

The UK Expert Committee on Pesticides (ECP)

Full minutes of the meeting of the UK Expert Committee on Pesticides (ECP) held 9 September 2025

Those present

Chair

Mr J Clarke

Members

Professor M Eddleston; Dr J Garratt; Mr M Glynn; Dr C Hazlerigg; Dr I Katsiadaki; Dr R Mann; Dr A Rowbotham; Prof D Spurgeon; Mr P Stephenson and Professor M Whelan; Professor M Wright

Assessors

Ms K Chukwubike (UK Health Security Agency, UKHSA); Mr A Murchie (Northern Ireland Government); Ms A Porter (Defra); Ms G Reay (Scottish Government); Mr B MacDonald (Welsh Government).

Advisors

Mr A Dixon (HSE); Mr J Dale (HSE); Mr J Hingston (HSE); Dr M Penrose (HSE); Mr B Maycock (FSA); Mr G Shaw (Natural England); Mr J Newman (Environment Agency); Mr R Smith (HSE) and Ms M Wade (HSE)

Others

Mr A Anderson (HSE); Mr A Wilder (HSE) and Mr W Broad (Defra);

Apologies

Dr C Harris; Dr C Scudamore; Professor J Coulson and Mr G Stark (HSE).

Agenda item1: Introduction

1.1 The chair reminded the meeting of the confidentiality of the papers and their discussions. If members believed that they had a commercial or financial interest in any of the items being discussed, they were required to declare their interest to the chair and secretariat prior to the meeting. They may then either be invited to absent themselves from the discussions, not participate or not be involved in any discussions and decision-making, unless invited to do so.

1.2 Several members declared non personal and non-specific conflict of interest regarding glyphosate and were therefore able to participate in discussion.

1.3 The secretariat consulted with Defra and the devolved governments to ascertain if they felt it appropriate for the chair to remain in place for this meeting, due to a non-personal, non-specific declaration of interest. It was noted and agreed unanimously the chair would remain in place for this meeting.

1.4 Dr C Harris declared a personal and specific conflict of interest and would not participate in discussions regarding glyphosate.

Agenda item 2: Full Minutes of the July 2025 ECP meeting [ECP 1 (73/2025)]

2.1 Members agreed the full minutes of the July 2025 meeting.

Agenda item 3: Matters arising and forward business plan [ECP 2 (73/2025)]

3.1 The secretariat provided an update on matters arising from previous meetings and invited members to suggest any additions or amendments to the forward business plan which would be incorporated before the next meeting.

Agenda item 4: Active substance: Glyphosate [ECP 3 – 3-2 (73/2025)]

4.1 HSE introduced the item, noting that it is an existing active substance typically applied as a liquid in aqueous solution in plant protection products. It is intended for several uses including spray application and spot treatment to various crops.

4.2 HSE had identified several potential areas that would require advice, and Committee Members could explore any aspects of the risk assessment and underlying guidance they considered to be of interest.

4.2 The Committee held preliminary discussions on the issues identified by HSE and began to formulate their advice.

Action: Committee Members

Agenda item 5: Submission of casework to ECP [ECP 4 (73/2025)]

5.1 The secretariat advised members there was an update on the guidelines for casework brought to the committee. The paper does not change any current practices and the paper is for members to note.

Agenda item 6: Date of next meeting 25 November 2025

6.1 The secretariat confirmed the November meeting will be held in person – venue to be determined.

Agenda item 7: Any other business

7.1 The secretariat advised that following a discussion at the BMG meeting there will only be five scheduled ECP meetings in 2026, a poll will be sent to members for a consensus on favoured dates.

Action: Secretariat

7.2 The chair confirmed he attended a routine meeting with the deputy director of Defra to discuss emerging issues.

**Lesley Debenham
ECP Secretariat
November 2025**