



DOMESTIC FOOD REVIEW

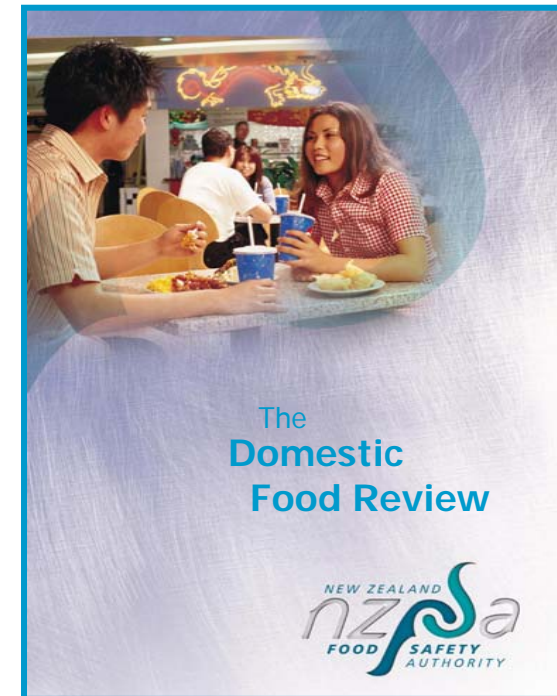


NZFSA VISION

A world-leading food regulatory programme that has the confidence of all stakeholders

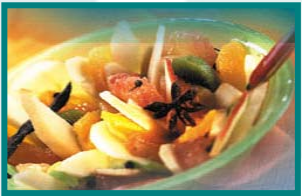
Domestic Food Review

- What the Domestic Food Review is covering and what it is NOT about
- Background to the Review
- Current status of the Review
 - Past papers
 - Submission analysis
 - Current papers
- Next steps



What we are doing

- We are reviewing the New Zealand food system from end to end – and all parts in between



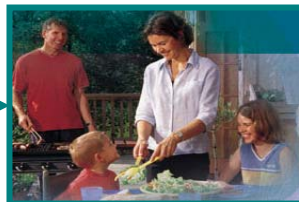
The scope is any food or food related activity



Activities currently covered by law – production, manufacturing, any food for sale, and imported food



Activities currently exempt from the Food Act – catering in hospitals, childcare facilities, schools etc



Activities not covered by law – education, training, consumer responsibilities etc

What we are NOT doing

- We are not banning or proposing to ban BBQs or 'bring a plate' functions or 'fundraisers' or any other 'kiwiana'
- We are reviewing current regulation (BBQs and fundraisers have been covered by the Food Act for 25 years), implementation to date, and considering consistency and appropriateness for the future.
- We are not covering export activities



Background

Government key policies / objectives

- Food borne illness is reduced and consumers are protected
- Trade and commerce in food and food-related products is facilitated
- “Persons” take responsibility for producing safe and suitable food as well as meeting market access requirements
- Regulatory compliance costs and interventions are minimised consistent and adequate regulatory control



Background

Problems with the system: Market place and the home

- High level of food-borne illness
- New bugs (e.g. E-coli and new strains of Salmonella)
- Increased trade in food and new types
- Inadequate training in food hygiene
- Limited education programmes for safe food handling at home
- Ethnic changes in New Zealand



Background

Problems with the system: Government role and the law

- Confusion about when the government is involved
- Difficulty applying current controls across all businesses
- Complexity and lack of practicality of some controls
- Inconsistency in the impact on businesses
- Lack of common understanding of good hygienic practice and other key concepts
- Duplication, overlaps and gaps in laws and consequential costs for 'persons'



Background

Domestic Food Review: Purpose and Scope

- Major, long-term project, likely to run over at least next 5 years
- Purpose – ensure New Zealand has a food programme that applies across the board and will deliver on/promote safe & suitable food
- Scope – cover government involvement in all food safety & suitability aspects of food produced, processed, manufactured, transported, traded or imported to NZ



Current Status

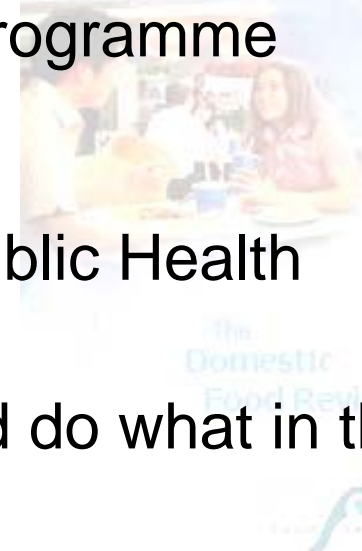
First Five Papers

Paper 1 - Introduction and Context

- Provided context for Review
- Broad principles and concepts/assumptions/givens
e.g. 'Persons' will take responsibility for producing safe and suitable food, consistency, seamless food programme

Paper 2 - Government roles etc

- Currently three groups involved (NZFSA, Public Health Units and Local Government)
- About what it might look like and who should do what in the future



Current Status

Paper 3 - Food Control Plans

- Drew together best elements from across sectors
- Covered basic elements/contents and risk-based elements as well as training, checking and review

Paper 4 - Implementation of Food Control Plans

- Food Control Plan design and development
 - * use of Codes of Practice, templates, models
- Food Control Plan assessment, registration and verification



Food Review



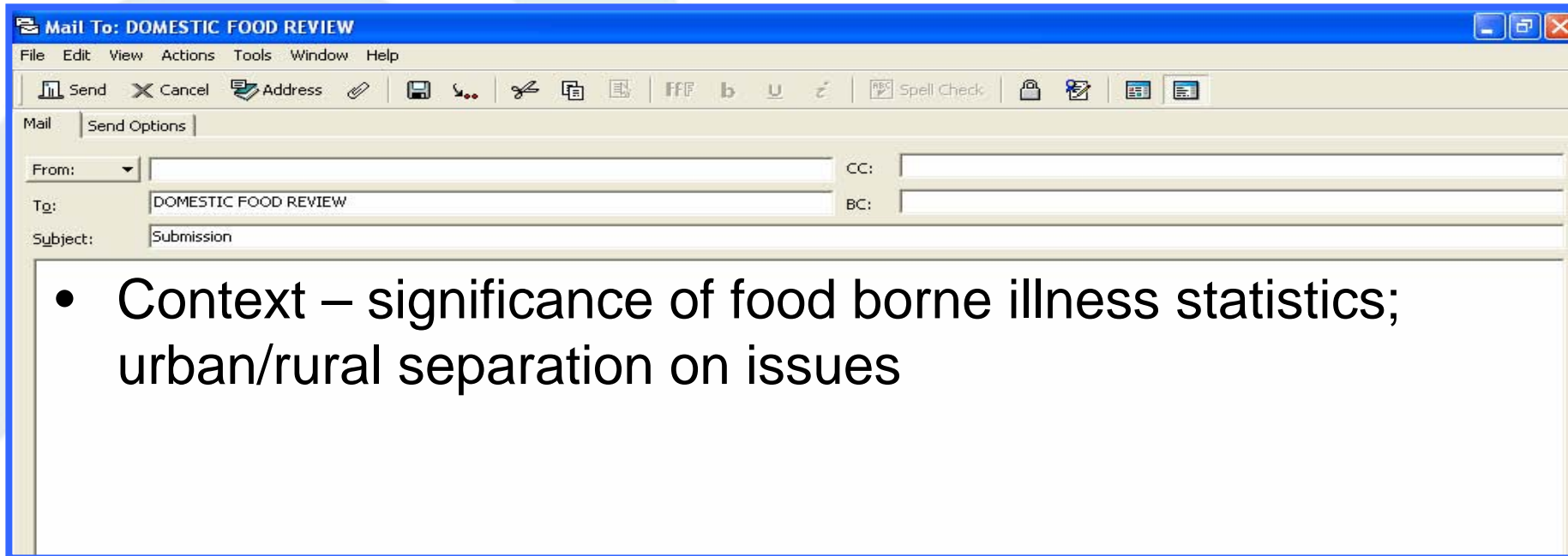
Current Status

Paper 5 - Cost Recovery

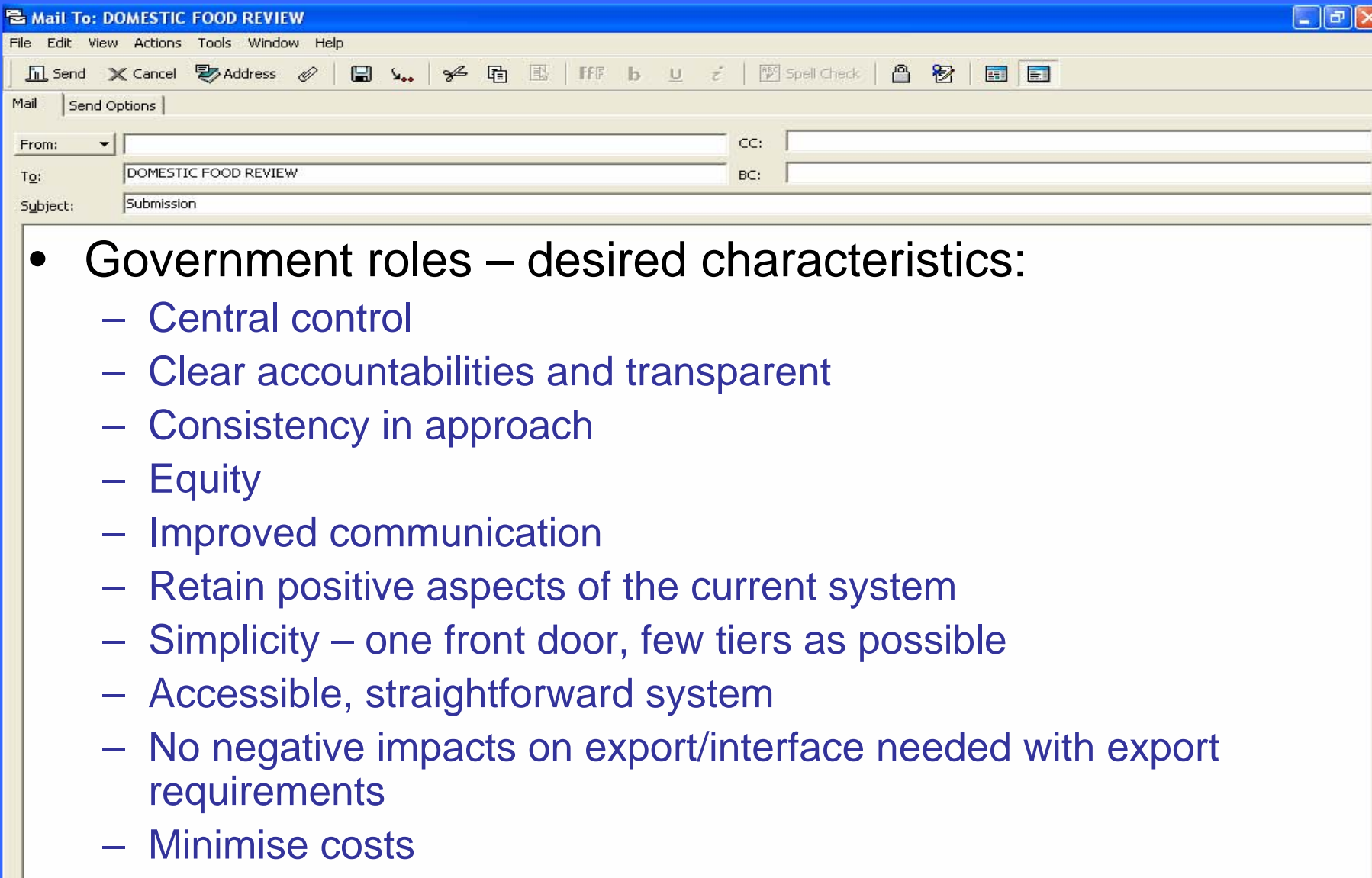
- No numbers – covered principles and reasons for deciding on how central government functions were funded
- Set out elements that should be in law



Key themes from submissions to date



Key themes from submissions to date



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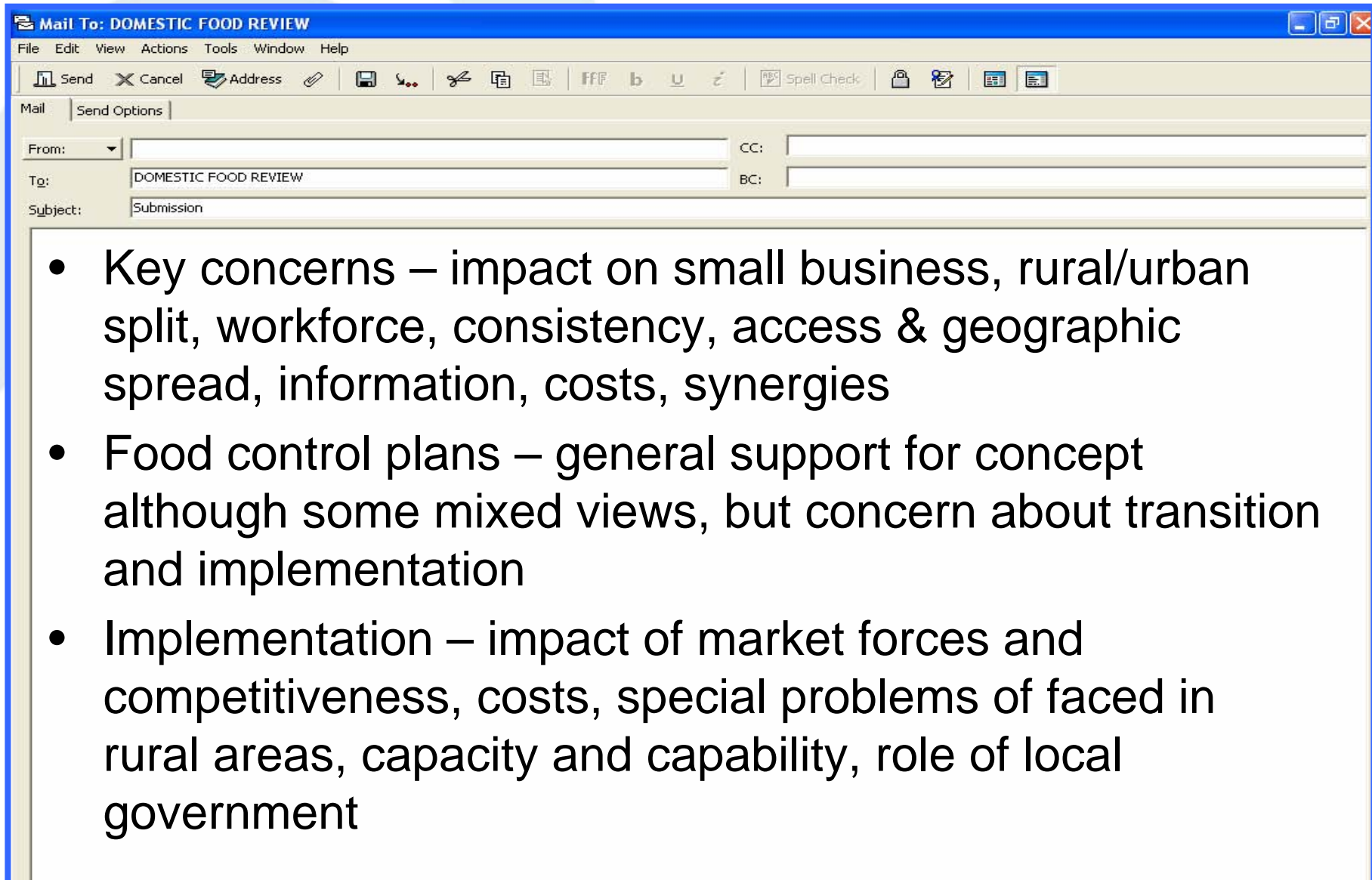
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Subject: Submission

- **Government roles – desired characteristics:**
 - Central control
 - Clear accountabilities and transparent
 - Consistency in approach
 - Equity
 - Improved communication
 - Retain positive aspects of the current system
 - Simplicity – one front door, few tiers as possible
 - Accessible, straightforward system
 - No negative impacts on export/interface needed with export requirements
 - Minimise costs

Key themes from submissions to date



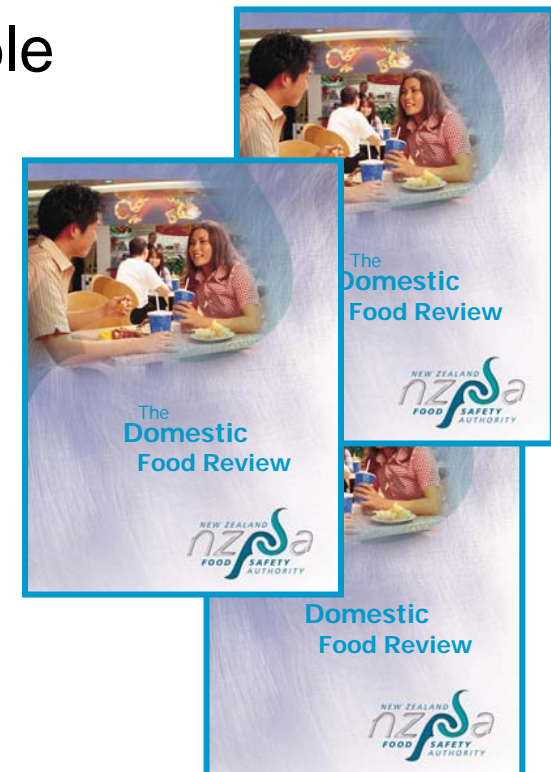
The screenshot shows an email client window with the title bar 'Mail To: DOMESTIC FOOD REVIEW'. The menu bar includes 'File', 'Edit', 'View', 'Actions', 'Tools', 'Window', and 'Help'. The toolbar contains icons for 'Send', 'Cancel', 'Address', 'Address Book', 'Print', 'Copy', 'Paste', 'Bold', 'Italic', 'Underline', 'Text Color', 'Spell Check', 'Lock', 'Unlock', 'Print', and 'Print Preview'. The 'Mail' tab is active, and the 'Send Options' sub-tab is selected. The email fields are: 'From:' (dropdown), 'To:' (DOMESTIC FOOD REVIEW), 'Subject:' (Submission), 'CC:', and 'BC:'. The main content area displays a bulleted list of key themes.

- Key concerns – impact on small business, rural/urban split, workforce, consistency, access & geographic spread, information, costs, synergies
- Food control plans – general support for concept although some mixed views, but concern about transition and implementation
- Implementation – impact of market forces and competitiveness, costs, special problems of faced in rural areas, capacity and capability, role of local government

Current Status

Communication and consultation on current papers

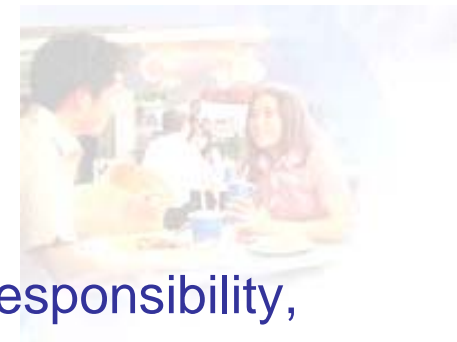
- 75,000 brochures distributed
e.g. through many trade journals & local government
- 2,000 copies of discussion papers available
(500 posted out)
- Papers on the web
- Brochure on web in 11 languages
- Advertising (radio – urban and regional)
- Press releases
- Workshops/presentations (10 scheduled)



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Paper 6 - Compliance and Sanctions

- Background
 - What does/does not motivate compliance
 - Costs of non-compliance
 - Responses available to regulators
 - Prosecutions & penalties
- Current system problems
 - Inconsistencies across food law, persons taking responsibility, limited range of tools



The
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Paper 6 - Compliance and Sanctions : **OPTIONS**

- Consistent approach to measuring the seriousness of a non-compliant action
 - General issues – reason for non-compliance, frequency, newness of law, person's intent
 - Impact of non-compliance on safety and suitability – impact on consumers, employment, participation
 - Impact on non-compliance on New Zealand's image in New Zealand and off shore



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Paper 6 - Compliance and Sanctions : **OPTIONS**

- Possible additional tools to manage & prevent non-compliance
 - Incentive schemes
 - Award & recognition schemes
 - Grading systems (name and shame)
 - Public apologies
 - Diversion schemes
 - Improvement notices
 - Infringement notices
 - Prohibition notices
 - Demerit points



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Paper 7 - Criteria & processes for various approvals

- Purpose – Are approvals necessary?
- Background – reasons in favour
e.g. specified methodologies, cost savings through doing it once, addresses food safety issues, builds credibility in the food supply
- Current system – problems
 - System inconsistencies
 - Duplication
 - Unnecessary elements



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Paper 7 - Criteria & processes for various approvals : SOLUTIONS

- Criteria for approval
 - Must provide or improve credibility of/confidence in the food supply
e.g. persons are competent
 - Must improve efficiency
e.g. approval applied widely to save costs, consistency across sectors increased
 - Must deliver transparently
e.g. aids clarity of requirements, standards etc
- Legislative processes for approvals



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Paper 7 - Criteria & processes for various approvals : **SOLUTIONS**

- Framework for approvals
 - Approvals by application
 - Time bound
 - Provision for conditions
 - Reviewable
 - Published
 - Cost recovered



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Next Steps

Second Group of Papers

- Closing date for submissions – 9 weeks after publication (30 August)
- Workshops across New Zealand



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Next Steps

Bringing it all together

- Development of an 'exposure draft/position paper' of the package as might go forward to Government published for further consultation late 2005/early 2006
- Submissions analysed early 2006
- Proposals to Government first quarter 2006
- Legislative development through 2006
- Commencement/implementation late in 2006/early 2007





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