

Government Chemist Conference
Safe food for tomorrow's world

23-24 June 2021
Virtual

@NML_ChemBioGC
#GCconf2021
www.gov.uk/governmentchemist



Government Chemist

safe
authentic
sustainable

food



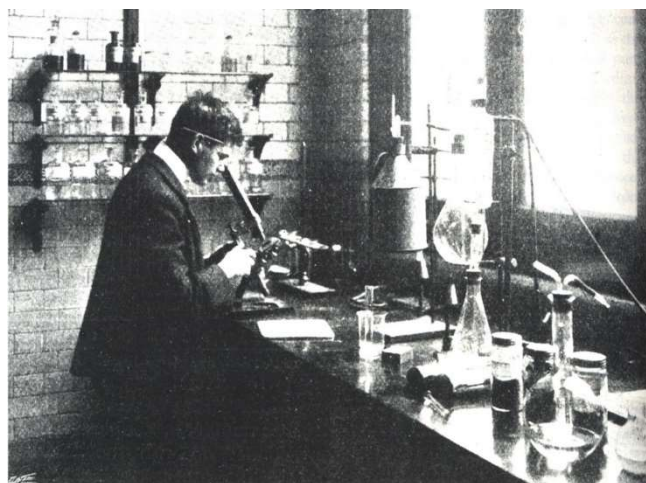
Julian Braybrook
Government Chemist, LGC

Welcome and introduction

Date: 23 June 2021

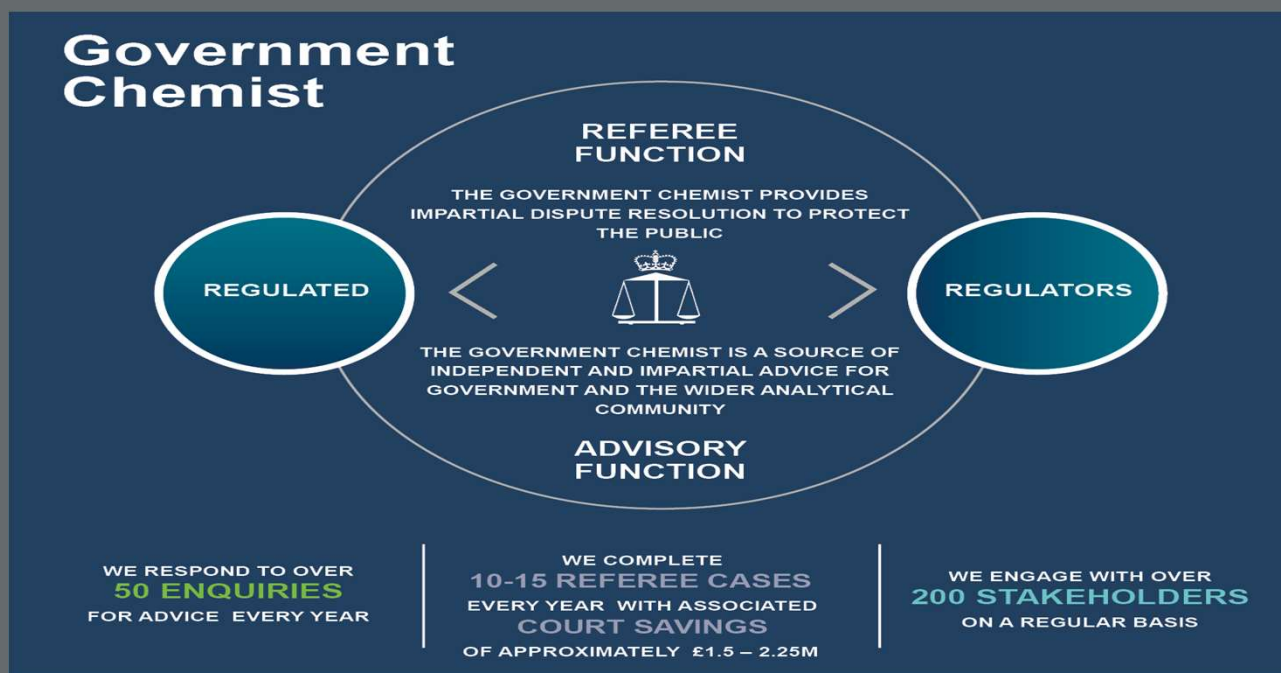


UK food law and the Government Chemist



- The first Adulteration Act passed by Parliament in 1860, amended 1872 to include appointment of Public Analysts (due to lack of definition of adulteration)
- Parliamentary Select Committee, 1874 proposed a central referee - 'Chemical Officers of Somerset House'
- The Sale of Food and Drugs Act in 1875, amended 1879 and 1899

The Government Chemist today



The Government Chemist today





Government Chemist Strategy

2020 - 2023



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

FUNDED BY BEIS

Strategy 2020-2023



Protecting
consumers in
a changing world



Maximising UK
measurement
infrastructure to
address future
challenges



Supporting business
and government
across the UK



Growing
collaborative
national skills
initiatives



Operational update



- **Maintained statutory referee analysis provision**
- **Laboratory teams operating a shift-based work pattern**
 - Reduced capacity
- **Desk-based staff continuing to work mainly from home**
- **Paul Hancock appointed as Referee Analyst on the 'retirement' of Michael Walker**
- **Projects and Mini-projects, including**
 - Allergens
 - Gene-edited products
 - Cannabidiol (CBD)
- **GC was sought to act again as Authorised Analyst under the Hydrocarbon Oil Duties Act, 1979**
- **Government Chemist on 'Moonshot project' oversight panel**
 - Advising pilot study for COVID-19 mass spectrometry diagnostic test translation from academia to clinical laboratory

Knowledge exchange and training



- GC Annual Review 2019 published; GC Annual Review 2020 with Ministers for approval
- Quarterly webinar series of Joint KT Framework for Food Standards and Food Safety Analysis
- MChemA residential course conversion to online platform
- Contributed to POST Parliamentary Report on Food Fraud
- COVID-19 food fraud mitigation resource created under the Food Authenticity Network
- Co-presented formal launch of iKANN (International Knowledge Application Network Hub in Nutrition)

