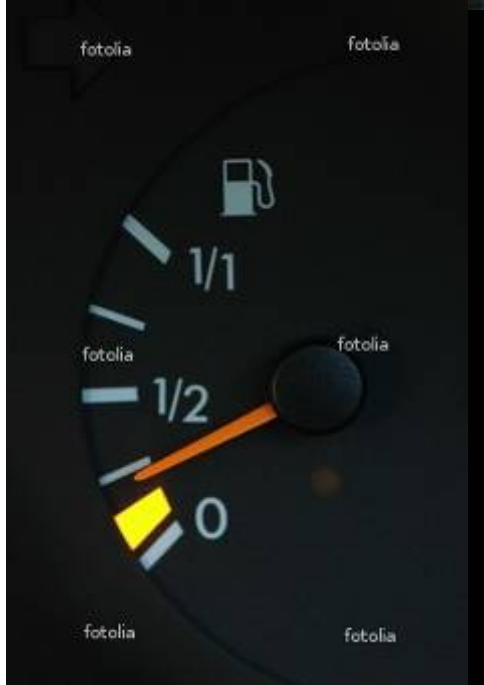


The Food and Drink Industry and the UK Economy

Melanie Leech
Director General
Food and Drink Federation

Food is High on the Political Agenda

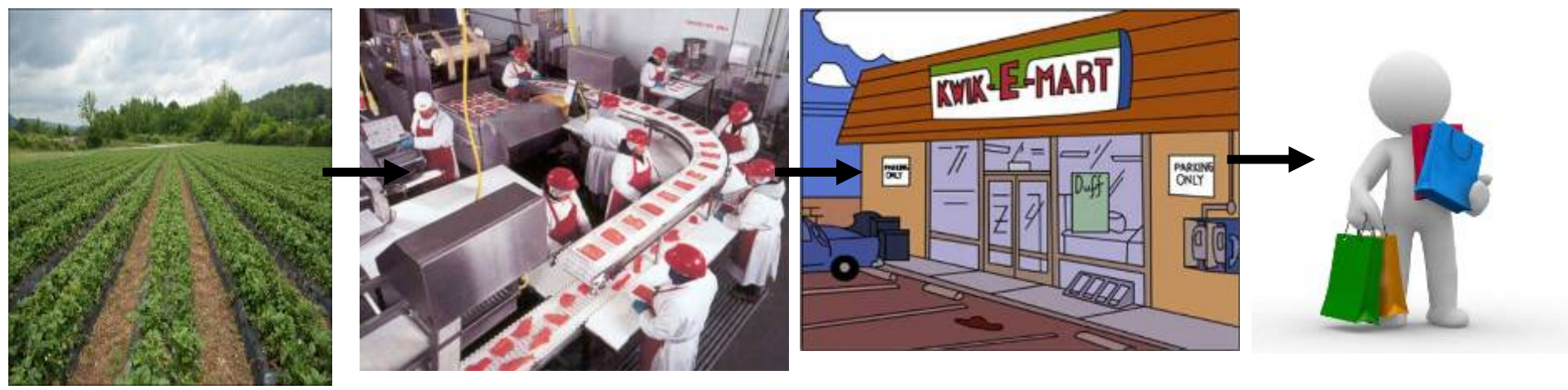


The Food Chain Matters Again....

“I am proud of Britain’s food sector...”

“Working together, we can make Britain a world leader in food policy and production...”

Rt Hon Gordon Brown MP, Food 2030



The UK food and drink industry...

- Represents 15% of the UK's total manufacturing sector
- Is the fourth largest food and drink manufacturing industry in the world
- An important trading partner with Europe....
- and a key partner for UK farmers
- Consists of around 6,500 companies: the majority being SMEs or micro-enterprises
- Generates £72.8bn of turnover
- Creates Gross Value Added of £21.8bn pa

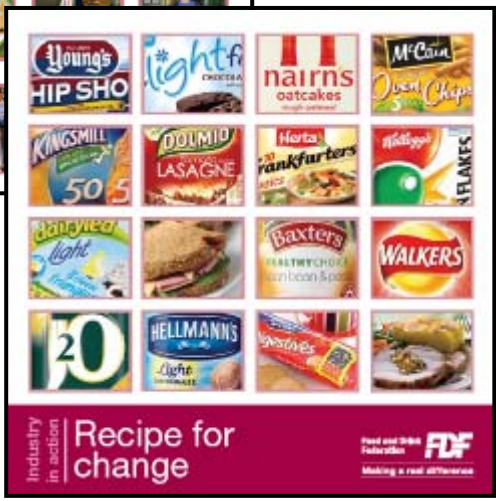


The UK food and drink industry...

- Directly employs about 440,000 people and accounts for 1.2m more jobs in the food chain
- Is a high value manufacturing sector with world class capabilities in production, logistics, sales and marketing, innovation
- Is highly innovative – spending £350m on R&D and launching 8000 new products each year



FDF: Making a Real Difference



We are delivering on health...

Reformulation: £15bn

Extending choice: £11.5bn

Salt reduction: 8,000 tonnes

Trans fats: Just 1% of energy

Functional foods: £1.7bn market

We are delivering on the environment...

- Reduction of 19% in CO2 emissions by 2008
- In 2008 total amount of water used by Federation House signatories reduced by more than 476,000 cubic metres
- July 2008 waste survey: over 500,000 tonnes of waste prevented in 2006; 82% of waste recycled or recovered at 236 sites
- 47 companies turning over £17bn have signed up to our Checklist and Clause for greener transport

Please, Minister....



Success must be built on a strategic framework set by Government that..

- Creates a vision for food production
- Supports a British success story – the food industry
- Backs us in going green
- Cuts the red tape
- Protects innovation

And that.....

- Allows the UK to exploit its comparative advantages
- Ensures a level playing field for UK businesses
- Incentivises individuals to change their behaviour



Thank you.....

