

# ACSS Round-Up August 2020 – October 2020

## Highlights

- **New ACSS working groups** - the ACSS met on the 15<sup>th</sup> October to discuss new working groups ideas. The following ideas are being scoped further:
  - Climate change
  - Kitchen behaviours and practisesFurther discussion is taking place on other potential topics.
- **“Understanding Food in a Digital World” on 9<sup>th</sup> November** – the FSA is hosting this ESRC 2020 festival event in partnership with the University of Sheffield. The COVID-19 outbreak has necessitated a move away from more traditional data collection methods and accelerated the innovative use of digital data. This event will demonstrate how digital data collection and analysis can inform our understanding of food, and outline key findings related to the digitalisation of food behaviours. To sign up, please [register on Eventbrite](#).
- The FSA and FSS have published an assessment of **food crime in the UK**. The assessment identified priority areas to focus on and found that most food crime relates to two either of two broad activities:
  - selling something of little or no value to the food chain as edible and marketable,
  - selling passable food, drink or feed as a product with greater volume or more desirable attributes

The full assessment and further information can be found on the [FSA Food Crime page](#).

## Other news / updates

- The FSA is **recruiting a research fellow** with a background in behavioural economics to join the FSA in collaboration with University of Bath. It is hoped that they will be in post in the New Year.
- The FSA has **recruited a Fellow for Food and You**. Dr Beth Armstrong joined the social science team in October starting a 2-year fellowship post working on Food and You 2 with Lucy King. Employed by Sheffield University, Beth brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in industry research, consumer psychology and innovative methods such as citizen science.
- The FSA is celebrating 20 years of existence this year. A reflection on significant milestones by Steve Wearne can be found on the [FSA blog](#).

## Upcoming events

**Meeting:** Assurance working group meeting

**Date:** 16<sup>th</sup> November

**Details:** Virtual

**Meeting:** 6<sup>th</sup> Plenary Open Meeting

**Date:** 1<sup>st</sup> December

**Details:** Virtual

**Dr Rebecca Gillespie**

Secretary to the Advisory Committee for Social Science (ACSS)

[Contact email: ACSS@food.gov.uk](mailto:ACSS@food.gov.uk)

**Useful Links**

[FSA Website](#)

[ACSS Website](#)

[Science Council Website](#)