Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum Keynote Seminar:

Food security - UK priorities, supporting domestic production and driving innovation

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 21st September 2017

Venue: The Caledonian Club, 9 Halkin Street, London SW1X 7DR

Agenda subject to change

8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee

9.00 - 9.05 Chair's opening remarks

Phil Bicknell, Market Intelligence Director, AHDB

9.05 - 9.20 Food security - the global context

Professor Charles Godfray, Hope Professor and Director, Oxford Martin Programme on the Future of Food,

University of Oxford

9.20 - 10.00 The impact of Brexit - trade, standards and meeting global commitments

What should be the priorities for trade policy during and post-Brexit to support growth in the UK agri-food economy and provide consumers with access to quality and affordable produce from the international market? With regard to trading relationships with EU member states and in light of a reported UK agri-food trade gap of €35 billion in 2016, how will current commercial strategies need to adapt and where are the greatest trade opportunities internationally? What options may be available to Government to mitigate the potential impact of Brexit on the cost and availability of imported food products, particularly for lower-income families? What should be the UK's future contribution to international food security as part of wider international development objectives?

Sian Edmunds, Partner, Burges Salmon **Pawel Swidlicki**, Brexit Analyst, Edelman

Questions and comments from the floor with Professor Charles Godfray, Hope Professor and Director,

Oxford Martin Programme on the Future of Food, University of Oxford

10.00 - 11.00 Supporting domestic food production and manufacturing - funding, 'Green Brexit' and sector priorities

With the Secretary of State setting out plans for a greater focus on environmental protection as part of a 'Green Brexit' - what more can be done to support domestic food protection, safeguard the environment and prepare industry for any changes to funding mechanisms in the future? What should the priorities be for policymakers in safeguarding sustainability and safety in food production in the face of pressures of negotiating new trade agreements, increasing growth and repositioning the UK food and drink brand? What are the most promising opportunities for the UK outside of the EU to review regulations governing food and the environment, in seeking new markets and increasing productivity levels?

Jayne Brookman, Head of Agrifood, Knowledge Transfer Network

Dr Helen Ferrier, Acting Head of Policy Services, NFU

Lucy Bjorck, Senior Policy Adviser, RSPB

Helen Munday, Chief Scientific Officer, Food and Drink Federation

Questions and comments from the floor

11.00 - 11.05 Chair's closing remarks

Phil Bicknell, Market Intelligence Director, AHDB

11.05 - 11.30 Coffee

11.30 - 11.35 Chair's opening remarks

Sian Edmunds, Partner, Burges Salmon

11.35 - 12.55 The way forward for UK agri-food policy - innovation, regulation and supporting sector growth

With Brexit offering an opportunity to review existing regulations on novel foods and processes, how well positioned is the UK to respond to any changes and drive innovation in agricultural processes and support food security? What issues might such changes raise for regulation, consumers and environmental protection, and how UK produce is seen internationally? With the security of EU funding only guaranteed for existing agri-food research projects, how should the UK Government approach funding support after the UK leaves the EU? How can the UK maintain its world-leading position in agri-food science and how might sector businesses, research institutions, technology providers and others need to develop their collaborative approach going forward? How can knowledge transfer be improved to advance the speed of implementing innovation? What opportunities does the UK now have in terms of improving evidence-based policy making for food production?

Phil Bicknell, Market Intelligence Director, AHDB

Allan Wilkinson, Head of Agrifoods, HSBC

Dr Yuelai Lu, Head of Secretariat, UK-China Sustainable Agriculture Innovation Network and Research Fellow, University of East Anglia

Rt Hon Sir Lockwood Smith, former New Zealand High Commissioner to the United Kingdom

Professor Gerry Boyle, Director, Teagasc

Mark Buckingham, Corporate Affairs Lead UK and Ireland, Monsanto

Questions and comments from the floor

12.55 - 13.00 Chair's and Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum closing remarks

Sian Edmunds, Partner, Burges Salmon

Matthew Bradberry, Forum Lead, Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum

