

NEWSLETTER



NEW LACA LOGO

As you will see from the newsletter header we are now using the new LACA logo as below.



and this is the one for our Partner members:-



NEW PRESS OFFICE DETAILS

For all LACA media enquiries going forward, please contact Andrew Pakes at Tetra Strategy.

Email: laca@tetra-strategy.co.uk

Tel: 0207 881 7782

ADVANCED DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!

FRIDAY 7TH MARCH 2014

**Members Forum
at the Chesford Grange Hotel,
Kenilworth**

10.30 Coffee

11.00 FAME – Food additives & Labelling – is your organisation ready for the new legislation?

11.45 Universal Free School Meals - are you prepared for this?

12.30 Myles Bremner from the School Food Plan

13.15 Lunch

13.45 LACA Members Forum

15.00 Close & Depart



An update from Myles Bremner:-

1. Communicating the School Food Plan within the 'sector'

Lots of conferences and talking slots over the last few weeks and good to see many of the Expert Panel at them. Some of the highlights include:

- The Westminster Forum on Food and Nutrition hosted a

day on school food, chaired by Sharon Hodgson and Zac Goldsmith. Lots of EP members present (and presenting). There is a transcript available (but with a password!) so get in touch if you would like a copy.

- All Party Parliamentary Group on School Food – we were introduced to Professor Don Bundy, an international guru on School Food. Next meeting on January 21st will see OFSTED presenting on their school food guidance changes
- Food for Life Partnership Conference – Professor Kevin Fenton, Director of Health and Wellbeing at Public Health England, publicly supporting the School Food Plan, the power and opportunity for local Health and Wellbeing Boards to fund work in schools, and about how Change 4 Life can help the School Food Plan (see below!)
- Talking at various LACA Regional meetings, Partner meetings
- See my weekly diary for more info on my meetings etc – it's on the School Food Plan website

2. Communicating the School Food Plan to Schools and Head teachers

Chris Brockhurst and I had a great meeting with the National College for Teaching and Learning last week (incidentally at a primary school which is in a FFLP Health and Wellbeing Board commissioned school where



Sarah Ray the NCTL contact is Chair of Governors). We made great progress on creating new resources about school food for relevant modules in their leadership and head teacher programmes. Chris and I also met with the Vice Chancellor of The University of Winchester yesterday to discuss doing the same for teacher training, especially for new primary school teachers.

The School Food Plan will be discussed at the Academies Show next month (where we will also be signing up Academies to the Standards).

Public Health England are including the School Food Plan in their Autumn round of Roadshows, reaching out to schools and local authorities, though we are planning dedicated Roadshows for next Spring. And very excitingly, Change 4 Life are planning their next schools engagement around what schools can do to make their school food culture better – planning to distribute the Headteachers Checklist to all primary schools in January.

We have secured funding to develop our 'What Works Well' part of the School Food Plan website and so we will be in touch soon separately about this – we want to get this up and running by next spring.

3. Infant Universal Free School Meals

Henry and I are meeting David Laws the Schools Minister again this week. We will be discussing progress on DfE plans for implementing infant universal free school meals. We continue to work with the DfE team, feeding back comment from members of the Expert Panel and others we meet and talk to. Of course, funding mechanisms (both for establishing the 'price of meals and for investment) are hot topics, as are evaluation and monitoring and how to best communicate out to schools and head teachers. We will continue to update you on this.

DfE are setting up a Reference Group which we hope will include many current Expert Panel members. More information on this soon.

4. OC&C Research

The research and evidence base compiled by OC&C (using so much data and evidence provided through the Expert Panel) has now been published on the SFP website. You can find it in the 'News' section on the SFP website: www.schoolfoodplan.com/news and in the 'Evidence Base' section on the 'Library' page.

5. Revised Food Based Standards

The Standards Panel signed off the final draft of the revised food based standards and these have now gone to schools for testing the week after half term. We have already recruited over 25 schools (against our target of 15) and are on track to have 20 caterers in the trial. A big thank you to those of you who have helped the Standards Panel reach out to schools and caterers for our testing.

6. Take-up and Breakfast Club funding

The Department of Education will be announcing the new timetable for this as soon as some key decisions have been taken on infant universal free school meals. Again, we will let you know as soon this is published.



7. Flagships

Provisional information from the briefing event held at the GLA a few weeks ago is now available

at <http://www.schoolfoodplan.com/lo-ndon-boroughs-attend-flagships-briefing-event/>

We are working hard with many teams at the GLA to get the application process finalised and launched, and it is exciting to have lots of promising partnerships in the pipeline.

8. Small Schools Taskforce

I am delighted to announce that Brad Pearce, Education Catering Manager at Plymouth City Council has been seconded to be the Project Manager for the Small Schools Taskforce and started on 1st November. I am sure Brad will be in touch with many of you in the months ahead. North Devon has been chosen as the pilot area for the Taskforce but, importantly, Brad and the Taskforce will want to look at many different examples of how small schools are able to deliver great school food in a financially sustainable way. Please do get in touch in Brad (he will be on brad@schoolfoodplan.com very soon).