

Mrs Jane M. Downes BVSc MRCVS

Jane graduated in 1978 from Bristol Veterinary School and for 5 year worked in general practice in North Yorkshire. On the arrival of family and part time working she set up practice providing veterinary inspection services to Local Authorities. She joined the Meat Hygiene Service in 1995 and was appointed as a Senior Civil Servant and the Veterinary and Technical Director in 2002 having responsibility for technical instruction and training of officials for meat inspections and compliance auditing , the approval of meat premises and any subsequent enforcement action and leading the change programme. In 2010 she transferred to acting Head of Chemical safety at the Food Standards Agency, before moving to set up an independent veterinary consultancy to the food chain.

Current work includes projects with the major retailers on food safety programmes, with Warwick University on animal welfare research programmes and with veterinary practices and food businesses improving business efficiency, compliance and consumer safety. As a member of NSF Consulting Group she works with a wide range of other experts. Jane is the Chair of the BPEX National Zoonoses Control Programme, a member of the Disciplinary Committee of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, a member of The British Veterinary Association Veterinary Policies Group a Board member of the Meat Training Council and a past President of the Veterinary Public Health Association.

Leisure time is usually spent on the golf course or walking through the glorious Yorkshire countryside with friends and family.