

Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum Keynote Seminar: Food packaging and waste - innovation, anaerobic digestion and nanotechnology

Timing: Morning, 29th June 2010

Venue: Central London

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.45 - 9.00 Registration
- 9.00 - 9.05 Chairman's opening remarks
Lord O'Neill of Clackmannan, Member, House of Lords Science and Technology Committee
- 9.05 - 9.35 Food packaging and waste: progress so far
Themes: How much does food waste and waste from food packaging contribute to waste generated in the UK? What progress has been made towards achieving the UK Waste Reduction Targets? What remains to be done?
Dr Richard Swannell, Director of Retail and Organics Programmes, Waste & Resources Action Programme (WRAP)
Questions and Comments from the floor
- 9.35 - 10.25 Reducing food waste and waste from packaging in the home and in industry
Themes: What more can be done to encourage individuals and businesses to cut down on waste from food and food packaging? What progress has been made through initiatives such as the Courtauld Commitment, the voluntary agreement between WRAP and major UK grocery organisations to reduce the amount of food and packaging waste? How might the Commitment be extended to engage a wider stakeholder group and reduce a greater proportion of waste? How could food and drink producers and retailers help consumers reduce waste, for example through date marking policy or flexibility in portion sizes?
Jane Bickerstaffe, Director, Industry Council for Packaging and the Environment (INCPEN)
Bob Gordon, Environment Policy Adviser, British Retail Consortium
Stephanie Ward, Community Engagement Officer, Waste Watch
Senior representative, food and drink industry
Questions and Comments from the floor
- 10.25 - 10.45 Collection, recycling and processing
Themes: What progress has been made in implementing recycling schemes, both for homes and in industry? How are waste collection providers working to achieve the objectives set out in the Waste Strategy for England 2007 (WS2007)? How does provision of recycling services differ for householders across the UK, and how can recycling be made more efficient? What are the advantages and disadvantages associated with both co-mingled and segregated collections?
Peter Jones, Independent Sector Commentator
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.45 - 10.50 Chairman's closing remarks
Lord O'Neill of Clackmannan, Member, House of Lords Science and Technology Committee
- 10.50 - 11.10 Coffee
- 11.10 - 11.15 Chairman's opening remarks
Professor the Lord Lewis of Newnham, Co-Chair, Associate Parliamentary Sustainable Resource Group
- 11.15 - 11.45 Innovation in packaging design: what role for nanotechnology and active packaging?
Themes: What other technologies are available to support a reduction of waste from food and packaging and the reprocessing of waste? Should there be a role for nanotechnology in reducing waste from food and packaging, despite concerns over safety? What might drive a move towards greater use of nanotechnology in packaging?
Dr Alan Smith, Managing Director, AZ-Tech
Dr Kathy Groves, Project Manager Microscopy, Food Innovation, Leatherhead Food Research
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 - 11.55 Anaerobic Digestion or Livestock Feed? A comparison of food waste disposal methods
Theme: As a method of recycling value from waste, how does anaerobic digestion compare to using food waste to feed livestock?
Tristram Stuart, Commentator and Author of *Waste: uncovering the global food scandal*
- 11.55 - 12.45 Innovation in waste processing and reduction: anaerobic digestion
Themes: How are anaerobic digestion schemes working in the UK, and what contribution do AD schemes make to the energy mix? What is the potential for using waste from packaging, as well as food and other organic wastes, for energy generation through AD? What are the barriers to further roll-out of anaerobic digestion schemes? What is the potential for recycling nutrients from anaerobic digestion?
Steve Lee, Chief Executive Officer, Chartered Institution of Wastes Management (CIWM); and Chair, Anaerobic Digestion Task Group
Dr Jeremy Tomkinson, Chief Executive Officer, National Non-Food Crops Centre (NNFCC)
David Collins, Specialist in Biodigestion, Biogas Group, Renewable Energy Association
Andrew Needham, Director of Operations, BiogenGreenfinch
Lord Redesdale, Chairman, Anaerobic Digestion and Biogas Association (ADBA)
Questions and comments from the floor with Tristram Stuart, Commentator and Author of *Waste: uncovering the global food scandal*
- 12.45 - 12.55 Reducing, reusing and reprocessing waste: the view from WRAP
Theme: A response to the morning's discussion.
Dr Richard Swannell, Director of Retail and Organics Programmes, Waste & Resources Action Programme (WRAP)
- 12.55 - 13.00 Chairman's closing remarks and Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum closing remarks
Professor the Lord Lewis of Newnham, Co-Chair, Associate Parliamentary Sustainable Resource Group
Michael Ryan, Senior Producer, Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum