

**MINUTES OF THE UKCPI COUNCIL**

**10.30am, Wednesday 9 Sept 2020**

**By Zoom conference call**

Mr T Appleton Procter & Gamble UK & Ireland

Ms A Barker SC Johnson

Mr C Beevor Unilever UK

Ms C Berto Henkel UK

Ms H Herd Robert McBride

Ms R Eckley Unilever UK

Mr G Edwards ACDOPRO

Mr R Furse (Chair) RB

Mr J Gourbeault RB

Dr G Marsh Procter & Gamble UK & Ireland

Mr P Malpass (Sec) UKCPI

Mr B Maxwell Dri Pak

Mr R Keeling AirPure

Mr G Horne Astonish

Mr K Kotsanopoulos Diversey

Mr P Woodhead Selden Research

Ms A McClafferty Unilever UK

Mr S Stewart UKCPI

**Apologies:**

Mr D Butterfield Ecolab

Mr M Cunningham PZ Cussons

**1. 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.”*

**2. Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes from the meeting held on 3 June 2020 were agreed.

**3. Matters and actions arising**

PM reported that RoSPA was preparing to carry out all remaining launches during COVID by on line means. This would entail recording the launch presentations provided by RoSPA, UKCPI and local child medical expert and using these when arranging distribution of home safety packs. Launches were planned in 3 regions of Cornwall this year and also Sunderland and Northampton in early 2021.

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

**4. COVID and marketing claims guidance/enforcement**

PM reported that following correspondence from UKCPI the COVID resilience team in HSE had produced robust guidance on disinfecting premises and the correct use of disinfectants and technologies such as misting. PM thanked those companies that provided their internal positions on this.

This now provides a basis on which HSE can contact businesses making misleading claims.

However, examples still exist on unsubstantiated protection (30 days) as well as using HSE logos as an endorsement.

**Action:** Given the potential risk to operator health as well as reputation of the PC&H sector members, are encouraged to continue to send examples to PM for forwarding to HSE.

**5. Treasury consultation on plastics tax**

PM reported that the UKCPI response to the consultation built on the INCPEN/RECOUP paper adding in comments received from members. The UKCPI submission has been acknowledged along with 150,000 other responses to this consultation – the largest response in HM Treasury history.

PM reminded Council that should HMT wish to discuss the comments raised by UKCPI such as the risks to packaging integrity as well as content reacting with impurities, then members would need to provide evidence.

CB raised an area that might need an industry position and which related to how consumers would perceive the inclusion of pre consumer recyclate in meeting packaging targets v inclusion of post consumer/kerbside plastic. As this is a ‘reputational risk’ that will exist across many sectors the views of INCPEN and BPF should be sought. The area of how companies make their claim could be a detergent sector initiative or left to companies to manage.

RF reported that the EU was introducing its plastic packaging tax form 1 Jan 2021 at the rate of €800/tonne as part of the EU ERP. The UK may well follow suit.

**Action** As regards recyclate claims CB to share Unilever position with PM

In additionPM to make informal enquiries with BPF and ACA. SS with INCPEN.

**6. UK Gov Clean Air Strategy (CAS)**

PM reported that the internal workgroup met in July and agreed its ToR, a VOC definition, that product disclosure should be on line and VOC content reported in %bands. The actual banding was still to be decided as was scope (car care out but debate over down the drain products).

In addition, members highlighted some flaws in the Ricardo data set used by DEFRA and which currently indicates a total VOC contribution from household cleaning products of some 2.5%. If emission factors are corrected for some large categories this is likely to reduce to between 1 and 2%, strengthening our case for proportionate measures given such a modest contribution.

PM reported that the DEFRA team lead for their air quality group had left with no replacement announced. Contact with CTPA and BAMA indicated little activity this year. Nonetheless PM reminded Council that chapter 6 of the CAS included domestic stoves and wood burning fuels – both of which had been legislated on selective bans earlier this year and that cleaning product VOC were in the same chapter with a recommendation of traffic light labelling and reformulation.

**Action:** PM to maintain the IAQ group to progress the voluntary scheme to a stage that can be discussed with DEFRA.

**7. Clearcast guidance on microbial claims**

PM reported that the internal group had met in July agreed ToR and deliverables. Next step currently pending feedback from members on suggested amendments to the code.

**8. Debrief from ARC 15 July**

Taken as read or topics covered by this agenda. PW highlighted the lack of clarity over how regulatory developments will be implemented and operate in NI. He also highlighted the need to monitor occupational risk of respiratory illness / breathing difficulties and links to increased use of disinfectants during COVID. John Pickup is monitoring the scientific press for related studies.

PW also reported that he is now the UKCPI representative on the Food and Biocide Industry Group (FBIG) of the Chilled Food Association.

RF reported as the harmonised classification of ethanol moves forward and the consultation at EU level may be different to that in the UK post Jan 2021 and could be an early example of divergence.

**9. EU Exit**

PM reported that UKCPI have update sessions on an almost weekly basis with chemical teams from DEFRA, BEIS, HSE and DIT. They rarely provided any news not already in the media but they did provide an insight into likely outcomes and what they are being asked to prepare for. The recent update to UK Reach extending deadlines is cited by them as listening to industry. Further guidance is expected by the end of Sept on a raft of chemical regulations however, industry is being advised to prepare for a ‘no deal’ and that ‘NI will be a user journey of its own’.

The UKCPI regional meeting by zoom on 28 October will have representatives from these chemical’s teams participating.

Council discussed the difficulties in preparing for Jan 2021 with uncertainty still prevailing over NI. It was agreed that this was because of the political nature of that situation which meant that clarity will not be forthcoming until political agreement has been achieved.

Nonetheless it would be helpful if UKCPI could identify the officials responsible for chemicals regulations from Jan 2021 in NI as relates to UKSI’s as well as officials in Eire so that speedy guidance could be sought.

**Action** PM to ask the question of UK HSE (re NI/GB) and ICDA re NI/Eire

**10. UKCPI future relationship with AISE**

PM summarised the paper previously circulated and its purpose to seek the grounds on which to restart talks with AISE about our future relationship. He reminded Council that a new relationship would need to be agreed in advance of the AISE GA in June 2021 and would take effect from Jan 2022.

The following points were agreed to be included in these discussions

* A one time fits all decision is to be avoided ie a review step should be included
* We are committed to maintaining a healthy relationship with AISE but clearly membership value has shifted
* We expect a membership relationship that recognises and reflects the level to which the AISE workplan provides benefit to UKCPI members
* AISE should provide detail on the level of service UKCPI could expect to justify membership fees above that of extraordinary / non EU category

Council agreed that PM should aim to agree a membership relationship based on the above and at least on the basis agreed with Council in Sept 2019 (full rights, 50% fees and review after a further 12 months).

**Action** PM to report back on discussions with AISE.

Multinationals with AISE Board members to seek support for UKCPI position**.**

**11. Outreach to international trade associations**

PM summarised the paper previously circulated seeking agreement to the proposal that UKCPI start to build relationships with detergent trade associations outside of the EU in order to facilitate UK CPI member enquiries re trade outside of the EU.

The proposal was agreed in principle if no extra resources required. PM reiterated that it would simply mean participating in each other’s key meetings by online means.

**Action** Council members to feedback countries to prioritise relationship building.

**AOB**

PW raised PHE disinfectant guidance and its use of substance descriptors (such as the word bleach) rather than referencing products that met performance / efficacy standards.

PM asked for the documents in question to review.

**The next Council meeting** will be held at 10.30am, Wed 25 November 2020 followed by the AGM

***All 2020 dates***

**Council – By Zoom**

26 February

3 June

9 September

25 November Council and AGM

**Advocacy & Regulatory Committee – by Zoom**

29 January

29 April

15 July

28 October attached to regional meeting