



Date: 28/6/21

Alexandra Nikolakopoulou
Head of Unit
Farm to Fork Strategy
Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE)
European Commission

via: email

Dear Mrs Nikolakopoulou,

Herein, I am pleased to confirm The Midcounties Co-operative's interest in signing the EU Code of Conduct on Responsible Business and Marketing Practices by putting forward ambitious and tangible sustainability commitments. We are hopeful our intent will be reflected at the 5 July launch event.

We fully endorse the Code's aspirational objectives. Our co-operative identity instils a duty to champion sustainability for the good of our members, consumers and local communities. This drives our philosophy and shapes our operations to delivery our vision of a responsible business.

Below is an overview of the concrete targets which we believe are in the spirit of the Code and which apply to those operations where we have full control:

| Commitment | Sustainability Pillar | Existing / New |
|---|-----------------------|----------------|
| Reduce our GHG emissions by 50% by 2026 | Environmental | Existing |
| Reduce our waste footprint across our operations by a third by 2026 | Environmental | Existing |
| Engage our members, partner schools and our Young Co-operator Network to inspire and educate around climate action through our '1 Change' programme | Social | Existing |

As stipulated by Section 3.2.2 of the Code, we shall submit by 31 December 2021 a brief document containing the rationale and motivation of the above commitments, their quantitative targets and the KPIs / methodology used to track progress. We are currently developing metrics for the third action and will look to communicate these in the future.

Acknowledging the considerable time and resources required in designing ambitious and tangible commitments and considering the Code's fast-paced development, the above listed are existing or such which are currently being developed. As part of our multi-year business strategy, we constantly strive towards higher level of ambition in our sustainability performance and new actions in the future will reflect that.

We believe that the transformation of our food system requires concerted action by the entire value chain, which is why we shall engage in close coordination with our EU-level association Euro Coop to effectively promote the Code, its impact and high sustainability practices.

Attached is our association's logo in high resolution. I look forward to hearing from you.

With co-operative regards,

Phil Ponsonby
Group Chief Executive Officer