

# **Positive outcomes from government funding in infrastructure support**

Joint talk by Jane White  
and Jon Griffin, APA



# Current Situation-Official Control Laboratories



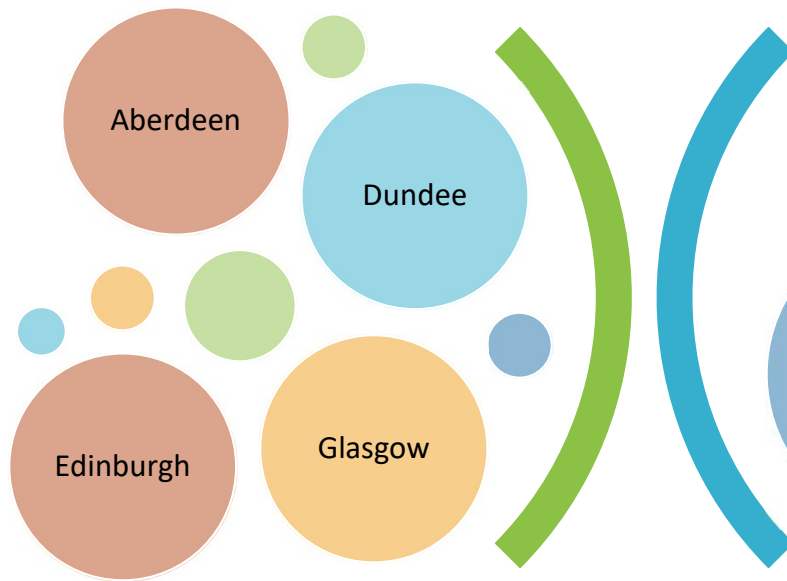
Aberdeen Scientific Services Laboratory  
Dundee City Council, Scientific Services  
Edinburgh Scientific Services  
Glasgow Scientific Services  
Government Analyst's Laboratory, Isle of Man  
Guernsey State Analyst's Department  
Hampshire Scientific Services  
Kent Scientific Services  
Laboratory of the Official Analyst, Jersey  
Lancashire County Scientific Services  
Minton Treharne & Davies  
Public Analyst Scientific Services Limited (Wolverhampton)  
Public Analyst's Laboratory, Cork  
Public Analyst's Laboratory, Dublin  
Public Analyst's Laboratory, Galway

# Public Analysts or Non Appointed MChemA holders in Official Control Laboratories in GB

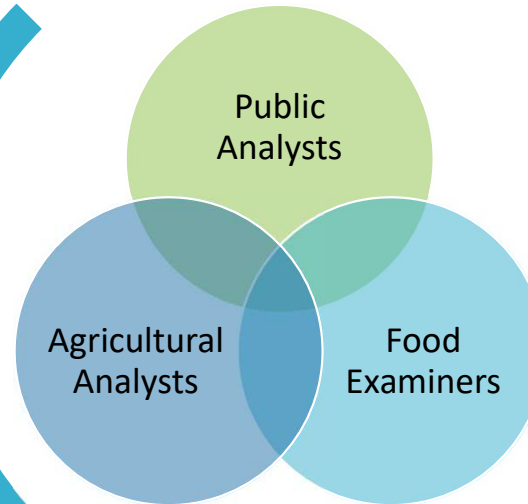
- There are currently 23 Public Analysts or non-appointed MChemA holders currently in GB:
- 12 in England
- 3 in Wales
- 7 in Scotland



# A Scottish Perspective



4 Public Analyst Laboratories in Scotland



Working together to deliver Chemical and Microbiological services throughout Scotland



# A Scottish Perspective Support from Food Standards Scotland

Existing Sampling and Surveillance projects

Equates to £150K/ year

Proposed new sampling strategy – Board paper March 2022

Non targeted surveillance (the “shopping basket” approach)

Targeted surveillance priorities

Statistical surveys

Import surveillance

Grants - £50K per lab for equipment/training and method development



# A Scottish Perspective Feed Delivery



# **A Scottish Perspective Support from Food Standards Scotland**

## **Resilience of laboratory provision**

### **FSS board paper from June 2022 (1)**

Viability of the Public Analyst service in Scotland

Implications of loss of Official Control capacity in Scotland

#### **Board asked to**

Note and comment on the strategic consequences of a failure of official food and feed laboratory services in Scotland, the action needed to safeguard future provision of these services, and the role of FSS in driving this;

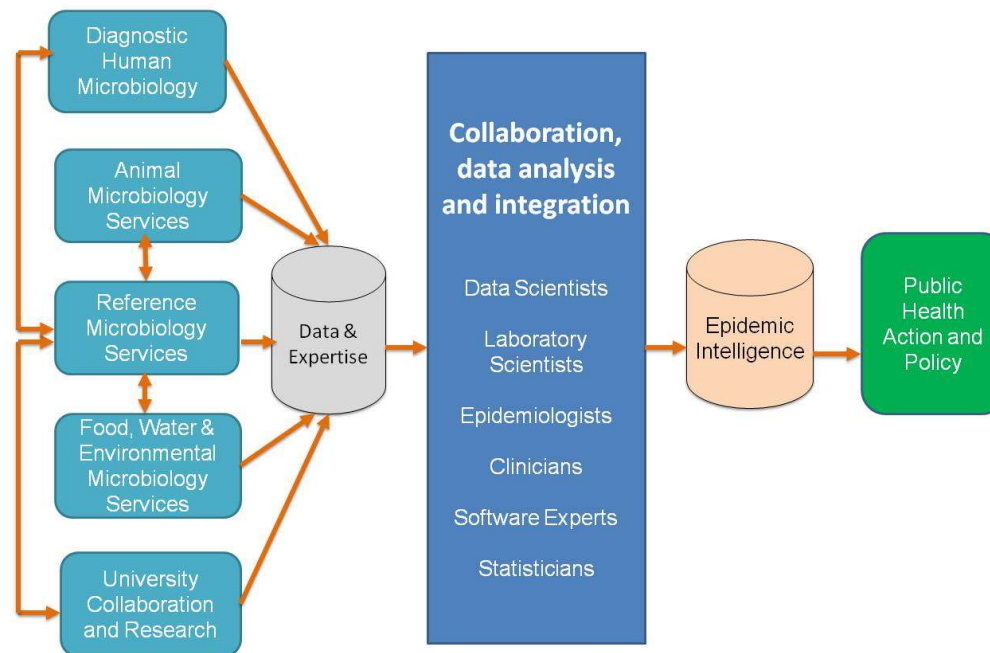
Agree for the Chair to make a formal approach to Scottish Ministers on the issues outlined in this paper and the need to commission a business case for a model which will support optimum delivery of these laboratory services at a national level.



# A Scottish Perspective Support from Food Standards Scotland

Ministerial agreement to look at the issues as part of

1. Public Health Microbiology Strategy being looked at by Public Health Scotland





# A Scottish Perspective Support from Food Standards Scotland

1. Scotland's National Laboratory Network Advisory Group led by Scottish Government's Chief Scientific Advisor

## Recommendation

Immediate action is recommended for the Public Analyst (PA) laboratories. Funding for PA labs is received from Local Authorities. This indirect funding has led to budget decreases and uncertainties over services. NLNAG advises that Scottish Government review the recommendations made by Food Standards Scotland to understand whether a nationally funded delivery model would be a more efficient way of ensuring a sustainable service [Official Food and Feed Laboratory Services in Scotland: Case for a Nationally Funded Deliver Model](#)



# The Perspective in England and Wales and support from the Food Standards Agency



- In 2020 the Food Standards Agency funded sampling for surveillance by the Official Control Laboratories:
- Over 1000 samples taken between the five laboratories who were funded for both analysis and sampling

**Table 7: Sample numbers and compliance by sub project**

Project	Number of Samples				%Compliance
	Purchased	Compliant	Non-Compliant	Inconclusive	
P1 Meat Composition and Speciation	300	179	121		59.7%
P2 Fish Speciation	100	96	4		96.0%
P3 Spices Adulteration and contamination	375	336	38	1	89.6%
P4 Rice/Pasta Authenticity	65	56	6	3	86.2%
P5 Undeclared Milk Allergens	140	132	8		94.3%
P6 Undeclared Gluten Allergen	30	30	0		100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1010</b>	<b>829</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>82.1%</b>

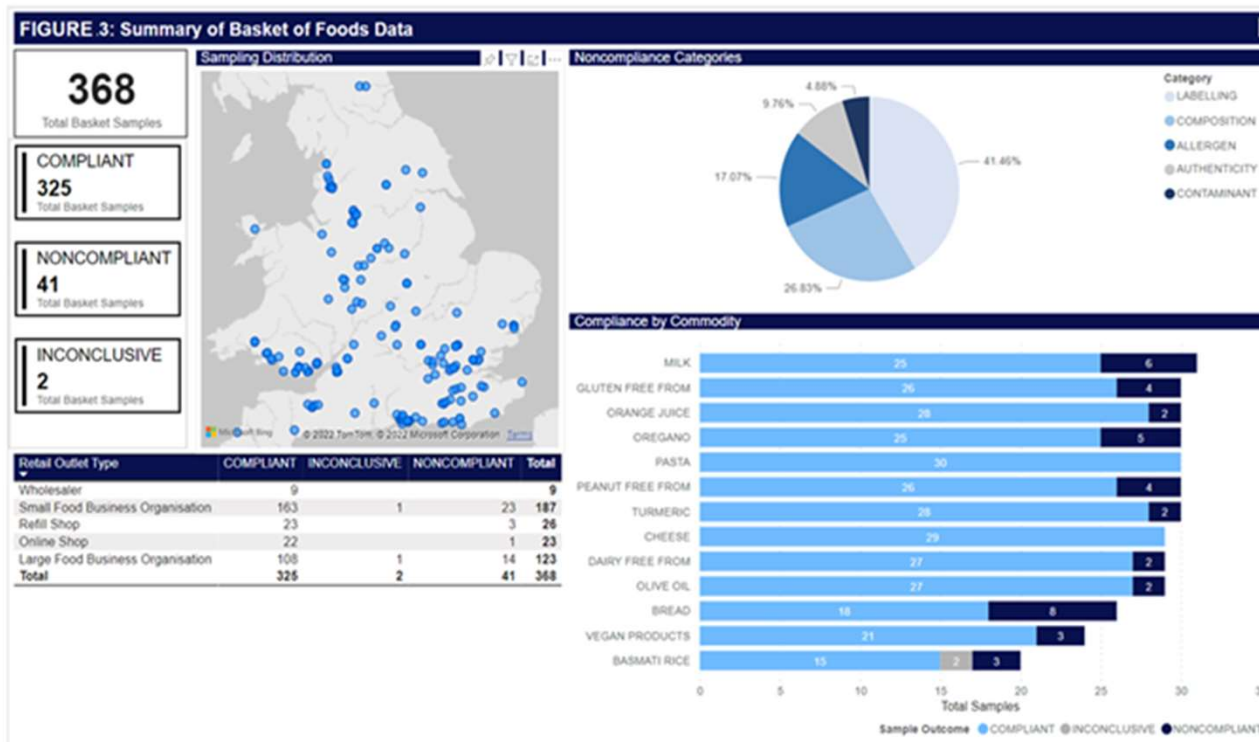
# The Perspective in England and Wales and support from the Food Standards Agency



- In 2021/22 the Food Standards Agency again funded sampling for surveillance by the Official Control Laboratories, this time looking at target sampling and a typical 'basket of food' both locally and nationally:
- Again over 1000 samples taken and laboratories were again funded for sampling and analysis

# The Perspective in England and Wales and support from the Food Standards Agency

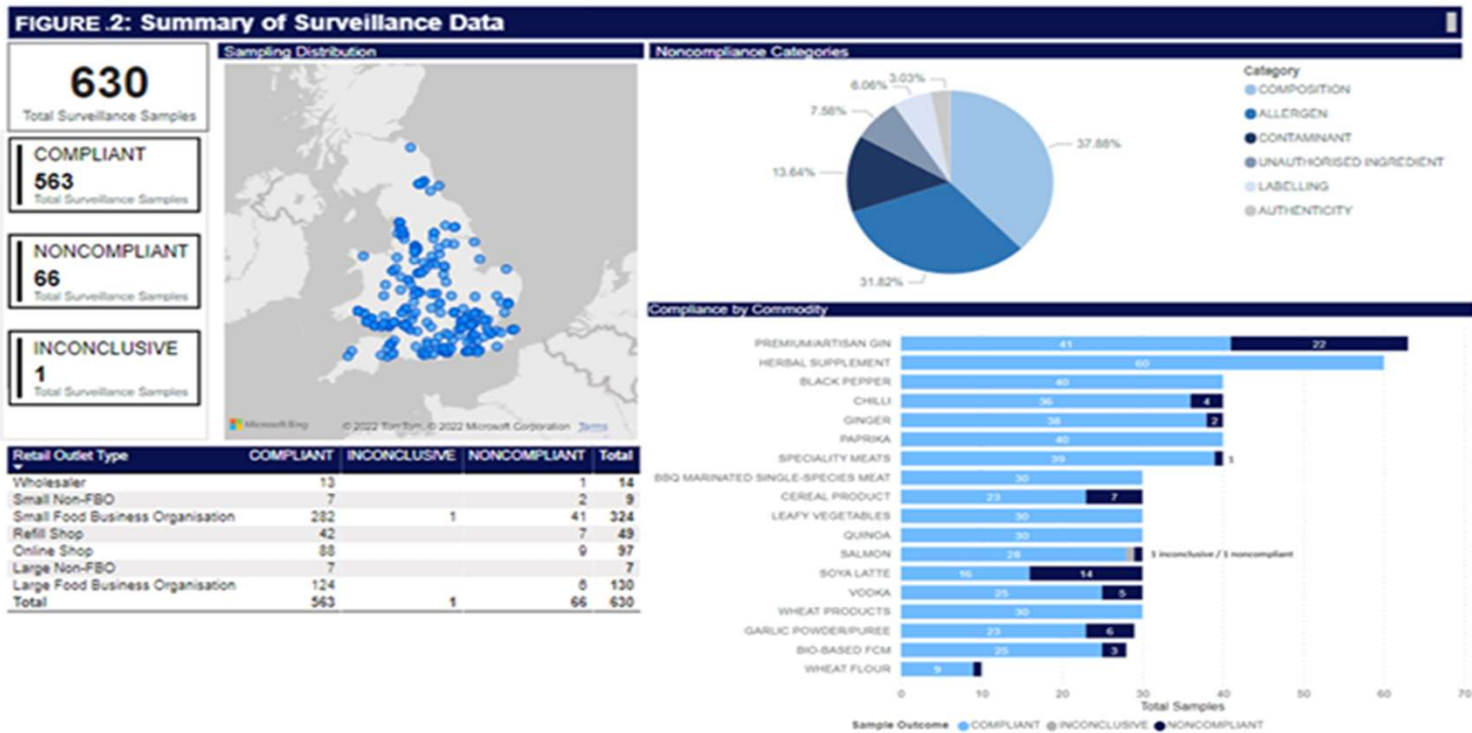
- Shopping Basket



# The Perspective in England and Wales and support from the Food Standards Agency



- Targeted



# The Perspective in England and Wales and support from the Food Standards Agency



- The FSA have also provided grant funding in 2023 to each of the five laboratories in England and Wales worth up to £160K. This was to ensure resilience within the OCLs in England and Wales and to support their future.
- A further £300K has also been allocated between the laboratories to provide assistance in the analysis of pesticides and veterinary residue testing as well as authenticity assessment.

# The Perspective in England and Wales and support from the Food Standards Agency

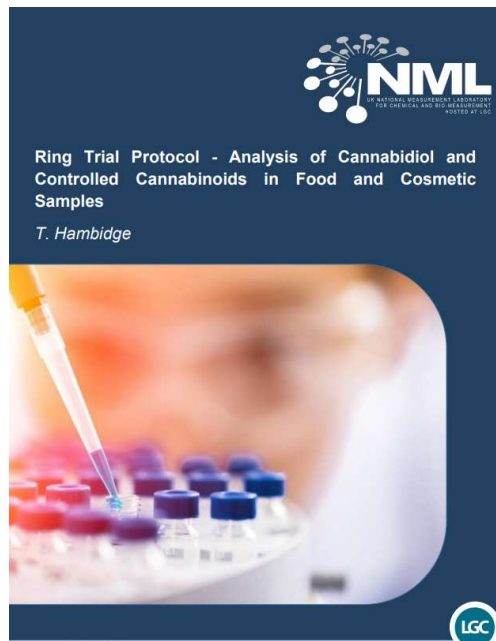


- The Food Standards Agency have also provided some funding for Official Control laboratories to participate in two recent method trials:
- 1. The analysis of cannabidiol and controlled cannabinoids in food and cosmetics.
- 2. The analysis of food for total arsenic and inorganic arsenic.
- Participation in the CBD/cannabinoid trial allowed an in-house method to be validated and official control samples to be analysed and assessed
- The arsenic/inorganic arsenic trial allowed OCLs to assess their current performance against results generated by more modern techniques.

# The Perspective in England and Wales and support from the Food Standards Agency



## CBD and Cannabinoids



## Arsenic and Inorganic Arsenic





THANK YOU

