



Food Matters

The Strategy Unit

17 July 2008

A large, thick, blue wavy graphic that starts from the bottom left and curves upwards towards the top right, spanning across the middle of the page.

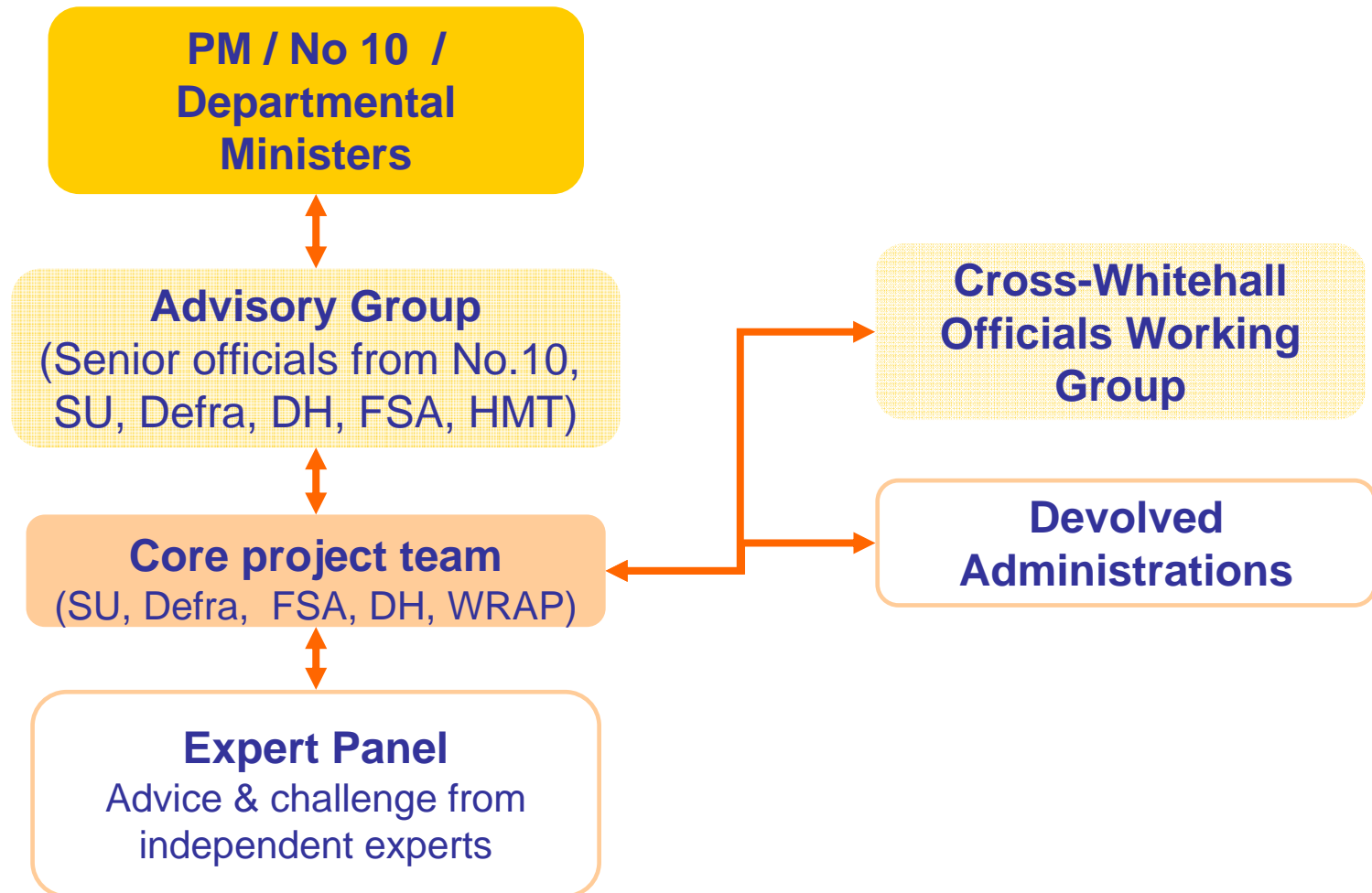
**Making
government
work better**

The purpose of the project was to define the objectives of an integrated food strategy and what might be need to achieve them, based on thorough analysis of the evidence

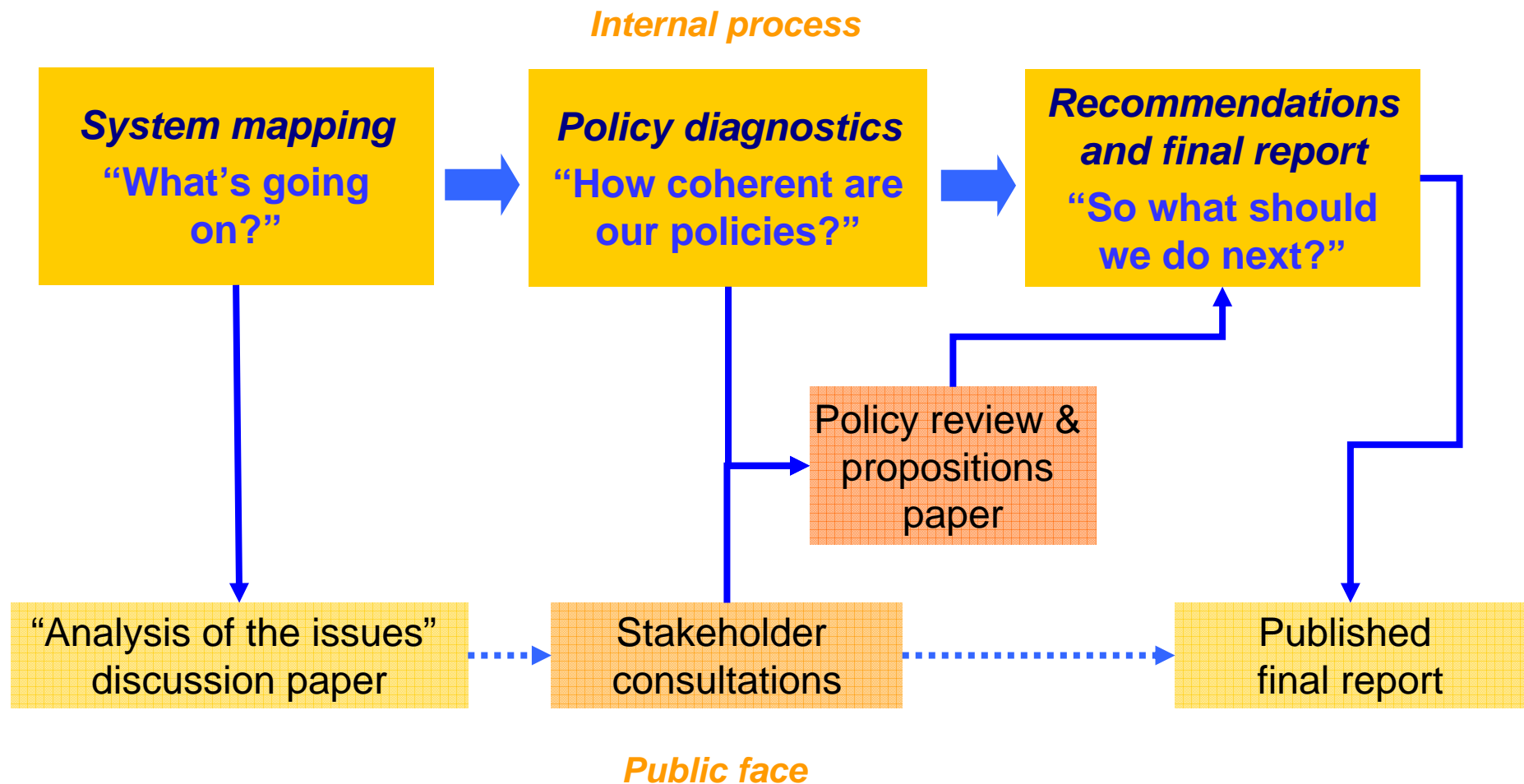
Terms of reference

- To **review the main trends** in the production and consumption of food in the UK
- To **analyse the implications of those trends** for the wider economy, society (including public health) and the environment – including an analysis of the main drivers of change (such as public attitudes)
- In the light of this analysis, to **assess the robustness of the current policy framework** for food in the face of current and future trends and the various drivers of change
- To review what should be the **objectives of future food strategy** and identify what (if any) changes or measures might be needed to achieve them

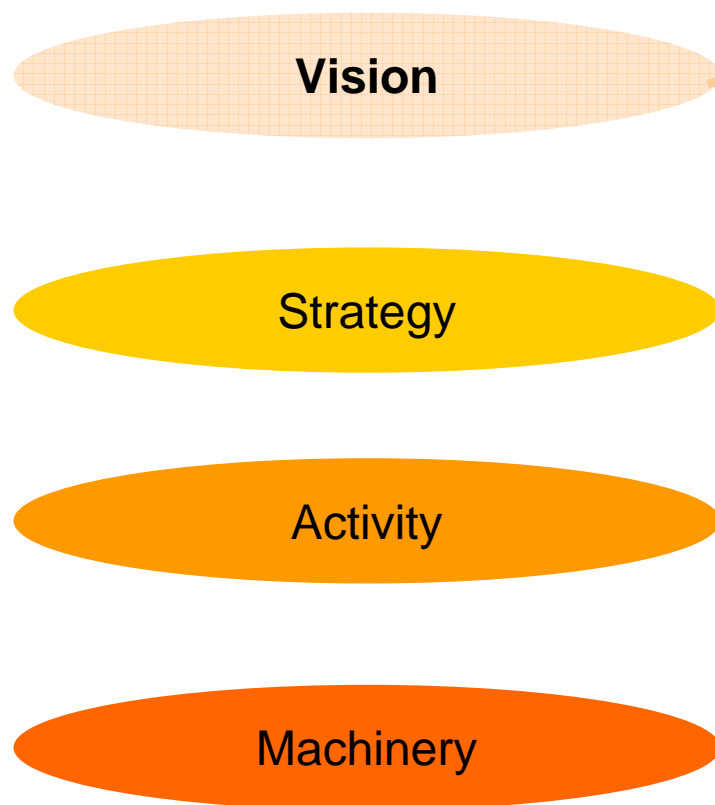
The project governance arrangements combined cross-government input with external challenge



The project had three stages, culminating in the release of the final report that was published earlier this month



The report sets out a vision for a food system that is more sustainable - economically, socially and environmentally



The report concludes that a stronger, better integrated policy framework is needed.

The vision and strategic framework will be tested in an open and collaborative process involving the public and stakeholders.

This will be led by Defra working with DH and the FSA

The Government has adopted four strategic policy objectives for food

Vision

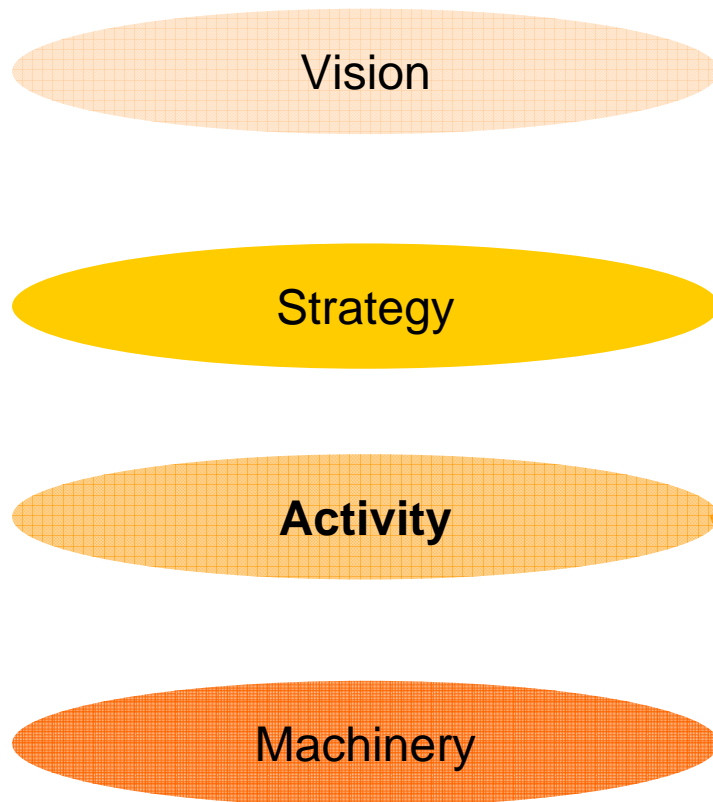
Strategy

Activity

Machinery

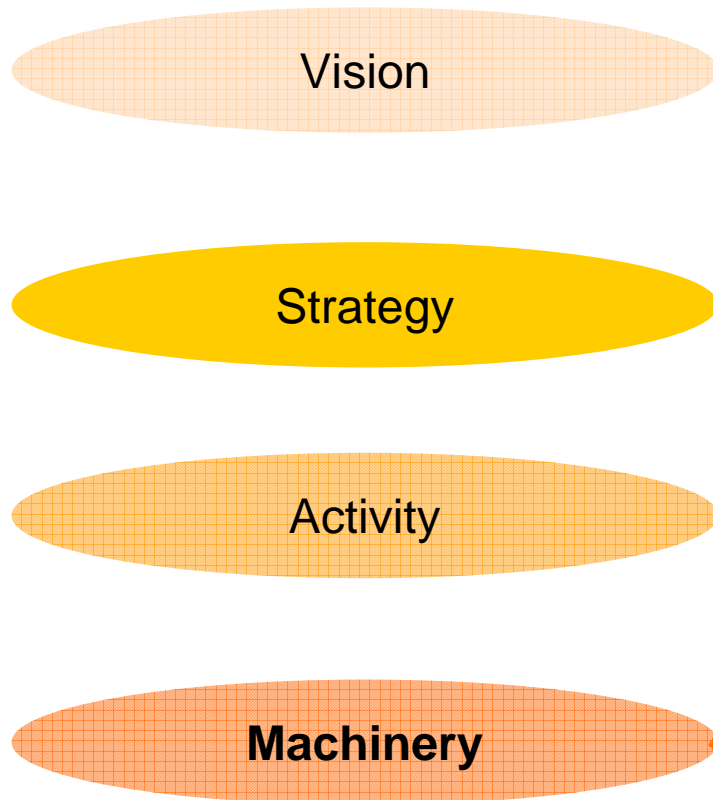
- Continuous improvement in the safety of food
- The changes need to deliver a further transition to healthier diets
- A more environmentally sustainable food chain
- Fair prices, choice and access to food and food security through open and competitive markets

The Government has adopted actions intended to accelerate progress towards the vision - via public sector leadership, support for consumers and engaging with the supply chain



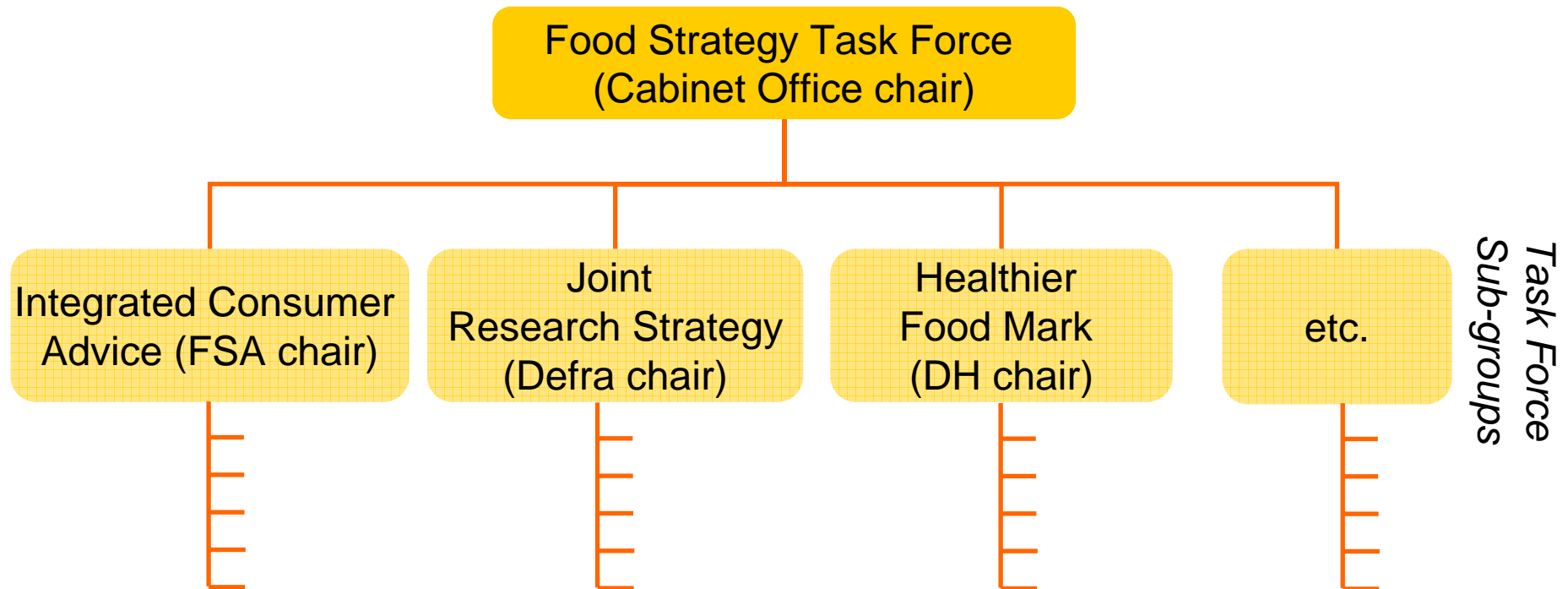
- Development of consumer advice that integrates health, safety and environmental issues
- Working with WRAP and the food industry to secure a new agreement to cut food waste
- Launching a Healthier Food Mark for public sector food in England tied to standards for nutrition and environmental sustainability
- A Joint Research Strategy for Food to provide better coordination of departments' food related research

A Cabinet Office-chaired Food Strategy Task Force will oversee delivery and work towards more 'joining up' of food policy across Government



- To oversee and coordinate work on food issues across government
- To drive forward delivery of measures in Food Matters
- Join up food policy through improved coordination of activities across govt
- Ensure common positions are reached on issues relating to low-impact, safe food and healthy diets

The next steps involve the lead departments for each action scoping the work required, getting agreement with partners and establishing delivery arrangements



Questions & discussion