

Annex

Request

Please can you release the any internal reports on the Blockchain trial described in this article:

<https://thenextweb.com/hardfork/2018/07/02/uk-government-food-agency-is-putting-meat-on-the-blockchain/>

Response

Please see attached documents which we consider to be in scope of this request, although there have been no formal reports completed for the Blockchain trial described in the link.

Additionally, there are two documents which have been included as it was considered that they may be helpful to you, although not strictly in scope of your request.

Where information contained in the document was out of scope of the request it has been redacted and the document noted accordingly.

Some of the information in scope of your request has been redacted under Section 40 (Personal information) and Section 43 (Commercial interests) of the Act. Further details about our use of these exemptions are provided in Annex B.

Annex B

Section 40 (Personal information)

Some information has been redacted and is being withheld under Section 40(2) & (3) of the Freedom of Information Act which relates to the personal information. On this occasion, the names and direct contact details of FSA employees below civil service grade 7 and third parties have been withheld.

We consider such information falls within scope of your request and, if disclosed would contravene the data protection principles of the Data Protection Act 1998, particularly that to process the data in this way (i.e. by disclosure to the public) would not be fair in all the circumstances.

Section 43 (Commercial interests)

Information relating to kill numbers, ear tag numbers and previous owner references have been withheld under section 43 (2) of the Act (Commercial interests).

The wording of the Act:

Section 43 (2) states that:

(2) Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it).

The exemption under section 43 is a qualified exemption and is subject to the balance of the public interest to consider whether the balance of public interest in disclosing the information outweighs that in not disclosing it.

In favour of disclosure is the public interest in openness and transparency particularly with regard to the provision of safe meat and animal welfare. However, there is also a need to protect the legitimate commercial interests of food producers.

If food producers believe that information about the day to day running of their plant will be disclosed, they might be reluctant in future to co-operate and provide the Agency with all the information it requires to carry out its statutory functions. This could be damaging to the Agency's objective of protecting public health in relation to food.

It is not in the public interest to disclose information that would be likely to be used by competitors and weaken a company's position, in an already competitive market. We believe, therefore, that the balance of the public interest favours withholding the information.

Kill Number	Eartag	Body Part	Condition	Previous Owners	Food Business Operator	Premises ID	Slaughter Date
Section 43	Section 43			Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43			Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43			Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43	Carcase	Contamination	Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43			Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43			Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43	Offal	Liver abscesses	Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43	Offal	Fluke mature	Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43	Offal	Liver abscesses	Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43	Offal	Pneumonia	Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43	Offal	Pneumonia	Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43			Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43	Head	(Other)	Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43			Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43			Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43			Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43	Offal	Fluke mature	Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43	Carcase	Abscesses - Hindquarter	Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43			Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43	Offal	Traumatic Pericarditis	Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43	Carcase	Contamination	Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43			Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43			Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
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Section 43	Section 43	Offal	Traumatic Pericarditis	Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43			Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43			Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43	Head	Contamination	Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43	Head	Contamination	Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43			Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43	Offal	Fluke mature	Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43	Offal	Fluke mature	Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43			Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43	Offal	Liver abscesses	Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43	Offal	Fluke mature	Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018

Section 43	Section 43			Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
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Section 43	Section 43			Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018
Section 43	Section 43			Section 43	Dunbia Carnaby	2100	04/05/2018



SEFunded Fellowship- [Section 40], Quadram Institute

Evolution, diversity and epidemiology of bacterial foodborne pathogens based on whole genome sequencing.



Food chain transmission pathways of AMR not fully understood- critical if effective control strategies are to be developed.

Project objectives;

- Evaluate importance of food to the burden of pathogens and AMR in humans.
- Assess the contribution of imported vs domestically produced food to this burden.
- Investigate the role of non-pathogenic bacteria in food as a reservoir of AMR genes.

Methodology;

- Sampling of retail food in a defined geographical region.
- Comparison with contemporaneous samples from animals and humans (collaboration with PHE and APHA).
- Sequencing to evaluate the prevalence, diversity, population structure and source attribution of pathogens and AMR in.



Visited Clive House on 31st....

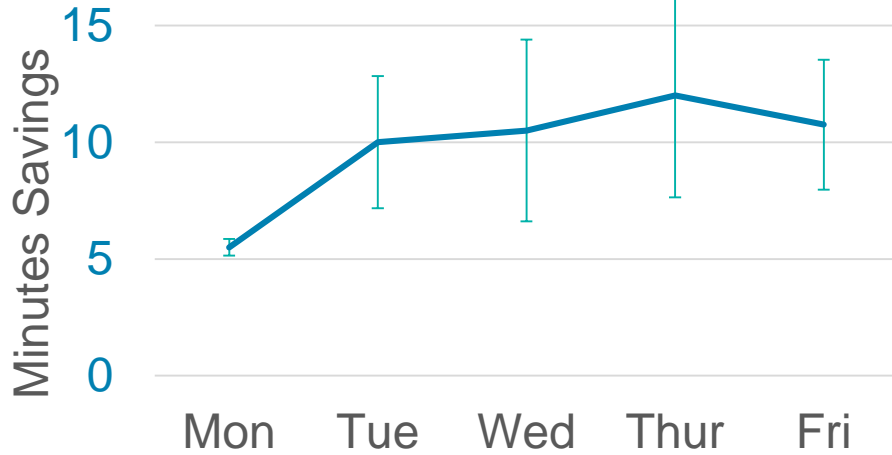


Improved Official Controls for Meat Industry- Blockchain

Aim to develop a more efficient and effective approach to Collection and Communication of Inspection Results (CCIR)- current process is time consuming and repetitive with little added value.



IRIS Completion

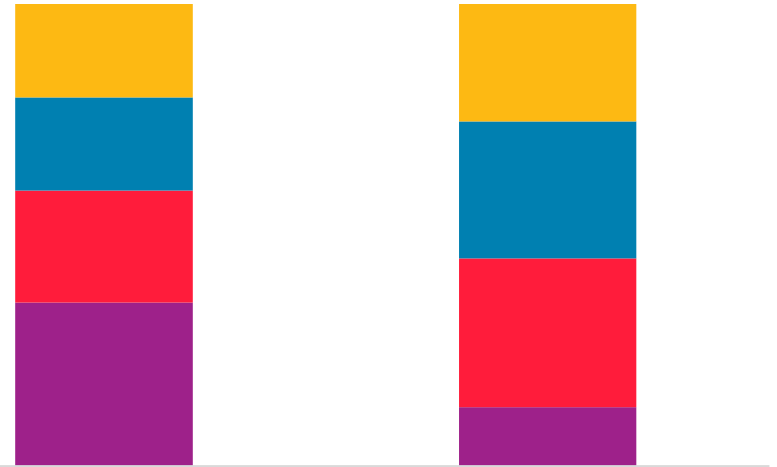


Daily Average: 10 min

Monthly Average: 3h 45min

Savings: IRIS + 'Throughput for Charging' System + Rejection Meat Receipts

Abattoir Checks



Historic

■ Paperwork

■ Welfare

Blockchain

■ Hygiene

■ Health

Opportunity

- Building on March Board papers.
- Cross-government Science Capability Review*.
- **Leverage and influence-** EU exit providing opportunities for FSA to enhance its presence and punch above weight.
- **Innovation and opportunity to deliver-** More flexible and streamlined than larger departments*.
- **Realising Potential**

Opportunities- where to look?

External

- ↑GDP research spend- 1.7% to 2.4%
- New GCSA- Patrick Vallance
- UKRI- “transition done, now transformation”- path to greater alignment/harmonisation
- Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund- academic/industrial collaborative funding— call to trusted partners?
- **Strategic Prioritise Fund**- more direct focus on Gov ARIs?

Internal

- SEF Programme Board- closer management of fund.
- Full use of SC- WG1,2 nearing completion- output suggests a shift in cultural thinking required- **implementation plan**. Two WGs in future. Already considering opportunity to contribute to the Data “sphere”.

Challenges

- Blockchain has been a success because Sian given the time/space- opportunities like this often down to **individuals**.
- If want to be truly innovative and science and evidence based;



- **Partnerships**
- **Recruitment and retention-** internal and external
 - » RA function will be greater and subject to more scrutiny- urgent priority
- PR face- largely only me. **Engagement Plan**

From: Sian Thomas

Sent: 14 May 2018 09:05

To: Jason Feeney <jason.feeney@food.gov.uk>; Nina Purcell <Nina.Purcell@food.gov.uk>; Colin Sullivan <Colin.Sullivan@food.gov.uk>; Christopher Hitchen <Chris.Hitchen@food.gov.uk>

Cc: Julie Pierce <Julie.Pierce@food.gov.uk>; Martin Evans <Martin.Evans@food.gov.uk>; Simon Dawson <Simon.Dawson@food.gov.uk>; Maria Jennings <maria.jennings@food.gov.uk>; Michael Wight <Michael.Wight@food.gov.uk>; [Section 40]

Subject: Update on blockchain pilot - CCIR

All,

We have been running the pilot in live for 2 weeks now. [Section 40] has not identified any data discrepancies and today we spent a few minutes looking at additional insight (over K2) for yesterday's data. I thought I would share the findings:

- 114 animals slaughtered – no animal with more than one data entry
- 8 farms had fluke and would not necessarily be aware (there were 5 that also had fluke where this would be reported back under the existing system).
- 2 farms in common for the two animals with liver abscess – certainly the farmer that was not the last owner and keeper would not be aware
- 8 animals contaminated at the abattoir

We are quantifying the time that double data entry took and cost (with help from Richard Collier).

This proof of pilot phase is now complete. We would like to do some further work on dashboards and rollout to more Dunbia plants (there request, but keen to prove scalability) [Out of Scope] and to develop the farmer interface (Dunbia would not put us in touch with farmers). We have been engaging with AHDB and plan to present to Defra (but I am also sending them updates).

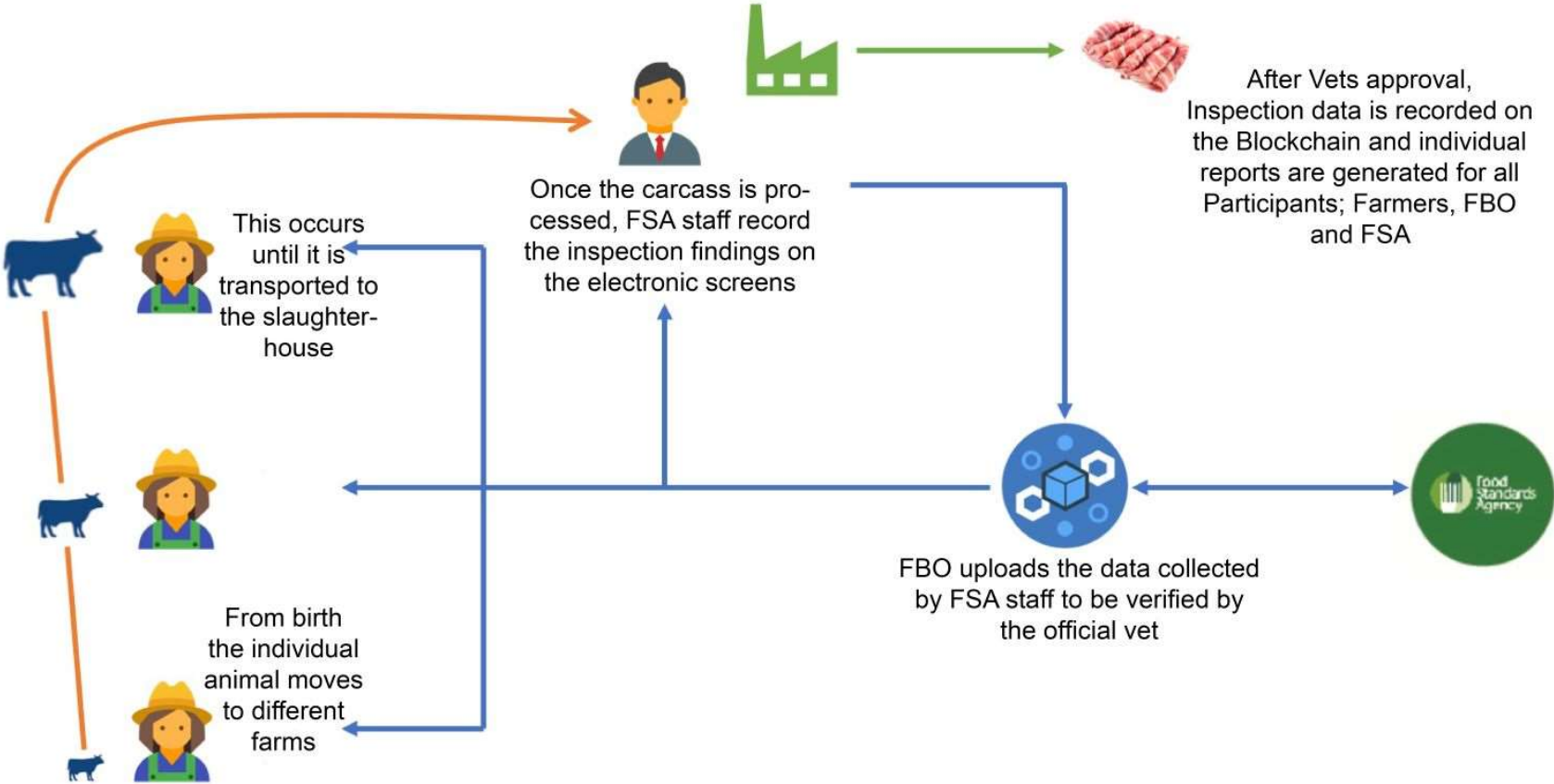
If any of your want additional info please ask. We are hoping to work with Simon and Martin to develop Agency dashboards to present the type of information I reported here visually. Also to ensure that we are alerted to more serious issues.

Have a good weekend all

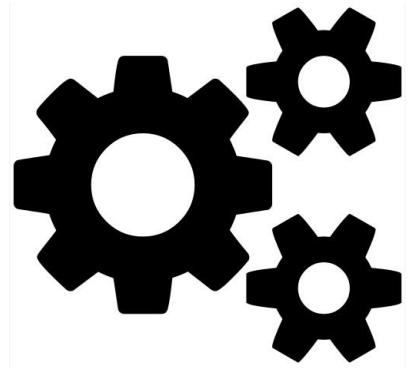
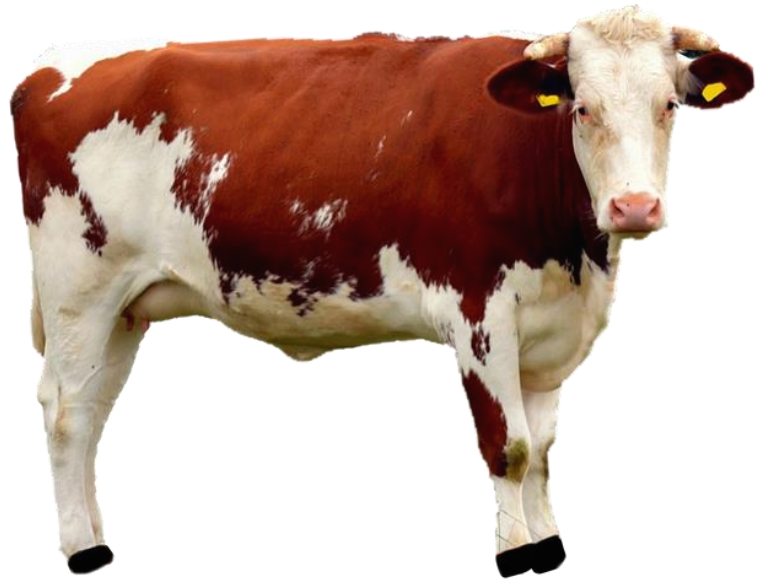
Sian

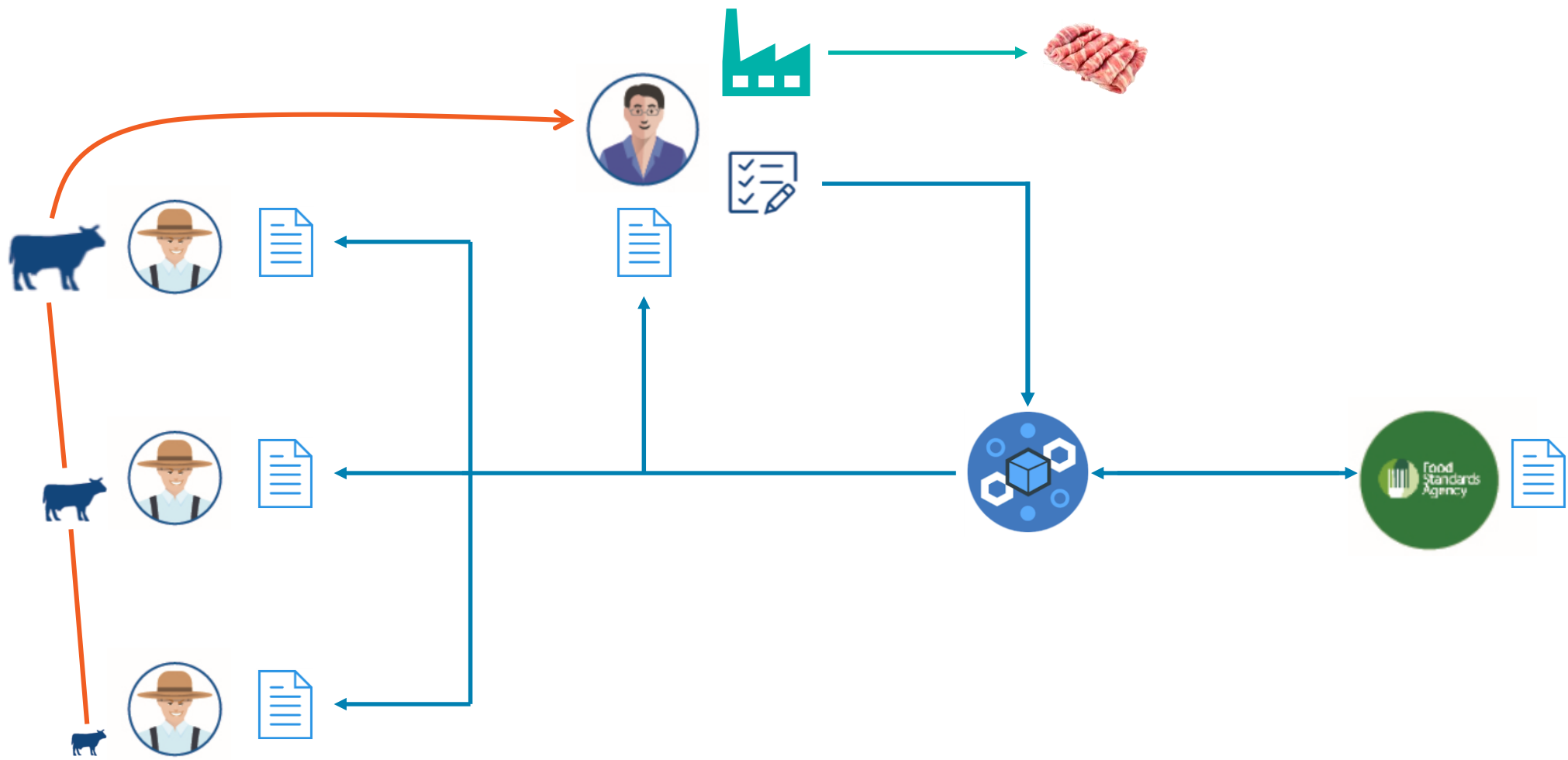
Head of Information Management, Food Standards Agency
Clive House, 70 Petty France, London SW1H
9EX | 02072768761 | 07770596749 | @drsiant

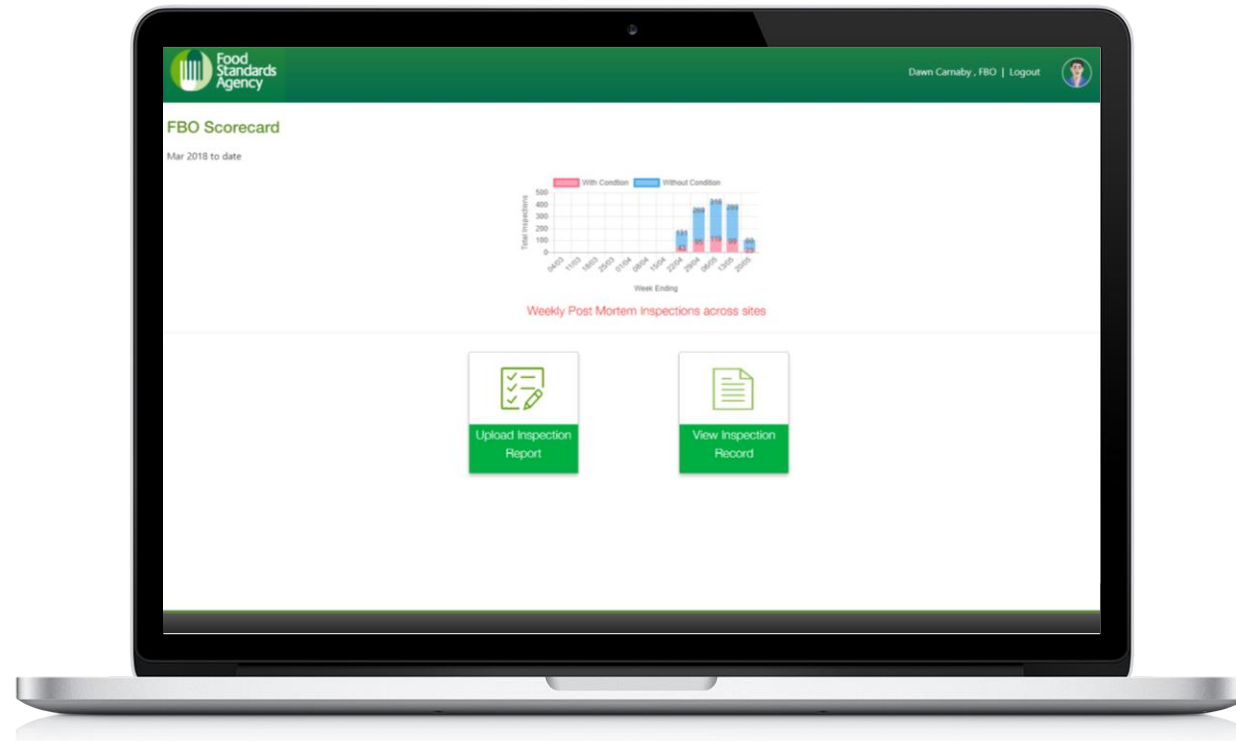
FSA Blockchain Pilot In Slaughterhouse











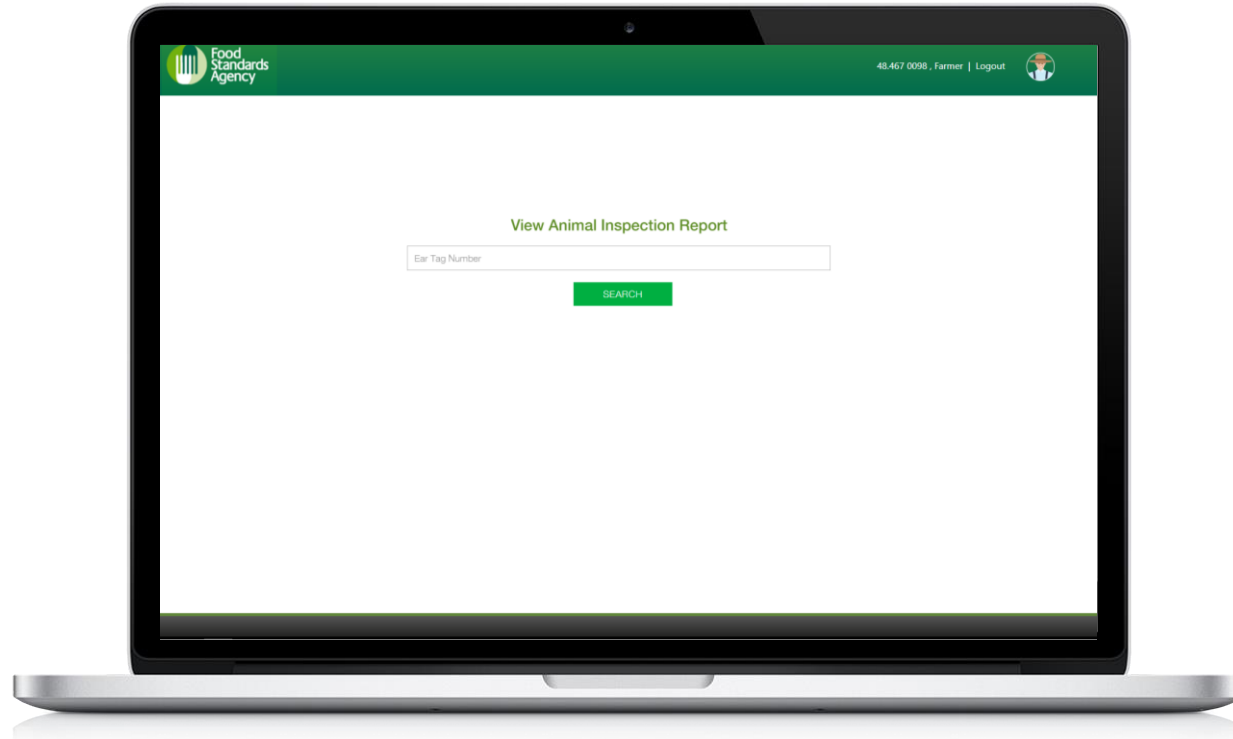


Food Standards Agency

E&J OV, FSA Vet | Logout

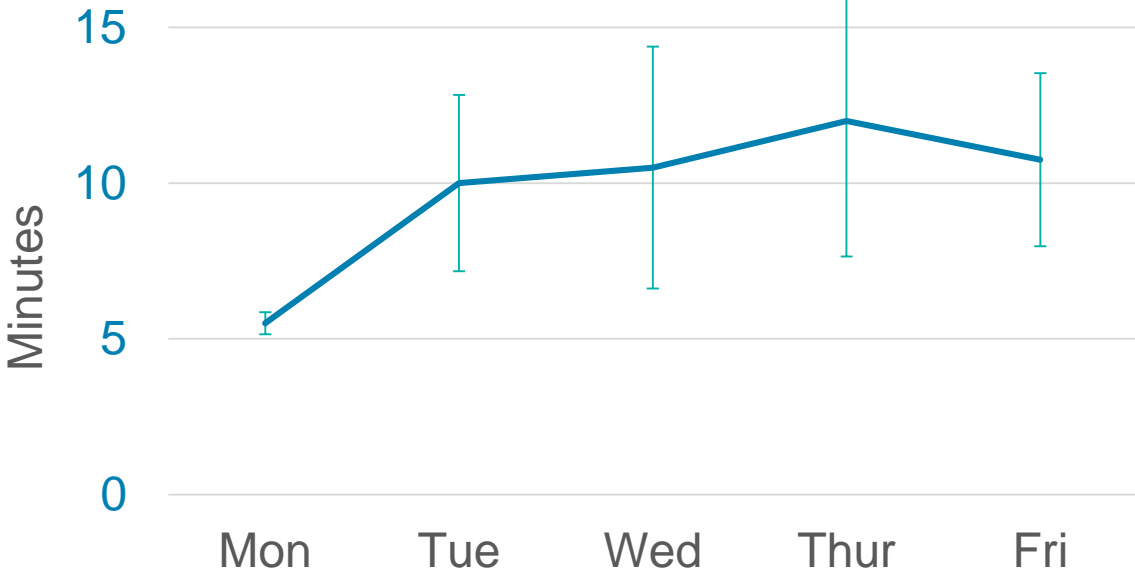
New Inspections pending review

Premises Id	Slaughter Date	# of Cattle Inspected	# of cattle with conditions	Actions
2100	15 May 2018	109	47	Details Process





IRIS Completion



Daily Average: 10 min

Monthly Average: 3h 45min

Abattoir Checks



■ Paperwork ■ Hygiene ■ Welfare ■ Health

Savings: IRIS + 'Throughput for Charging' System + Rejection Meat Receipts

Farmers



Historic

Blockchain

↑ Conditions Recording + Mapping

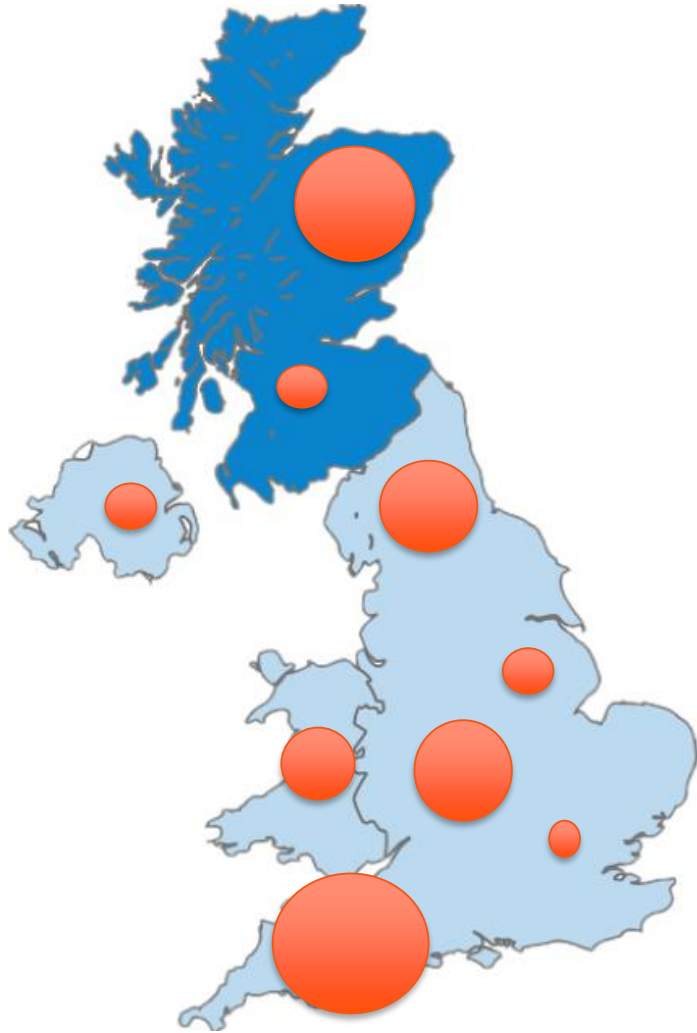


↑ Efficient and Effective Control:

- ↓ Costs (Vet. Med, Feed)
- ↑ Health & Welfare
- Safer Product

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Conditions Mapping



■ Liver ■ Cardio - Resp. ■ Carcass ■ Welfare ■ Other