

DR CAROLINE LUCAS
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for the South East of England

European Commission
Directorate General for Health and Consumers
B-1049
Brussels

29th September 2009

Dear Director General Robert Madelin,

The Food Supplements Directive - Setting Maximum Levels of Vitamins and Minerals

I have recently received correspondence from a number of constituents who are extremely worried about Directive 2002/46/EC, the so-called Food Supplements Directive, and in particular the setting of maximum levels of vitamins and minerals. They raise a variety of concerns about their own health needs (for example relating to chronic fatigue syndrome and serious depression) and whether they will be able to access the high levels of vitamins and minerals that they need under the new regulations. Many are concerned that their freedom to decide how to manage their health needs will be undermined and do not see why this should be the case as long as supplements are clearly labelled with relevant health information.

Please could you let me know whether maximum levels of Vitamins and Minerals, being set by the Directorate General for Health and Consumers, will be comparable to those that UK citizens can currently access? If this will not be the case, what provisions are being made for individuals who require higher levels of Vitamins and Minerals for health reasons?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



Caroline Lucas MEP