The Food Standards Agency (FSA) is an independent government department set up in 2000 by an Act of Parliament to protect the public's health and consumer interests in relation to food.

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About the Food Standards Agency

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- Putting consumers first
- Openness and independence
- Science and evidence based

The team

The FSA has a small team of four London-based economists, working in a central multi-disciplinary analytical division led by a Grade 6 Head of Analytics and Chief Economist. The economics team is comprised of one sandwich placement student (AO) and four Assistant Economist (AE) posts at HEO level (including two fast stream post) supporting two G7 Economic Advisors. All economists, including Assistants, are recruited through and are members of the Government Economic Service (GES).

What do our Economists do?

Our economists work on a wide range of topics, providing an economic input to policy development, cost benefit analysis of regulatory proposals, advice on the economics of the food chain and research. Recent and current topics include:

- Modelling the cost and burden of foodborne illness
- Supporting the 2019 Spending Review
- Preparing EU Exit impact briefs
- Reviewing the Agency’s regulatory regime
- Emerging technologies and food safety regulation
- Trade effects, compliance and regulation

The size of the Agency means that there are excellent opportunities for early responsibility and the team’s work is extremely diverse, covering a large range of policies. The Agency is committed to training and economists are provided with extensive development opportunities.
Salary and job opportunities

Assistant Economists have to apply through the central GES fast stream scheme and Economic Adviser posts are advertised within the GES. We offer competitive salaries and an additional pay allowance. Assistant Economists pay starts from £30,806 - £35,880 per annum, plus an additional pay allowance of £3,000 p.a.

We also offer flexible working arrangements with the option of working remotely a few days a week from home or a central government hub.

For more information about the Agency, see our Website: www.food.gov.uk.

For further information, please contact the chief economist, Vanna Aldin, at Vanna.Aldin@food.gov.uk or head of Economics Branch, Nicholas Daniel, at nicholas.daniel@food.gov.uk