying food online, and the regulatory levers available to address these, including working with other regulators, international food

safety regulators, government bodies and influential business to improve compliance. We will identify and then pilot or implement a series of interventions to improve consumer safety when buying food online.

Looking ahead to 2022, the Achieving Business Compliance programme continues to focus on reviewing and consulting on changes to the hygiene regulatory model; designing and developing new regulatory approaches for compliant large retail businesses; continuing work on the assurance of online food sales through understanding the risk of unregistered businesses trading online, and protecting consumers online through improved guidance & complaints products, and completing the pilots of the new regulatory framework for food standards controls including evaluating the success of the pilots and assessing scalability issues before any larger roll-out.

Operational Transformation

The Operational Transformation Programme aims to modernise the regulatory framework for the Official Controls delivered directly by the FSA in the meat, dairy and wine sectors in England and Wales. By working in close collaboration with industry and key stakeholders, we aim to develop a risk – based and intelligence-led regulatory framework that makes it easier for Food Business Operators (FBOs) to maintain food safety in a transparent and cost-effective manner that drives a continued increase in consumer confidence. ensuring food is safe and is what it says it is.

Following the agreement of the proposed Future Delivery Model for the delivery of domestic Official Controls for meat, (wine and dairy to follow), at FSA Board in May 2021 and the subsequent successful public consultation exercise, the programme is pressing ahead with its ambitious agenda. Looking ahead to 2022/23, the Programme is looking to launch the first iteration of a segmentation model and solution. This will generate a risk-based assessment of Food Business Operators that will inform the level of engagement (frequency and method) of Audit activity. We aim to deliver a Resource Allocation System which will allow front line team leaders the ability to easily manage their resource via a digital solution. We will start to develop digital capability to improve processing efficiency in the approvals, audit and inspections processes.

We will begin to implement the Official Veterinarian (OV) resourcing Project, which will ensure the FSA has adequate OV resource moving forward and begins to move away from dependence on a single supplier. This will help support our work in the re-definition of the roles and responsibility within the veterinary-led team for Official Controls delivery.

As it begins to deliver tangible change, the programme will continue to explore and opportunities that underpin the future delivery model design and it's 7 key elements:

- Clearer accountability
- Tailored presence
- Robust assurance regime

- Transparent compliance
- Digitised real-time data by default
- Modernised management
- Resource capability and capacity

The ambition continues to be the optimisation of inspection and assurance activity to promote growth and support trade but, above all, protect consumers. The aim is to have a more risk and intelligence-based approach to regulation, ensuring that accountability is clear, at the right level and in the right place. The aim is to effectively use modern technologies to support our skilled, resilient, and flexible workforce to quickly adapt to changing requirements. This will be done whilst ensuring the FSA's assurance and intervention activities are robust and prioritised using rigorous evidence, analysis and insight.

Food Hypersensitivity

The work of the Food Hypersensitivity (FHS) Team will improve the quality of life for the estimated 2.6 million food hypersensitive people in the UK and support them to make safe, informed food choices to effectively manage risk. FHS includes food allergy, intolerance and coeliac disease. The FSA will work with partners inside and outside Government to achieve a step change in how FHS is understood and managed.

Our work is evidence based and our approach collaborative - we work with business and sector innovators to ensure that regulation is proportionate and targeted, and to maximise the use of non-legislative approaches and innovative, industry-led solutions. Our work seeks to reduce food hypersensitivity burden on public health services and increase the quality of life for people with food hypersensitivity and those who care for them. By doing so, this will increase work-place productivity and the economic activity of people with food hypersensitivity through greater trust in, and better communication with, the food and hospitality sectors.

Key achievements in 2021/22 were the implementation of new legislation on allergen labelling requirements for 'prepacked for direct sale' food (also known as Natasha's Law) which came into effect on the 1st of October 2021; the Precautionary Allergen Labelling consultation; a targeted public campaign on 'Speak up for allergies' for young people and the "proof-of-concept" testing of a reporting platform for food hypersensitivity reactions. We have undertaken work looking at the provision of information on allergen management practices to consumers when eating out, as well as assessing the viability of a Food Allergy Safety Scheme. It is expected that from 2022/23 this project will become part of the FSA's core programme of work and will no longer be considered a separate 'major project'.

4. Other information

4.1 Additional specific information required by the select committee

Not applicable at present.

5. Accounting Officer Approval

This memorandum has been prepared according to the requirements and guidance set out by HM Treasury and the House of Commons Scrutiny Unit, available on the Scrutiny Unit website.

The information in this Estimates Memorandum has been approved by myself as Accounting Officer.

**Emily Miles
Accounting Officer
Food Standards Agency
28 Jan 2022**

Annex 1: DEL / AME Funding 2021/22

	Resource DEL	Resource AME	Capital DEL	Detail
Original Spending review allocation (SR20) for 21/22	108.335	9.603	8.690	
Supplementary Estimate 20/21 adjustment	1.727		0.348	Budget Exchange from 20/21 to 21/22
Main Estimate 21/22 adjustment	0.293			Increased depreciation funding for 21/22
Supplementary Estimate 21/22 adjustment	(2.032)		2.032	RDEL to CDEL switch
Total	108.323	9.603	11.070	