

**Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum Keynote Seminar:
Priorities for growth in the UK food and drink industry - skills, exports, innovation and sustainability**

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 29th April 2014

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



**WESTMINSTER
FOOD & NUTRITION
FORUM**

Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chairman's opening remarks**
John Stevenson MP, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Food and Drink Manufacturing Group
- 9.05 - 9.25 **Challenges for growth in the UK food and drink industry**
Melanie Leech, Director General, Food and Drink Federation
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.25 - 9.55 **Challenges for achieving sustainable growth in the food and drink industry**
With food waste, climate change and food security cited as key challenges for increasing the sustainability of food production, what more should Government and industry be doing to improve production efficiencies whilst maintaining natural resources and minimising waste?
Mark Driscoll, Head of Food, Forum for the Future
Julian Hunt, Vice-President, Public Affairs and Communications, Coca-Cola Enterprises GB
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.55 - 10.25 **Innovation in food and drink: translating research and developing new technologies**
Alongside advancements in robotics, genetic engineering and nanotechnologies, what further trends are likely to be seen in the future of food technologies and how can the UK food industry most benefit from these innovations? Following criticism that Government's Agricultural Technologies Strategy did not take enough account of the end of the food chain, what more should Government be doing to encourage innovation and the transfer of new technologies in the food and drink sector?
Professor Paul Berryman, Agri-Tech Specialist, Agri-Tech Investment Organisation, UK Trade & Investment
Steffi Friedrichs, Director General, Nanotechnology Industries Association
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 - 10.55 **Attracting and developing talent in the food and drink industry**
With food industry leaders highlighting the recruiting of talent as one of the biggest challenges facing the sector, what more needs to be done to produce graduates with the expertise to meet industry needs?
Dr Martin Howarth, Director, National Centre of Food Engineering, Faculty of Arts, Computing, Engineering and Sciences, Sheffield Hallam University
Justine Fosh, Chief Executive, Improve and The National Skills Academy for Food and Drink
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.55 - 11.00 **Chairman's closing remarks**
John Stevenson MP, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Food and Drink Manufacturing Group
- 11.00 - 11.20 Coffee
- 11.20 - 11.25 **Chairman's opening remarks**
Rt Hon Peter Lilley MP, Member, Energy and Climate Change Select Committee
- 11.25 - 11.55 **Priorities for the food industry outside of London and the South-East**
With criticism that the UK food and drink industry is becoming increasingly fragmented following the release of separate growth strategies by England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland over the last three years, what more should be done to create a more joined-up approach to growth in the English regions and the devolved administrations?
Michael Bell, Executive Director, Northern Ireland Food and Drink Association
Milan Shah, Board Member, Northamptonshire Enterprise Partnership
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.55 - 12.25 **Driving food export growth - removing barriers, promoting trade and improving access to emerging markets**
What more should Government be doing to support Small and Medium Sized businesses entering new markets, enhance the presence of UK food and drink internationally, and develop trade relations with new and emerging markets
Paul Croucher, Head of Trade Finance and Insurance Solutions Group, UK Export Finance
David Williamson, Government & Communications Director, The Scotch Whisky Association
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.25 - 12.55 **Next steps for competitiveness and growth in the UK food and drink industry**
Tim Render, Deputy Director for Food Policy, Competitiveness and Growth,
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chairman's and Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum closing remarks**
Rt Hon Peter Lilley MP, Member, Energy and Climate Change Select Committee
Steve Moat, Senior Producer, Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum