

SUSTAINING AUSTRALIA

Monthly Bulletin of the Australian Food and Grocery Council



Welcome

TANYA BARDEN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Thank you for subscribing to the Australian Food and Grocery Council's (AFGC) monthly bulletin. I'm delighted to see the third edition released to a growing number of subscribers who are interested in our industry and the work we do.

This publication gives members, stakeholders and supporters of the food and grocery supply industry updates on the exciting events that have occurred this month.

In this issue, we share some of the insightful conversations our members have been having with members of Parliament in Canberra this month.

Continuing our engagement with Parliament, we will host a dinner and regional dialogue in November to connect our member companies with the relevant members of Parliament to discuss key issues for the industry.

We welcome your feedback on this bulletin and AFGC initiatives, and ideas for future articles.

Tanya





Learn more

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*The latest news in
this month's issue:*

THE FUTURE OF FOOD - 2
DEVELOPING SKILLS - 3
AFGC EVENTS - 4

The future of food

BY MEGAN JEREMENKO, DIRECTOR CORPORATE AFFAIRS

Held annually at Parliament House in Canberra, the AFGC's Industry Leaders Forum (ILF) brings together the AFGC Board and a few CEOs with key decision makers to discuss the future of the food and grocery manufacturing sector and key policy areas. This annual event also allows senior industry representatives an opportunity to better understand government policy direction and discuss evidence-based policy outcomes to address matters for the sector.

This year industry leaders met with:

- Hon Scott Morrison MP, Prime Minister
- Hon Michael McCormack, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development
- Hon Anthony Albanese, Leader of the Opposition
- Hon Michael Sukkar, Assistant Treasurer
- Hon Sussan Ley, Minister for the Environment
- Hon Trevor Evans, Assistant Minister for Waste Reduction and Environmental Management
- Hon Steve Irons, Assistant Minister for Vocational Education, Training and Apprenticeships

Key messages delivered included:

- Loss of competitiveness of domestic manufacturing and the impact of cost pressures including the drought;
- The need for the Review of the Food and Grocery Code of Conduct to be finalised and implemented;
- The need for co-investment grants to support industry to make changes to packaging recyclability and for Government to invest in piloting alternate waste processing technologies, particularly for plastics; and
- The need for evidence based regulation in the preventive health space.

Along with the ILF, the AFGC's Corporate Affairs Committee had a similar program in Parliament House with key Advisers and Shadow Ministers.

Following the ILF, in November the AFGC will host another engagement event at Parliament House which ties into the Sustaining Australia 'We're From Here' campaign. This event is the Regional Dialogues where industry CEOs from member companies, manufacturing in key regions, sit down in a roundtable format with the local MP's to discuss the issues for that region. This may include jobs growth, training and skill retention and the economic contribution to the local economy.

Also in late November, the AFGC will the release of the State of the Industry report. This report is a key document for the year that summarises how the sector is tracking.

In next month's newsletter, we will cover what is in this year's report.



Back Row: Peter West (CCA); Paul van Heerwaarden (Bega Cheese); Stuart Grainger (GWF); Umit Subasi (Campbell Arnott's); Jodie Goldsworthy (Beechworth Honey).

Front Row: Laura McBain (Longtable Group); Doug Cunningham (Kimberly-Clark); Tanya Barden (AFGC CEO); Hon Scott Morrison MP, Prime Minister; Clive Stiff (Unilever and AFGC Chair); Amanda Banfield (Mondeléz and AFGC Deputy Chair); Sandra Martinez (Nestlé).

Developing skills for the industry

BY SAMANTHA BLAKE, DIRECTOR INDUSTRY AFFAIRS

Private Label & Brands Seminar

The Australian Food and Grocery Council and the Private Label Manufacturers Association are pleased to invite members from both organisations to the annual Private Label and Brands Seminar.

As the competitive retail landscape gets tougher, top line growth is seen as imperative. There are lessons for brand and private label ranges both locally and globally, how to win, how to differentiate, how to leverage and build shopper loyalty. The Seminar will explore these issues and many more.

Date: Thursday 28 November 2019

Time: 12.15pm for 12.45pm – 3.45pm

Venue:

Four Points by Sheraton Docklands Melbourne,
443 Docklands Drive, Docklands, Melbourne

You need to register for this event and all members and non-members are welcome.

Visit the AFGC website for further details and to register - www.afgc.org.au.



Round Tables on Growth Revenue Management

On 29 and 30 October, AFGC hosted round table events in Sydney and Melbourne for food and grocery sales executives. These discussions were facilitated by McKinsey & Company and offered senior managers the opportunity to explore some of the challenges of growing revenue in a market that has a small population, vast distances and increasing cost pressures.

Thomas Rüdiger Smith, Associate Partner at McKinsey & Company shared insights and led the discussion on the seven elements required to scale revenue growth across business units and markets.



A key learning from the sessions for all businesses in the food and grocery industry is the importance of having a deep understanding of how their market and consumers behave.

McKinsey
& Company

Upcoming events

BY ALYSSA HANDY, EVENTS MANAGER MEMBER SERVICES

Members are invited to a range of conferences, seminars, workshops and events throughout the year. Some are free or offered at a special member rate. Non-members are also welcome to attend some of our public events and training.

On 27 November AFGC will be holding its Annual General Meeting. Interested members are welcome to attend and full details are available on our website.

From 27-28 November, member company CEO's are invited to join the Sustaining Australia regional dialogues. Members of Parliament are keen to hear about issues relating to the sector and how they can work with companies in their electorates. The sessions will be divided into four key regions, including:

1. Northern Victoria
2. South East Melbourne
3. Western Sydney
4. South East Queensland.

Key insights on the economic contributions in these regions and across Australia will be shared from the AFGC's 2019 State of the Industry Report.

There are several other events being run in November that you may want to pencil in now, including:

- Food and Grocery Code of Conduct breakfast series being held on 13 November in Sydney and 21 November in Melbourne
- SME CEO Forum being held on 21 November in Melbourne
- Private Label Seminar on 28 November in Melbourne.

Visit www.afgc.org.au to see our events calendar.

