

The Hon. Greg Hunt MP
Minister for Health and Ageing
Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Professor Anne Kelso AO
Chief Executive Officer
National Health and Medical Research Council
GPO Box 1421 CANBERRA ACT 2601

21 September 2021

Dear Minister and Professor,

PUBLIC HEALTH AND CONSUMER GROUPS WELCOME THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE AUSTRALIAN DIETARY GUIDELINES EXPERT COMMITTEE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

As public health and consumer representatives, we write to welcome the appointment of the Australian Dietary Guidelines Expert Committee and Governance Committee under the National Health and Medical Research Council.

Ensuring the Guidelines reflect the best and most up to date scientific evidence is critical to them remaining a trusted resource for all Australians and supporting the health of our nation.

We are pleased to see the Expert Committee, chaired by Professor Sarah McNaughton, is made up of health professionals with multidisciplinary skills and expertise. We specifically commend the processes followed to ensure this committee is free from actual or perceived conflicts of interest.

In addition, we welcome the announcement of the Governance Committee, chaired by Professor Lisa Bero, to advise and develop management strategies for conflicts of interest that may arise during the review of the Guidelines.

This increased attention to good governance in the development of food policy, including the commitment to publish communications related to the review of the Guidelines, is not only crucial to the development of evidence-based guidelines, but will support ongoing public trust in the outcomes of the review.

We look forward to supporting this important review and working closely with the Department of Health and the National Health and Medical Research Council to promote the health of all Australians.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Rosemary Stanton OAM
Independent Public Health
Nutritionist



The Food Governance Node
at the University of Sydney's
Charles Perkins Centre

AUSTRALIAN CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION ALLIANCE

