Expert Committee on Pesticide Residues in Food (PRiF)

Members’ biographies and declaration of interests

Members’ biographies

Dr Paul Brantom (Chairman)

Dr Paul Brantom is a registered toxicologist and has worked in toxicology of food-related chemicals for more than 40 years. He was previously Head of Toxicology at BIBRA International and Manager of the University of Surrey Centre for Toxicology.

He is currently semi-retired but continues to work as an independent consultant in toxicology risk assessment, mainly for International and National organisations. Following previous research experience he retains particular interest in toxicological risk assessment including non-animal testing methods and carcinogenicity.

Dr Brantom is a past member of UK Advisory Committees on Novel Foods and Processes (ACNFP), Veterinary Products (VPC), Veterinary Residues (VRC) and Animal Feedingstuffs (ACAF). He is also a past member of the FEEDAP panel of EFSA (European Food Safety Authority) and continues to work with EFSA and the European Research Agency (ERA) on a number of projects and working groups.

Dr Paul Brantom was appointed as chairman on 1 July 2011.

Ann Davison

Ann Davison began her career at Which?, working on the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and other food, agriculture, environment and trade related matters. She went on to write and represent on these subjects for Consumers International. Ann set up and served on the Transatlantic Consumers Dialogue to ease controversies such as hormones in beef and gm food.

From March 2005 until the end of 2010, Ann worked as consumer engagement advisor to Defra, covering policy issues such as plant protection policy, sustainable procurement, ethical labelling, food ‘miles’, forestry, farming policy and the CAP.

Ann co-founded the Fairtrade Foundation and chaired its Certification Committee for many years. Her recent communications work includes advice to the International Standards Organisation, the Fairtrade Foundation and Fairtrade International. Ann sits on BSI's Consumer and Public Interest Strategic Advisory Committee and served on Defra's Expert Panel on Air Quality Standards and the Board of the Institute of Animal Health. Ann won the UK Woman of Europe 2000 award for outstanding voluntary service.
She was appointed 3 times by the UK to serve on the EU Economic and Social Committee (EESC), which represents businesses, trade unions, farmers and ngos. There she was elected President of External Relations for the maximum 2 terms. Ann wrote EESC reports on food labelling, Fairtrade, EU-US relations and LDC debt.

Which? trained, Ann has campaigned on many consumer issues including plain and clear language. She provides training, editing and advice on plain language and communications. Ann served on the Adult Learning Committee of the Learning and Skills Council and chairs the PRiF communications subcommittee.

Ann Davison was appointed to the committee on 1 July 2011.

**Dr Stuart Freeman**

Dr Freeman is a fellow of the Royal College of Pathologists and an independent toxicology consultant with 25 years experience of the pharmaceutical and consumer products industries. During this time he worked at Smith Kline and French, AstraZeneca, where he was Head of the Reproductive and Development Toxicology Group, and GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare, where he was Head of Toxicology for the worldwide business. Dr Freeman has served on several industry committees and published and presented extensively in the field of toxicology.

Dr Stuart Freeman was appointed to the committee on 1 July 2011.

**Katie Knaggs**

Katie Knaggs is the Grower Development Manager at International Produce Ltd (IPL), in her role she manages Agricultural Policy including pesticide management and the sustainability strategy for the IPL British and Global supply chains. IPL was formed 7 years ago and is now the largest fresh produce importer in the UK.

Katie has worked in the fresh produce industry for over ten years both in retail and in the fresh produce supply chain serving all the UK retailers. Katie is from a livestock and arable farming background and has a BSc in Agri Food Marketing and Management. Katie's expertise in pesticides is managing supply chain and retailer residue monitoring programmes and following up on route cause investigations to grower level.

Katie Knaggs was appointed to the committee on 1 July 2011.

**John Points**

John Points is a consultant providing advice to food retailers and producers on chemical risk management, analytical testing, and interpretation of results. He also works on laboratory capacity-building projects for developing countries who need to test food for residues prior to export to the EU.
His previous career has been with Sainsbury’s and with LGC, one of the UK’s National Reference Laboratories, where he led the teams responsible for food, residues, consumer safety and workplace drugs testing. At Sainsbury’s, his role included management of residue monitoring programmes and follow up of results within the own-brand supply chain.

John has previously been a member of the UK Veterinary Residues Committee, and has acted as a National Expert on EC Food and Veterinary Office inspection missions to both EU and non-EU countries.

John Points was appointed to the committee on 6 January 2016

Tony Vallance

Tony Vallance has worked in the fresh produce industry since 1996, and is currently the Agronomy Manager at Mack, a leading importer and packer of fresh fruit and vegetables for the UK market. Tony works with growers in the UK and overseas to ensure compliance with legal requirements and retailer standards for food safety, worker welfare and crop production including the use of crop protection products and associated chemical residues.

Tony’s role includes management of the Company’s pesticide residue testing programme. Tony has a BSc (Hons) degree in Commercial Horticulture (fruit) from the University of Greenwich. His background is in top fruit (apples and pears) and soft fruit, and he has also worked in cereals and salad production. Tony’s knowledge of pesticides has been gained during 18 years of managing pesticide use and residue monitoring programmes in the supply chain.

Tony Vallance was appointed to the committee on 6 January 2016

Dr Glenis Wedzicha

Glenis Wedzicha studied Chemistry: B.Sc., Ph.D. at the University of London, and obtained the Postgraduate Certificate in Education from the University of Oxford. Her research concerned the study of free radicals in an industrial context. Today, free radicals are suspected of being involved in the cause of diverse health problems including those associated with ageing, heart disease and cancer. Chemistry is, of course, also fundamental to many environmental issues.

Her career included the teaching of physics and chemistry to Advanced Level, the chairing of regional sixth form conferences, and she has been cited as a principal contributor to a major reference work on chemicals. As well as this she worked as a free-lance writer in the media developing an interest in communication, and has written about issues affecting society that have complex scientific and technical explanations.

Having been President of Copmanthorpe Womens’ Institute, Glenis became a Member of the Board of Trustees of the North Yorkshire East Federation of Womens’ Institutes as Science Coordinator and a Member of the Sub-Committee on Public Affairs. In these roles
she is responsible for formulating and delivering the scientific content within the Federation’s overall Strategy Plan. In this respect, her role is to make science more comprehensible to Members and show how it impacts on society, and to encourage more participation in WI campaigns. For her own Federation, she has identified the Environment and Food as her particular areas of emphasis.

In 2011 she joined the Expert Committee on Pesticide Residues in Food (PRiF) as a public interest expert and serves also on the Communications Sub-Committee which aims to make the work of PRiF more accessible to the public, thereby applying her experience in communicating ‘science in society’.

Dr Glenis Wedzicha was appointed to the committee on 1 July 2011.

### Members’ interests

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of member</th>
<th>Nature of Interest</th>
<th>Name of Company</th>
<th>Current Interest</th>
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<tr>
<td>Doctor (Dr) Paul Brantom</td>
<td>Member of working groups</td>
<td>EFSA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ann Davison</td>
<td>None</td>
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<td>Doctor (Dr) Stuart Freeman</td>
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<td>Katie Knaggs</td>
<td>Salaried Project</td>
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<td>Defra’s Septre Link Project</td>
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<td>John Points</td>
<td>Salaried Pension</td>
<td>John Points Consulting Ltd</td>
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<td>LGC Ltd</td>
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<td>Tony Vallance</td>
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