

**MINUTES OF THE UKCPI COUNCIL**

**09.00am, Wednesday 26 May 2021**

 **By Zoom conference call**

Mr T Appleton Procter & Gamble UK & Ireland

Ms A Barker SC Johnson

Ms C Berto Henkel UK

Mr C Beevor Unilever UK

Mr N Bolton Procter & Gamble UK & Ireland

Mr M Cunningham PZ Cussons

Mr I Croft Robert McBride

Ms R Eckley Unilever UK

Mr G Edwards ACDOPRO

Mr R Furse (Chair) RB

Mr G Horne Astonish

Mr R Keeling AirPure

Mr K Kotsanopoulos Diversey

Ms A McClafferty Unilever UK

Mr P Malpass (Sec) UKCPI

Mr B Maxwell Dri Pak

Mr P Woodhead Selden Research

**Apologies:**

Mr D Butterfield Ecolab

**1. Guest presenter:** Bronwen Capanna, Executive Direct, ACCORD, The Australasia association for hygiene, cosmetics and speciality products.

**Presentation attached.**

**2. Welcome**

Mr Furse opened the meeting and made the following statement:-

*“At all UKCPI Council meetings including this one, UKCPI and UKCPI members shall adhere to UKCPI’s competition law policy and shall not share, directly or indirectly, commercially sensitive information including but not limited to pricing, terms and conditions of supply, business planning or marketing plans. Should the meeting discuss matters that fall outside of UKCPI's legal remit or contravene that policy; the Chairman will close the meeting.”*

**3. Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes from the meeting held on 24 Feb 2021 were agreed.

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**4. Matters and actions arising**

PM reported that the new membership relationship for UKCPI with AISE will be formally accepted at the upcoming AISE GA in June. Both UKCPI Council, AISE Board and AISE National Association Committee (NAC) have agreed to full rights and access retained for 50% reduction in fees reviewed in 2 years.

PM also reported that he had received a nominee for vice chair from Ian Croft, other interested nominees should make it known by the Sept Council with the Nov AGM being the point of election.

All other actions are either complete or covered by today’s agenda.

**5. Extended Producer Responsibility**

RF opened the discussion reiterating the new role of obligated producers or ‘brand’ owners, the large increase in cost falling on obligated producers and the need to respond to the consultation to ensure sufficient responses on the key questions.

PM described the draft answers circ twice now to members to help navigate through the long consultation platform and that these responses would be what UKCPI would be submitting.

NB reported that the INCPEN position now favoured the Scheme Administration as described as Option under Question 74.

PM asked that all members confirm they are happy with this choice so that UKCPI could also follow this in their response.

**Action:** Council to confirm preference for the answer to Q74 and to ensure as many responses as possible to the consultation by the deadline of 4 June 2021.

**6. Clearcast review**

PM reported that he has confirmation that the last set of comments on the Clearcast guidance for the Advertising and Promotion of Consumer Products making anti-microbial claims will be available by 11 June.

He will then be in a position to review input and make recommendations with the working group on this topic.

**7. UK Govt Clean Air Strategy**

PM introduced the paper circ as pre reads and reported on a recent presentation by Ricardo to BAMA, also attached in the pre read.

Whilst it was consistent with our position that cleaning products are a modest contributor to the overall VOC load it highlighted that this contribution has been flat for some years whilst other sectors had reduced their contribution/emissions.

PM also highlighted that the Defra air quality team was advised by Prof Alistair Lewis, of York University and the author of a recent paper on indoor air quality citing cleaning products.

PM suggested that our current strategy to have an industry self regulatory scheme should remain but it needed to be ‘tested’ by companies that it would be implemented if required. He reminded Council that the purpose of an industry scheme is to provide Defra with an alternative to their proposals to have VOC content on pack including traffic light icons.

PM said he was unsure if company product/ingredient disclosure web pages could accommodate VOC content by % bands given it would be a new level of detail/disclosure and some websites serve different geographies.

**Action:** Council members to report back if their brand/ingredient web pages would support VOC disclosure by band.

**8. November Council / AGM / annual dinner**

RF raised the November set of meetings that may pose a challenge depending on COVID restrictions / company policy / guest confidence.

Social distancing would not be possible in the current dining room in Westminster Palace, the reception would also be a challenge and a bigger room would be required for the Council meeting and AGM usually held in One Great George Street.

Both venues are still closed for functions.

PM stated that the Sept Council would be the last window to decide with the benefit of clarity based on company policy, venue criteria and general confidence for members and guests to attend a London venue.

**9. Advocacy, Regulatory and Communications committee (ARC)**

PW summarised the last meeting (minutes in pre reads) highlighting the work done on identifying future regulatory change following EU exit, the lobbying approach in relation to up coming ATP’s and the need to understand UK Gov view on Det Regs, fragrance allergen labelling as well as Ecolabel.

PM responded that these were all been followed up as per ARC actions.

**AOB**

NB asked what others think about UKCPIs readiness in a post-Brexit world. Does it have the resources, funding, structure, support, technical expertise, external network etc.

PW thought that the future regulatory change document managed by the ARC enabled points of divergence to be identified.

He also though UKCPI should consider funding research projects to help with its advocacy on

RF thought we had good and trusted relationships with relevant officials in UK Gov dept and that the newly formed APPG gave us access to MPs should they be required to engage.

PM felt that we can manage the current scope of UKCPI regulatory interests and modest pace of change/divergence. Our network with other trade associations helps give us scale on bigger issues like UK Reach.

However, PM stated that he was concerned that should the UK Gov embark upon a large scale review of regulations or introduce major policy initiatives similar to the EU CSS then its ability to respond say to create an impact assessment would be constrained.

TA suggested that the annual release of approx. £70k from 2022 (due to reduced AISE fee) should go into reserves and so be available should we need to staff up / employ consultants.

GH thought it would be useful if UKCPI could fund the production of guidance for example on navigating through the various plastic requirements / regulations.

**Action:**

PM to circ ‘Future Regulatory Change’ document (attached).

GH to scope out nature of guidance required / PM to check availability through other associations (BPF. BRC etc)

**The next Council meeting** will be held by Zoom at 10.30am, Wed 8 Sept 2021