



All Party Parliamentary Group on School Food

Minutes of joint meeting with Food & Drink APPG

Tuesday 15th March 2016, 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Committee Room 21, Houses of Parliament

Present

Sharon Hodgson MP (SH),

Nigel	Argyle	Elygra Marketing
Kemi	Atijosan	Eagle Solutions
Rob	Bailey (RB)	Association for Public Service Excellence
Kevin	Bernbaum	Educo
James	Bielby	Federation of Wholesale Distributors
Myles	Bremner (MB)	School Food Plan
Linda	Cregan	Children's Food Trust
Louise	Davies	DATA / Food Teachers Centre
Emma	Edwards	Wigan Council
Olayinka	Ewuola	Eagle Solutions Services
Lindsay	Graham	Holiday Hunger Task Force
Sarah	Grant	School Food Plan
Barbara	Griffiths	Dairylink
Gemma	Hopwood	School Food Plan
Helena	Houghton	Royal Academy of Culinary Arts
Anna	Jobling	Interel Consulting
Meg	Longworth	Compass group/Chartwells
Frances	Meek	British Nutrition Foundation
Julie	Messenger	Food Teachers Centre
Rachel	McAdams	NHS Health Scotland
Peter	McGrath	LACA
Shaira	Mirpuri	Eagle Solutions Services
Lynda	Mitchell	North Somerset Council
Rosemary	Molinari	Taylor Shaw
Caroline	Morgan	Local Food Links
Julianne	Noble	Jamie Oliver Foundation
Philippa	Norton	Bidvest Food Service

Letterhead designed by pupils at Harehills Primary School, Leeds



Jeanette	Orrey	Food for Life
Eileen	Steinbock	Brakes
Daniel	Tye(DT)	Office of Sharon Hodgson MP
Tracey	Wareing	Wigan Council
Lauren	Weller	FACE / Countryside Classroom
Dale	Wild	Birmingham City Council
Nicola	Wilde	Wilde Food
Stephanie	Wood	School Food Matters

1. Chair's Welcome

SH opened the meeting and welcomed attendees

2. Minutes

Minutes of 2 previous meetings were approved.

The list of apologies were as follows:

Victoria	McGowan	University of Northumbria
----------	---------	---------------------------

3. Holiday Hunger Task Group – Lindsay Graham (LG)

LG seeks a revision of the terms of reference and a formal commission into child hunger. Mapping is a fresh priority with an imminent survey via a Phd student at Northumbria University under Prof.Greta Defeyter.

The group will continue to signpost the 'feeding the holiday gap' website and are looking on making the case for return on investment from holiday feeding as well as formulating policy on holiday hunger

SH thanked all members of the Holiday Hunger Task Group and praised them for raising the profile of the issue and hoped that the Government can be persuaded to accept a commission.

4. Future of the School Food Plan – Myles Bremner (MB)

MB provided an overview of the School Food Plan and highlighted those areas in jeopardy or concern. The SFP office had supported individuals and organisations to deliver support to schools over the last 2 1/2 years with Food now back on the curriculum. He announced the recent setting up of the School Food Plan leadership board

Thursday would see the launch of a free resource for teacher training around food with approval from both PHE and DfE. It is to be piloted in 30 sites. LACA is leading on workforce standards. Pressure was required to ensure Ofsted implemented guidance around school meals. The Government is still seeking £1.6 billion in school

procurement savings. It is currently unknown how many schools are without production kitchens although UIFSM has transformed kitchen provision. What gets measured gets done!; There has been no evaluation and the sector may have to step up to ensure there is.

The SFP office contract concludes on 31/03/2016 and they have agreed to create a SFP leadership board to bring together organisations to act as guardians of the SFP over the longer term. The Board will engage with Government and Linda Cregan (Children's Food Trust) and Jeanette Orrey (Food for Life Partnership) have agreed to be Co-chairs with the APPG as a formal member. Currently there are 16 members and others will be invited.

SH thanked MB for his leadership of the SFP, the Expert panel and Sarah and Gemma from the SFP office.

SH noted that she had observed signs within a 6th form college limiting the offer to those on FSM. Conclusion is that some schools are now waking up to an Ofsted requirement around school meals. Stephanie Wood (School Food Matters) suggested that Ofsted has a commitment to note dining room behaviour and food culture. She had had requests from 2 London authorities to provide teacher and governor training. Louise Davis (DATA) asked how many Ofsted reports had specifically mentioned food. Jeanette Orrey thinks that interest from schools is geographical. General agreement that Ofsted is the key to ensuring compliance and a themed inspection would be best. CFT to meet Ofsted in the next month. Lynda Mitchell (North Somerset Council) reminded members that the last meeting was on 18th November 2015, Ofsted ruled out themed inspections and wouldn't be reviewing the decision for at least 2 years. Inspectors are not required to sample/eat the school meals.

OE asked what plans there were for an evaluation of UIFSM. MB thinks there is a need for an evaluation of governance and another for the success of the policy. There has been no announcement and it's unlikely so the sector should respond to undertake the work.

Jeanette Orrey asked what was happening with small schools now that funding has gone. MB reported that the Small Schools report had not been published and although the funding was described as transitional his recommendation was that funding should be continued. SH to ask question why report not published

LG asked about the reporting lines of the new leadership board and governance. Linda Cregan said that the board is not a new entity and was a continuation of the expert panel as an industry body. The APPG will have representation on it.

OE asked why it couldn't be constituted in a similar way to the Holiday Hunger Task Force. SH replied that an APPG was made up of parliamentarians and whilst it could

take evidence and make recommendations to Government, it couldn't act as a representative sector body for holding dialogue with Government. The new board will provide updates to the APPG

5. School Food Champions Programme – Olayinka Ewuola (OE) Eagle Solutions Services

The School Food Champions Programme, supports secondary food teachers over 18 months with resources and activities focused on school food to help achieve increases in their school meal uptake. The initiative was Government funded under Lot 3 and a collaboration between DATA, British Nutrition Foundation and Eagle Solutions. They had received VIP visits including SH to Newcastle. They were asked to ensure a 5% increase in uptake sustained over 3 half terms and 88% of schools have achieved this although some reported challenges. The pilot ends on 31st March 2016 after which case studies to be produced

Their survey through the Food Teachers centre into implementation of the School Food Plan recorded 83% who said it was not a priority, 11% said there was some activity. The Food Teacher was regarded as key and they promote an in-house approach, where possible, bringing all food provision together whilst providing, flexibility of control. Each school adopts a bespoke action plan to improve take up.

The pilot succeeded in generating 324,000 additional meals, averaging 28 students at each school per day over a ½ term period. The return in investment (ROI) from the project was 34% with every £10 input, generating £17.22 net (£18.00 gross).

6. Scotland UIFSM evaluation – Dr Rachel McAdams (RM), NHS Health Scotland

NHS Health in Scotland are being supported by the Scottish Government to evaluate the introduction of Universal Infant Free School Meals. This is a theme based approach linked to outcomes.

3 key evaluation questions:

- What are the impacts of the introduction of universal FSM? What is the social distribution of these impacts and could universal FSM contribute to a reduction in dietary and educational inequalities?
- What are the key variations in how universal FSM is implemented across local authorities and schools?
- What are the barriers, facilitators and unintended consequences of implementation and how can these be overcome and/or mitigated?

Ongoing challenges included sufficiently qualified staff, fulfilling aspirations of a positive learning experience and increasing the uptake of UIFSM. Parental

knowledge is crucial; Those with English as a 2nd language were difficult to engage and there were also some negative misconceptions from parents about school meals

Uptake has increased, with those in the most deprived areas seeing the largest uptake with those on the cusp of qualifying for Free School Meals, the most welcoming of the £380 per year saving. The Scotland Healthy Living Survey up to 2015 saw a collective 53% uptake and now stands at P1-3 – 80% and P4-7 54%

For further details visit. www.healthscotland.com/freeschoolmeals A Final report is anticipated in early 2017

SH asked what happens when kids have to pay. RM suggested in some areas such as Orkney/Shetland they were now seeing 100% uptake

MB asked is they could pinpoint any economic data from the impact of UIFSM. RM suggested that there is not. SH suggested the need to push for a similar assessment in England

7. AOB

Date of next meeting – 28th June 2016

Meeting closed at 4.00pm.