

**From: Di Swanston**

**To: SACN**

**Cc: Elaine Londesborough-Van Rooyen; Kim Roberts**

**Subject: Feeding in the first year of life**

Dear SACN committee

We appreciate that the Committee has requested scientific feedback, however, we would like to take this opportunity to lend our support to the draft report 'Feeding in the First Year of Life'.

HENRY is an early years charity dedicated to supporting children to get the best possible start in life. We focus particularly on the prevention and management of early child obesity of which infant feeding is a critical element. We are very pleased to see the committee looking at this area. In particular, we:

- Agree with the proposed recommendations for exclusive breastfeeding in the first 6 months and agree with the committee that more should be done to support mother in the UK to achieve this.
- Agree with the committee that the Government should reintroduce the Infant Feeding Survey, or some other means of accurately tracking trends in infant feeding in the UK, as policy recommendations are very difficult to make in the absence of this data.
- Agree with the need for further research across the areas recommended by the committee. Particularly in the area of the impact of responsiveness in feeding across the first year of life and the impact of Baby Led Weaning.

With best wishes

Di Swanston

Di Swanston

Policy & Communication Manager

HENRY

[www.henry.org.uk](http://www.henry.org.uk)