

Agreed Title, Aims and Objectives

Title:

- Food: The Use of Genetic Modification – A Public Dialogue

Aim:

- To help ensure that future government and non-governmental policy towards the availability and production of food which involves the use of genetic modification is informed by a thorough understanding of the public's principal concerns and priorities in respect of such food.

Objectives:

- To engage a wide range of stakeholders, decision-makers and members of the public in a dialogue about the use of genetic modification in food production that is both balanced and does not presume any particular outcome or set of conclusions.
- To examine the role that people's values, interests and knowledge, together with their perceptions of risks, benefits and costs, including the conditions of food production, the availability of alternatives and the security of the food supply, play in the formation of people's attitudes towards food involving the use of genetic modification.
- In so doing, to ascertain the considerations which are important in shaping attitudes towards both (i) food involving the use of genetic modification being grown and available for consumption, and (ii) whether or not people would choose to consume such food themselves.
- To determine whether further such dialogue in respect of issues of food supply may be needed in future.