

## BMPA Response 20-03-23

Dear Professor Horton,

We wrote to you in August 2022 to raise our concerns regarding the use of ‘*The Global Burden of Disease Risk Factors Study 2019*’ (GBD) in important UK Government food policy papers such as the 2022 Government Food Strategy white paper and other influential publications including the Food Standards Agency’s (FSA) latest Five Year Strategy and the 2019 EAT-Lancet commission report on *Healthy Diets from Sustainable Food Systems* (EAT-Lancet).

You recently published a response to our letter alongside letters from other industry bodies in an attempt to address the concerns we raised including the worrying failure to meet your own scientific standards in publishing.

It is disappointing that you have continued to ignore our request to publish the research to support your findings and any peer reviews to support your study.

The last paragraph in your response appears somewhat ironic as there is little evidence to demonstrate either your pursuit of truth or scientific integrity.

We note in your response you declare no competing interests. Please can you explain how Prof Murray, one of the authors of the GBD has no competing interests when he has, as an author, contributed significantly to the GBD study and is a commissioner of EAT-Lancet *Healthy Diets from Sustainable Food System 2019*? Also please can you explain how your role as Editor in Chief of The Lancet and your role on the EAT forum advisory board is not a competing interest?

Consistent with our previous letter British Meat Processors Association would like to ask The Lancet to remove the disputed study from publication so it cannot be cited in any future reports, policy or advice.

regards



Chief Executive Officer