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| Hi Andrea, The latest Food Corporate Affairs meeting took place yesterday and discussed the following: **Coordinated food policy from the election manifesto** This is an issue which is important for CEOs. Some of them have been speaking to the press. We have covered it in our election manifesto. We are speaking to the FDF and NFU about whether we can do something ahead of the election. NFU are more interested on the food resilience part. FDF wants more focus on coordinated policy, however, do not believe DEFRA is the department to lead on it. They have lost confidence in them. The Food and Drink Sector Council was supposed to look at the coordination of food policy. Nigel Murray, CEO at Booths is actively considering leading on the work on resilience. We are thinking of writing to No10 to try to influence the agenda for the next Food Summit which looks like it will take place in May.  **Labour manifesto**  BRC has been engaging with opposition (Labour) on a long list of issues, including labour, taxes, waste, etc. A member asked whether the issue of setting a group together with the EU to manage SPS controls has come up. There are discussions at the moment between DEFRA and the EU. The issue of the group has not yet come up but it is something which NFU and FDF have raised. We will make sure the BRC corporate affairs team raises when they have an opportunity.  **Not for EU – BRC response to the consultation**  This has been a tricky response to put together for BRC since members are in very different places. It was agreed we will focus on the issues on which there is general agreement, such as labelling should have been avoided all together. The Government should have looked at other ways of achieving the same result, e.g. strong traceability requirements. We will also cover the agreed technical issues, including how undoable the proposed timing is. It was felt the response should factually reflect what the view from the majority of the members. The current draft has to be rebalanced to reflect this. The group briefly discussed the judicial review the FDF is considering. If they go ahead, they will challenge whether Ministers have taken the right approach by not consulting on the principle and instead moving straight onto the detail. The challenge may not change the outcome. It may just delay things.  **Diet and Health – FDTP** The FDTP was set as a partnership between government, industry, NGOs and investor groups. However, it is clear based on conversations with NGOs and by the recently published reports that the NGOs are not on board. The government is pushing ahead and has stated they are aiming to publish the final metrics for companies to adopt around July. Members felt the FDTP is a self-service enterprise which is not going to deliver anything.  The paper we shared with members on the obesity strategy has been finalised. The Times is interested in running it with an article. They were positively surprised by our views. But they were hoping for views on sin taxes. It was agreed we will discuss a position on taxation at the next meeting.  **AOB**  A member asked about Labour’s views on the national food strategy. They have not publicly expressed any views about it, so we do not really know where they are. The key is the delivery of it and many people believe DEFRA have proven they are not capable of delivering such a strategy. It needs to be led by a department like the Cabinet Office.  HFSS CONSULTATION in Scotland – we are meeting to discuss our response on 13 March.  House of Lord committee evidence. We are aware some members have been approached to give evidence. We have contacted the clerk to propose BRC gives evidence instead of individual companies.  25 March – Meeting with Mark Spencer on poultry supply chain issues.  Farming - We are not flavour of the month with farmers. We have put together a letter to go to Ministers in all nations highlighting all the work retailers do to support that sector.  Kind regards, Andrea |

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| **Andrea Martinez-Inchausti** Deputy Director Food Policy **M:** 07810 544 752 **A:** The Form Rooms, 22 Tower Street, London WC2H 9NS [**www.brc.org.uk**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furl.uk.m.mimecastprotect.com%2Fs%2FgXYuCVJXEsPgDntEDX6q%3Fdomain%3Delinkeu.clickdimensions.com&data=05%7C02%7Candrea.minchausti%40brc.org.uk%7Cf3255ce8c9a54dd00ce408dc434d380b%7C75071460b4b54635beeb37373bb2ad83%7C0%7C0%7C638459246155252287%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=8Hub8egUrt%2BNS1GOkma%2FdNDuxuz6AjdteslHazDDbBc%3D&reserved=0)­­  |

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