



Minutes of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Advisory Board of **safefood**  
Held on Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2011 at 10.30am  
**safefood Dublin offices**

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**PRESENT:**

Mr John Dardis (JD - Chair)  
Mr Campbell Tweedie (CT – Vice Chair)  
Ms Susan Heraghty (SH)  
Mr Con Traas (CTR)  
Mr Seamus Sheridan (SS)  
Ms Jane Wells (JW)  
Ms Aoife Healy (AH)  
Ms Lynn Ni Bhaoighealláin (LNB)  
Mr Ken Baird (KB)

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr Martin Higgins, Chief Executive (MH)  
Mr Ray Dolan, Director of Corporate Operations (RD)  
Ms Clíodhna Foley-Nolan, Director of Human Health and Nutrition (CFN)  
Ms Fiona Gilligan, Director of Marketing and Communications (FG)  
Ms Alison Dries (secretary) (AD)

**APOLOGIES:**

Mr Brian Cunningham (BC)  
Mr Neven Maguire (NM)

**1. INTRODUCTION AND APOLOGIES**

**Noted:** The Chair opened the meeting and thanked members for their attendance. The apologies of BC and NM were noted.

**Noted:** This is the last meeting of 2011 and the end of the current term of office of the Advisory Board.

**2. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 13 OCTOBER, 2011**

**Agreed:** There being no matters arising, the minutes were approved.

**3. CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT**

**Corporate Issues**

**Noted:** The Business plan is with the Health and Finance Ministers in NI for approval.

**Noted:** The Audit committee met on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December, the suggestion of introducing declarations of interest regarding senior staff members (Directors) was discussed. An update will be given at a later stage.

**Noted:** The weight management programme for MLA's has now concluded. This proved to be incredibly successful as a stakeholder piece. Thanks to JW for initially suggesting.

## Policy Issues

**Noted:** The Knowledge Networks are continuing to run well and other organisations have shown interest in the North/South model.

## Research

**Noted:** Two research projects (*'The microbiological status of household dishcloths and associated consumer hygiene practices on the island of Ireland'* and *'An investigation into the use of MSG in ethnic food catering industry and meat speciation survey at retail level'*) have now come to completion, the outcomes are being considered.

## Campaigns

**Noted:** The 'Stop the Spread' phase 3 advertising will run in January.

**Noted:** **safefood** will sponsor the Tv programme 'Operation Transformation' in early 2012. The programme will air from 4th January for eight weeks and will show **safefood** 'stings' pre and post programme. There will be a focus on diabetes in this series with events taking place in nine shopping centres around the country offering an indication of blood sugar levels. **safefood** will be present to offer waist measurements, this will take place on the 19<sup>th</sup> January.

## Events

**Noted:** **safefood** sponsored the Northern Ireland Food and Drinks Association Dinner, where enthusiasm was shown for the development of the agri-food sector.

**Noted:** **safefood** hosted a seminar to share the research findings from **safefood** funded research on food safety behaviour. The event was well attended by a wide range of professionals. It proved to be successful in launching these research projects and their outcomes collectively.

**Noted:** The Community Food Initiatives (CFI's) are due for renewal in 2012 and decisions will be made during 2012.

## 4. TOUR DE TABLE

**Noted:** JW inquired about the fareshare project. **safefood** funded 50 per cent of the first year. The project is still running and was officially launched in Stormont in November. The project has a depot in Belfast.

**Noted:** The Chair thanked all board members for their hardwork. He also thanked **safefood** staff for the skills and expertise they have put into their work.

**Noted:** The Chair congratulated LNB on her appointment to Chair for the next term of the Advisory Board.

**Noted:** CT and JW were re-appointed as Board members and KB will continue to Chair the **safe food** Advisory Committee.

**Noted:** The CEO thanked the Board for the enthusiasm they have shown to **safe food**'s work and apologised to southern members on the mis-communication on re-appointment to the board.

## **5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There been no other business the meeting closed.

**Date of next meeting:** Friday, 27 January, in Dublin, time TBC.