



**Paper for discussion: Draft scope for review of complementary and young child feeding.**

**Agenda Item: 4**

Please see paper attached.

## **Review of complementary and young child feeding**

### **Background**

1. At the Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition (SACN) Horizon Scanning meeting held in October 2009, the SACN Subgroup on Maternal and Child Nutrition (SMCN) proposed to undertake a review of the scientific evidence underpinning United Kingdom infant and young child feeding policy. This is largely because there has not been a thorough risk assessment of such evidence in the UK since the Committee on Medical Aspects of Food Policy (COMA) published its report 'Weaning and the weaning diet' in 1994. SACN members agreed that this work is a high priority and should form part of SACN's work programme over the next few years. SMCN was asked to consider the terms of reference and scope for the review and report back to SACN.

### **Scope**

2. The potential scope of this work is outlined in Table 1, for discussion. The Secretariat would like some initial guidance on the scope of the work, to allow terms of reference to be written.
3. It is proposed that the review covers healthy, full-term infants and young children. The review will also be able to draw upon data on dietary patterns, nutrient intakes and nutrition status from the Government funded Infant Feeding Survey 2010 and the Diet and Nutrition Survey of Infants and Young Children (covering dietary intake in infants aged 4 months to 1½ years and due to publish in 2012).
4. The potential topics and outcomes that could be covered in the review are highlighted in Table 1.
5. The Subgroup are asked to discuss the required scope of the review on complementary and young child feeding, and to answer the following questions:
  - **Does the Subgroup agree that the review should be restricted to healthy full term infants?**
  - **Does the Subgroup agree with the proposed age range to be covered (0-5 years)?**
  - **Are there specific areas where it is important for the evidence to be reviewed systematically?**

**Table 1: Potential topics and outcomes to be covered by the review**

<b>Lifestage</b>	<b>Relevant topics</b>
0-6 Months	Breastmilk Infant formula Soya-based formula Partially hydrolysed infant formulae Age of introduction of allergenic foods Age of introduction of solids (including developmental readiness) First foods
6-12 Months	First foods Pace of diversification of diet Infant formula and follow-on formula Other types of formula including soya-based, partially hydrolysed and other formulae. Other milks (soya, goat's, sheep's) Drinks (generally including fruit juice & soft drinks) Age of introduction of cow's milk as a drink Age of introduction of reduced fat cow's milk as a drink Use of bottles/cups
1-2 years	Food-based guidelines Nutrient intakes Drinks (generally including fruit juice & soft drinks, and formulae designed for other children) Age of introduction of cow's milk as a drink Age of introduction of reduced fat cow's milk as a drink Other milks (soya, goat's sheep's) Use of bottles/cups for drinks (from a dental health perspective)
2-5 years	Food-based guidelines Nutrient intakes Drinks (generally including fruit juice & soft drinks) Age of introduction of reduced fat cow's milk as a drink Other milks (soya, goat's sheep's)
<b>Relevant outcomes</b>	
Growth and development Weight gain and body composition Appetite and regulation of food intake Dietary habits in later life. Digestion and absorption Nutritional adequacy (meeting dietary reference values) Infections Allergy Autoimmune diseases (type 1 diabetes mellitus and coeliac disease) Obesity Type 2 diabetes mellitus Dental health Cardiovascular disease outcomes Emotional wellbeing	

