

**RESPONSIBILITY DEAL
FOOD NETWORK HIGH LEVEL STEERING GROUP
ACTION NOTE**

Second meeting: Wednesday 22 June 2011, 1000-1200

**CATHEDRAL ROOM, RICHMOND HOUSE
79 WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2NS**

Chaired by Dr Susan Jebb, Head of Nutrition and Health Research, MRC
With attendance from The Rt Hon Andrew Lansley CBE MP,
Secretary of State for Health

Attendees

Sue Davies – Which?
John Dyson – British Hospitality Association
Phil Hooper – Sodexo
Melanie Leech – Food and Drink Federation
Sarah Lyness – Cancer Research UK
Professor Ian MacDonald – Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition
Sally McCombie – Pepsico (deputy for Fiona Dawson)
Karen Tonks – Tesco
Helen Walters – Faculty of Public Health (deputy for Lindsay Davies)

Also attending (for agenda item 4)

[REDACTED]

Officials

Liz Woodeson – Director of Health and Wellbeing
Clair Baynton – Deputy Director, Nutrition Science and Delivery
Richard Cienfiala – Deputy Director, Obesity Programme

[REDACTED]

ACTIONS ARISING

Item (1) Welcome and introductions

The Chair welcomed attendees to the second meeting of the High Level Steering Group, and noted apologies from Fiona Dawson (Mars UK), Lindsey Davies (Faculty of Public Health), and Andrea Martinez-Inchausti (British Retail Consortium).

Papers had been circulated, including an update on progress in implementing the existing Food Network collective pledges. Attendees were keen to see, alongside the number of signatories for each pledge, further contextual data such as the percentage of the market covered thereby, as presented for the out-of-home calorie labelling pledge.

- Action 1: Future progress updates on collective pledges to present further contextual data alongside number of signatories (DH).

Actions from the meeting held 15 March

The Chair reviewed actions from the previous meeting, all of which were either in progress or had been completed.

Some attendees had not received the updated principles for approving individual pledges, and the Secretariat undertook to re-circulate.

- Action 2: Secretariat to circulate principles for approving individual pledges (DH).

A meeting with Fred Turok (Chair, Responsibility Deal Physical Activity Network) had unfortunately been postponed.

An update on the FDF/ BRC proposed support for companies to overcome technical barriers to achieving salt reduction was to be returned to under Any Other Business.

Item (2) Phase 2 Work Programme: Calorie Reduction

Participants discussed proposals outlined in the circulated paper, for taking forward work on calorie reduction, including the idea of a calorie reduction 'challenge' to which industry and others could respond as part of an overarching strategy for tackling obesity. Comments were made on the potential size and scope of challenge faced, on how it could best be presented in the context of the health challenges faced by the population and the overall approach for tackling overweight and obesity, and on the mechanics whereby contributions would be decided and reported upon.

- Action 3: HLSG members were invited to reflect on the proposals and to e-mail any further comments. (HLSG members).
- Action 4: DH to set up, by the end of July, working arrangements for determining issues of detail regarding possible calorie reduction commitments. (DH)

Item (3) Fruit and vegetables workstream

Clair Baynton introduced the circulated paper on the fruit and vegetables workstream, which had set out a sequenced approach by sectors, together with questions and assumptions about taking forward this work. Participants discussed issues relating to the draft pledge; the 'pledging' architecture, and potential synergy with work on calorie reduction.

- Action 5: DH to give further consideration to the mechanism for contributions to this pledge.

Item (4) NHF report – marketing and promotion of foods to children

[REDACTED] were welcomed to the meeting for this item. [REDACTED] presented a summary of the report commissioned by DH to map the landscape of regulatory and voluntary controls. Participants briefly discussed the merits of further action on promotion to children at this time and the majority felt that - given the wide range of actions already being taken forward - this issue should be considered again for action in Phase 3 of the Food Network work programme.

- Action 6: NHF report to be published via DH website.

Any Other Business

FDF/ BRC salt reduction technical group

Karen Tonks updated on progress. Draft terms of reference were expected imminently, and a two-phase approach was envisaged. The focus would be on problem solving some of the technical challenges within the context of the existing pledges. The proposal differed somewhat from earlier iterations, however participants were content with the plan as outlined.

Salt targets and the catering sector

Clair Baynton spoke to the paper (HLSG7) circulated for information, covering proposals to develop a pledge specifically for caterers recognising the diversity of the sector and that although there are salt reduction strategies in place the nature of the sector means that many are unable to sign up to and meet the targets which underpin the collective salt pledge. Participants were supportive in principle, assuming that the existing pledge would not be undermined.

- Action 7: DH to circulate to HLSG members a draft salt pledge for caterers. (DH)

Meeting dates for 2012

- Action 8: Secretariat to trawl for 2012 meeting dates. (Secretariat).

Date of next meeting

Further meetings in 2011 have been agreed as follows. Participants are asked to confirm their attendance to foodnetwork@dh.gsi.gov.uk.

Wednesday 14 September, 1000 – 1200 (3rd meeting)

Tuesday 29 November, 1400 – 1600 (4th meeting)

Food Network Secretariat
27 June 2011