

PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA & DIETITIANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA JOINT MEDIA RELEASE



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LEADING HEALTH ORGANISATIONS OUTLINE VISION FOR A NATIONAL FOOD AND NUTRITION POLICY

The Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA) and the Dietitians Association of Australia (DAA) are today launching a report that outlines a clear vision for a new national food and nutrition policy in Australia.

According to the leading health bodies, a comprehensive, broad-based food and nutrition policy is needed to address the range of issues that affect the health and well-being of Australians.

“PHAA and DAA recently brought together more than 30 stakeholders from the food, nutrition and health sectors to start talking about this issue – which is a key strategic priority for both organisations,” said Michael Moore, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the PHAA.

The group developed the principles and vision outlined in the *Towards a National Food and Nutrition Policy* report.

“The vision for a new national food and nutrition policy should be to ensure a nutritious, secure and sustainable food supply for Australia’s health, wellbeing and prosperity,” said Claire Hewat, CEO of DAA.

“The policy framework outlines key outcomes relating to health, the food supply, the community, the environment and the food industry. An effective food and nutrition policy needs ‘buy-in’ from all the key players – including the community and the government, non-government and industry sectors – to make sure these goals can be achieved,” said Mr Moore.

“We all know that developing a policy in itself will not guarantee the outcomes outlined in the report. To change drink driving practices over time we’ve needed political will, community education and awareness, and cooperation from industry groups,” said Mr Moore.

Ms Hewat said DAA wants all Australians to eat better and be healthier – and implementing a new whole of government national food and nutrition policy is a good place to start.

Michael Moore, CEO of the PHAA, and Claire Hewat, CEO of the DAA, will be available from 11am – 12pm today at the Press Boxes in the Press Gallery at Parliament House in Canberra to provide interviews and further comment on the new report.

For further information/comment:

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DAA and PHAA would like to thank Meat and Livestock Australia, Dairy Australia, Sanitarium and the Australian Food and Grocery Council for their sponsorship support of the *Towards a National Food and Nutrition Policy* dialogue event.

The *Towards a National Food and Nutrition Policy* report will be available on the PHAA website at: www.phaa.net.au and the DAA website at: www.daa.asn.au after 11am.