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Suzanne Lyden
Committee Assistant
Criminal Justice Committee
Scottish Parliament
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19 February 2026

Dear Suzanne

Further to your e-mail to my colleague Robert McGeachy dated 13 February 2026, I am pleased to provide you with a copy of Food Standards Scotland's Scottish Food Crime and Incidents Unit's (SFCIU's) Annual Report on Food Crime, which was previously submitted to the Scottish Parliament's Criminal Justice Committee: <https://www.foodstandards.gov.scot/about-us/how-we-work/governance/criminal-justice-committee-sfcIU-annual-report>

The report outlines the following:

- Current SFCIU food crime control strategy priorities;
- Investigations undertaken;
- Case studies;
- Food crime prevention initiatives;
- Multi-agency and partnership work; and
- Future activities

The report covers the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025.

It was submitted in compliance with the Criminal Justice Committee's request, at our evidence session on 25 September 2024, that the SFCIU should submit an Annual Report on Food Crime to the Committee.

The report outlines our activities, performance and key outcomes over the reporting period. It highlights the SFCIU's continued role in protecting Scotland's food supply chain through intelligence led enforcement, multi-agency collaboration and the effective management of food related incidents where there is a criminal aspect. It also sets out the evolving threat landscape and the steps taken to prevent, detect and disrupt food crime that poses risks to public health, consumer confidence and legitimate businesses.

As food crime continues to adapt in scale and complexity, the SFCIU remains committed to strengthening prevention, improving intelligence sharing and supporting the wider criminal justice system. I trust that this report gives you a clear overview of our work and priorities, and I welcome any further engagement or discussion arising from its contents.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. McNaughton', written in a cursive style.

Ron McNaughton
Head
Scottish Food Crime and Incidents Unit
Food Standards Scotland