‘Sugar advisors have their cake and eat it’ Sunday Times, 19th January 2014
AfN Briefing Note
22nd January 2013

The Association for Nutrition (AfN) confirms three members of the Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition (SACN) carbohydrate working group listed in the Sunday Times article, *Sugar advisors have their cake and eat it*, 19th January 2014, are Registered Nutritionists on the UK Voluntary Register of Nutritionists (UKVRN):

- Prof Ian Macdonald RNutr Hon FAfN, UKVRN registration number 713, was awarded Honorary Fellowship of AfN in August 2012.
- Dr David Mela RNutr, UKVRN registration number 710, is undertaking voluntary work for AfN, contributing to the Institute of Food Science and Technology, May 2014, conference programme.
- Prof Julie Lovegrove RNutr FAfN, UKVRN registration number 698, was awarded AfN Fellowship in December 2013, is chair of AfN Accreditation Committee, an AfN Trustee and member of AfN Council. In these Governance roles Prof Lovegrove has fully declared all business and research interests.

All UKVRN registrants are expected to abide by AfN Standards of Ethics, Conduct and Performance. The following standards are of particular relevance in this instance:

- Standard 2 requires registrants to maintain high standards of scientific integrity.
- Standard 8 requires that registrants are objective, fair, balanced and proportionate in professional statements or recommendations made.
- Standard 15 requires that registrants comply with research ethics guidance.

Our understanding from the Sunday Times article is that all conflicts of interest, real or perceived, relevant to the work of the SACN carbohydrate working group, have been disclosed through the appropriate channels. We can also confirm the Association for Nutrition has received no complaint about conduct of the Registered Nutritionists named above. A breach of standards could lead to consideration via our Fitness to Practise procedures.

For further information please see www.associationfornutrition.org or ring Sarah Manuel on 020 7291 8378.