

GFIA – What, Who, Why, How?

Simon Wright, Chair GFIA

FDIN Free From Conference

September 12th 2017

What ?

- GFIA = Gluten Free Industry Association
- Chair – Simon Wright (who he?)
- Membership – Nine companies involved in the manufacture of UK gluten-free products
- Secretariat provided by the FDF (Food & Drink Federation)
- First meeting by phone 24th January 2017
- Quarterly physical meetings

Who ?

- Bells of Lazonby
- BFree
- Delicious Alchemy
- Dr Schar
- Genius
- Mrs Crimbles (Wessanen)
- Nairns
- Northumbrian Fine Food
- Warburtons

NB Closed membership for 1st year only: we anticipate opening up membership to other companies from January 2018

Why?

- Sharing best practice as a technical group
- Single point of contact
- Aim to help reduce number of GF product withdrawals
- Two specific workstreams to begin with

How?

GFIA Workstream One: Testing Methodology

- Sampling Plans
- Consistency and accuracy
- Retailer's attitude towards 'acceptable' levels of gluten in gluten-free products (via BRC)

How?

GFIA Workstream Two: Supply Chain

- Developing a protocol to reduce inadvertent contamination
- Concentrating on cereals and seeds
- Will apply to farms, mills and other stages in supply chain
- End result will encompass recommended ‘best practice’ as a reference document

How?

GFIA is currently talking to

- FDF
- FSA (Withdrawals Working Group)
- BRC (and hence multiples)
- Coeliac UK
- Campden BRI

How?

Developing common position statements on

- Heavy metal contaminants in raw materials , particularly arsenic in rice
- Likely restrictions to be imposed on the NHS prescribing gluten-free foods
- Reported health implications of a gluten-free diet

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Thank You!