

Annual Highlights 2025

The UK's leading
professional body
recognising and
supporting people
in the food system.

IFST values the continued support of our members and corporate supporters in helping us achieve our mission to serve both the profession and the public, including:

Centric Software, TraceGains, M&S, NEMIS Technologies, Quor, Campden BRI.

President's Message

I am delighted to present our 2025 Annual Highlights, a year of growth, collaboration, and a proud milestone. Securing our **Royal Charter** has strengthened our authority as the UK's independent voice for food science and technology.

With expanding membership, thriving specialist registers, and influential policy work, we have amplified our impact across the food system. At the heart of these achievements is our shared commitment to knowledge, resilience, and trust. To our members, volunteers, and partners: thank you for enabling us to champion and advance our profession together.

Chris Gilbert-Wood FIFST, IFST President



MISSION

Our Mission

To provide evidence-based knowledge, networking opportunities, and professional recognition in food science and technology.

VISION

Our Vision

A future where food is accessible, sustainable, safe, and healthy for all. Our work is guided by science, collaboration, and evidence-based decision making.

Strategic Priorities

Our strategic priorities for the next three years are:

1. Providing trusted, evidence-based knowledge and resources.
2. Supporting the growth of capable and competent people across the food system.

We will measure our progress through membership growth and diversity, as well as financial sustainability.



Science and Technology Knowledge

Providing and sharing scientific and evidence-based knowledge.

Successfully transitioned all IFST Academic Publications to

Open Access

Over **1 million** downloads from the International Journal of Food Science and Technology with

283 Articles Published

Brought together over **100** leaders for the inaugural

IFST Oxford Food Summit

in partnership with the **University of Oxford** and **RMIT University**

Launched new open-access journal

Translational Food Sciences

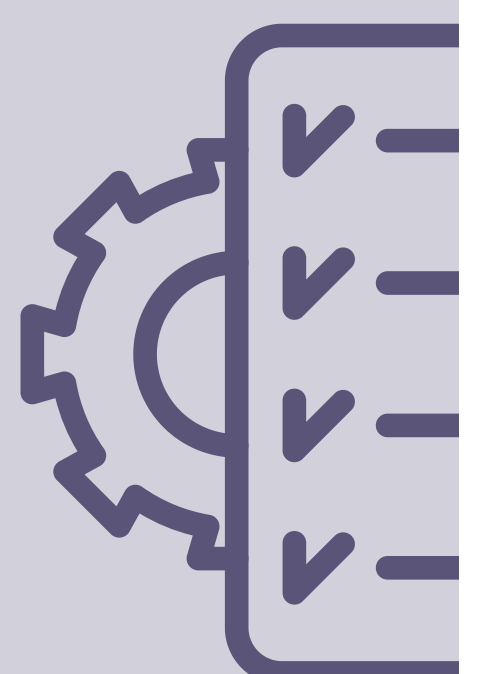
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Updated Information Statements



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New Technical Briefs



Leadership

Positively inform and support all our stakeholders by providing insight and knowledge of the food system.

IFST has been formally granted the

Royal Charter

This milestone was announced at our **Autumn Conference 2025**, with the seal attached to the vellum on **1 October 2025**.

Revised the scope of the External Affairs Committee to form the

Policy & Engagement Committee

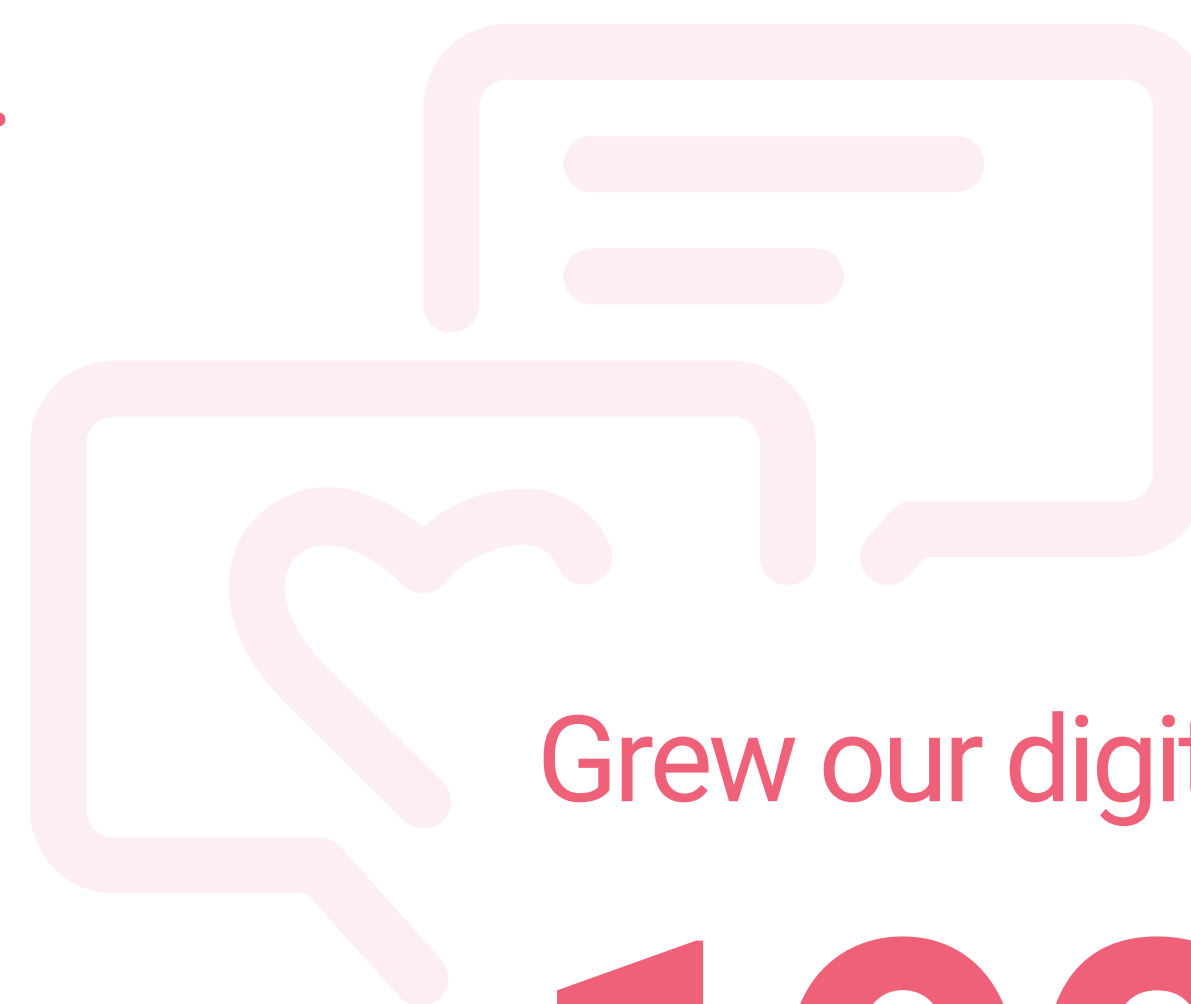
Engaged with policymakers at three **Science and the Parliament** events in Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland.



Grew our audience to

84,000+

® followers on **LinkedIn**.



Grew our digital audience to over

190,000

followers and subscribers.

Recognition and Standards

Setting and promoting professional standards for scientific and technical professionals working in the food system.

Now on our Specialist Registers:

223 Register of Food Safety Professionals

111 Register of Professional Food Auditors and Mentors

the **mark** of the food profession

**REGISTER OF
FOOD SAFETY
PROFESSIONALS**

Maintained Science Council licence with:

135 Chartered Scientists

36 Registered Scientists

Community

Continue to build a welcoming and inclusive community for all STEM¹-minded individuals in the food system.

Took part in **Science Council**

EDI² benchmarking

and developed a 3-year improvement plan.

400+

members contributed actively as committee members, mentors, speakers, and writers.

Membership increased by **8.5%** to

3,800+

through new **group schemes** and improved member engagement and membership processes.

1. STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
2. EDI: Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

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At **8** UK locations,

Student Launchpad

reached over **820** students.

Now in its **13th** year, we supported

Ecotrophelia UK

with **15** teams from **9** universities.

Introduced
50+ mentor-
mentee pairs
through our

Mentorship Programme

Future Talent

Encouraging and supporting
our future talent.

Partnered with Mondelēz and ProFSET to pilot a

Food Engineer Student Launchpad

Winner of the Food & Drink Federation
Best Education Initiative Award 2025.

Relaunched the



Redeveloped
lovefoodlovescience.org
as a careers and education
resource, and launched the
Outreach Toolkit.