

Hello,

I want to update you on our progress with the formation of the PFAS Scientific Advisory Panel. We have now appointed the panel members who will join the independent chair, Dr Steve Hajioff.

The Panel

Independent Chair - Dr Steve Hajioff is an experienced leader with over 30 years in the health sector, having worked for the WHO, EU, international and UK governments. Steve works with NICE on quality standards and is an honorary senior lecturer at Imperial College. He was a Chief Officer of the British Medical Association and member of the World Medical Association. Steve has also served in Chief Medical Officer roles for a variety of organisations.

PFAS and health - Dr Tony Fletcher is an epidemiologist with over 40 years' experience in occupational and environmental epidemiology, with experience of studies of exposure and health impacts such as cancer, respiratory disease and metabolic disorders. He has been researching the health effects of PFAS since 2005, as a member of the science panel which led a major investigation on potential health effects of drinking water with high levels of PFOA in West Virginia and Ohio. More recently he has been working on epidemiology programmes in communities in Ronneby, Sweden and Veneto, Italy.

PFAS and environment - Prof. Ian Cousins is a Professor in Environmental Organic Chemistry at the Department of Environmental Science at Stockholm University and is well known for his research on PFAS. His experience in PFAS dates back to 1999, and he has undertaken extensive research into PFAS, and leads research groups focusing on understanding the sources and uses of PFAS, including how it is transported in the environment and their fate in the environment. Prof. Cousins has been a keynote speaker at numerous international PFAS conferences and workshops, and is currently chair of the upcoming international conference FLUOROS 2023 where the world's leading experts on PFAS will gather. He has also coordinated a large European multidisciplinary project on PFAS. His current research focuses on better understanding the uses of PFAS and investigating analytical approaches to measure PFAS in consumer products and environmental samples and the transport of fate of PFAS in the environment.

Candidates from locations around the world were considered for the roles and we had to make sure that those selected met strict criteria to allow independent evaluations of the agreed topics.

The members of the panel will call upon additional global experts to provide expert testimonies or clinical advice to the panel and a pool of such experts was added to through the recruitment process. Islanders will also be asked to provide expert testimonies to contribute to the evidence base.

PFAS Scientific Advisory Panel reports

Following discussion with the Chair of the panel, we have updated the report titles. This is to enable the panel to prepare the first report about therapeutic phlebotomy as quickly as possible. The panel will develop the following reports:

Residents update May 2023

1. Review of therapeutic phlebotomy (i.e. having blood taken to reduce PFAS levels)
2. Assessment of the impact of PFAS exposure on health and clinical interventions
3. PFAS blood testing and re-testing
4. Environmental management
5. An update on the reports covering health and clinical interventions (i.e. reports 1 and 2)

Panel meetings & engagement events

We are holding a PFAS Panel launch event to give an introduction and overview of the Panel's plan, presented by the Chair. Islanders will have an opportunity to ask questions about and provide feedback on what the panel proposes. This will take place on **Thursday 8 June** 2023, from 5.30pm to 7.30pm at the Philadelphie Methodist Church, La Grande Route de Saint-Pierre, JE3 7AA. To help our planning, please confirm your attendance by emailing publichealth@gov.je. Thank you.

The panel held an initial planning meeting last week, where they agreed the dates of the formal panel meetings.

The first formal Panel meeting will be on **15 June, 10am - 11am** to discuss the scope of the first report. Panel meetings will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams and will be recorded. Islanders are welcome to observe the meeting, or to watch the recording afterwards. Minutes of the meeting will also be available. If you would like to observe the meeting, please email publichealth@gov.je.

Website

There is now a dedicated section of the Government of Jersey website for all the PFAS information which you can visit at [PFAS in Jersey \(gov.je\)](https://www.gov.je/pfas).

In the meantime, please contact us if you have any questions by emailing publichealth@gov.je.

Best wishes

Professor Peter Bradley
Director of Public Health and Medical Officer for Health