

# **The Investor Coalition on Food Policy – Terms of reference**

## **Contents**

- A. Purpose and focus areas for 2023
- B. Governance structure
  - a. Secretariat
  - b. Advisory Board
  - c. Working Groups
  - d. Supporting NGOs and other stakeholders
  - e. Proposed meeting schedule
- C. Focus of the secretariat for Q4 2022 and Q1 2023

### **A. Purpose and focus areas for 2023**

**Overall purpose:** The Investor Coalition on Food Policy exists to harness the power of the investment community to engage with Government on food-related issues (starting with a focus on the UK). The scope of the coalition is regulation which is required to support the creation of a healthy, sustainable and affordable food system.

#### **Overarching goals:**

- To test the value of investors engaging policymakers on food policy.
- To test the value of investors working collaboratively across the thematic areas of health, sustainability and affordability in the context of engagement with policymakers and broader corporate engagement, starting with a focus on the UK.

#### **Focus areas for 2023:**

- Actively participate in the Food Data Transparency Partnership to push for mandatory reporting of health and sustainability metrics by large food sector companies. Mandatory reporting should include a wide set of sales-based metrics including food and drink high in fat, sugar or salt (HFSS), sales of fruit and vegetables, and sales of protein by type.
- Effectively use the coalition's voice to engage with relevant officials and Ministers in response to any roll-back in the UK Government's obesity strategy which is announced. This may include reiterating the case for mandatory reporting to key individuals, alongside a response to broader measures.
- Test the structure and ways of working for the coalition and grow the coalition.

#### **Working groups (initial, new working groups may be established over time):**

- (1) Mandatory reporting
  - a. Involvement in the Food Data Transparency Partnership's Expert Users Group
  - b. Coordinating an investor response to any scaling back of the Government's 2020 obesity strategy
- (2) Articulating risk and opportunity
  - a. This working group will be focused on better articulating the direct and systemic risks to investors from the current food and opportunities
  - b. The output might be an investor expectations guide to be used in engagement

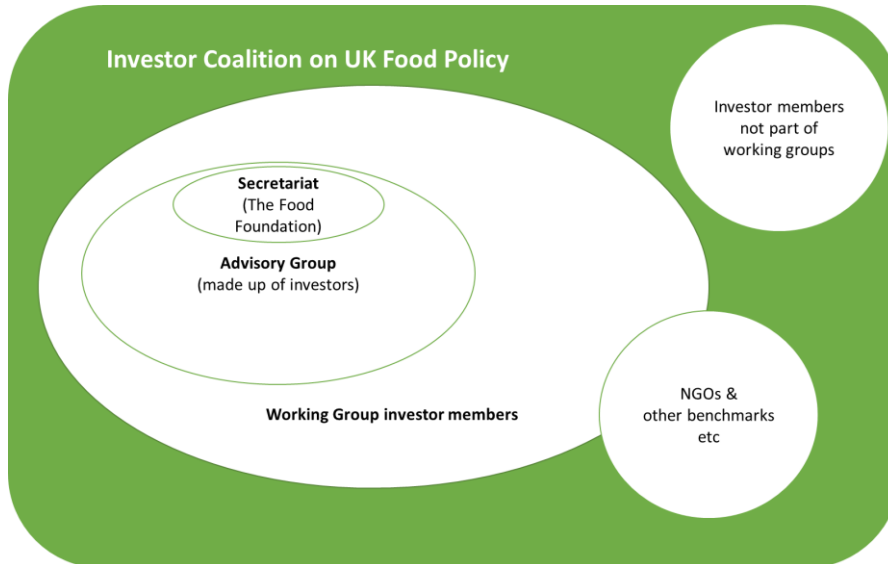
If it is decided that the focus should shift beyond the UK context, the Food Foundation and the Advisory Group will work to identify appropriate global partners to support this development.

## **B. Governance structure**

The coalition is convened and resourced by the Food Foundation as the secretariat and overseen by an advisory group of core investors.

The advisory group would then be supported by the broader coalition of investors and NGOs who may be playing a role in some of the underlying working groups.

Advisory group members can also be involved in the underlying working groups.



### **a. Secretariat**

The Food Foundation will act as secretariat for the coalition. This will involve the administrative responsibility of the coalition, organising the meetings for the coalition, supporting the advisory group in liaising with Government departments, reporting to the coalition's current funders, and producing various content and reports such as The Food Foundation's investor briefings on food system issues. The secretariat will also look for opportunities to collaborate with / coordinate across different investor coalitions working on similar topics. The coalition secretariat will produce an annual report which will report on progress and lessons learned to funders and the wider coalition.

The Food Foundation team will be as follows:

- A dedicated investor engagement lead to be the main contact for the secretariat (currently recruiting for this role). In the coming months this role will be filled by Indu and Alice, with support from their line manager Rebecca Tobi.
- Administration, data and collaborations: Indu Gurung and Alice English, who both work in our wider business and investor engagement team.
- Policy engagement lead: Isabel Hughes.
- Communications lead: Lois Rogers.

### **b. Advisory Board**

The role of the advisory group is to set the strategic direction and monitor the progress of the initiative. The advisory committee will meet on a quarterly basis (in person a minimum of once a year, with the remainder held online), to be scheduled by the secretariat. We will rotate the role of chair each meeting. They will coordinate with Secretariat ahead of each meeting to discuss agenda.

The initial advisory group is limited to three organisations: Rathbone Greenbank Investments, Legal & General Investment Management and Guy's & St Thomas' Foundation. The secretariat will join the

advisory group meetings to assist with plans for investor engagement and broader organisational work for the coalition.

#### **c. Working groups**

Each working group will meet approximately once a quarter depending on the specific activities the group is working on. Each working group will nominate a chair to lead the working group meetings.

#### **d. Supporting NGOs and other stakeholders**

We would like to maintain our collaboration with a wider set of NGOs and other coalitions working on related issues. One mechanism for doing this would be via the bi-annual healthy and sustainable food system strategy round tables convened by Guy's and St Thomas' Foundation and the Food Foundation. This coalition will play an active role in coordinating different initiatives that are going to drive healthy, sustainable and affordable food systems.

#### **e. Proposed meeting schedule**

The secretariat will organise advisory group meetings, to be held online, once a quarter, with a review in early 2023 to decide whether the schedule is appropriate. The advisory group meetings will be kept to one hour and focused on the core strategy for the coalition (for example the current focus on the investor role in the FDTP) as well as any reactive opportunities for investor engagement with the government.

We also propose that we convene the full investor coalition once a year, if possible, in person to build relationships, and once a year online. This will include an annual meeting to review impact, progress and strategic direction.

### **C. Main focus of the secretariat for Q4 2022 and Q1 2023**

The secretariat will focus on the following tasks in the next few months:

- Communicating the structure and procedures of the coalition with the members and agreeing official "sign off" from those who signed the original letter to the UK government.
- Coordinating a letter from the coalition to new Ministers, to remind them of the coalition's existence and support for FDTP (subject to what happens in Government in the next couple of months).
- Delivering a web page for the coalition on The Food Foundation website, to be developed over time so that investor policy asks, letters and statements, briefings and links to initiatives are readily available for the coalition. This content will be publicly available and not behind a log in or membership access.
- Convening the first 3 advisory group meetings.
- Working with the advisory group to progress the work with DEFRA / DHSC on the FDTP and the coalition's role in that and ensure the coalition can respond to any potential roll-back in Government policy.
- Working with the advisory group on any reactive opportunities that arise alongside the FDTP work.
- On-boarding a dedicated Food Foundation resource to lead the secretariat role as an internal investor engagement lead.
- Preparing investor briefings and research to support the work of the coalition.