

Table 3. Summary of the Policy Alignment Assessment checklist

Name of Organisation: Research Diets	Tier: 2 Medical suppliers
Assessment	
1. Is the organisation directly connected with therapies or products which are claimed to benefit the health of overweight or obese people, and is there reasonable evidence for the claimed benefit or is there evidence of harm?	Research Diets is a company manufacturing dietary products for laboratory animals, including rodents and non-human primates. The diets assist studies of metabolism, appetite and surgical interventions. There are no claims for medical efficacy or direct health benefit for humans.
2. Is there reasonable evidence that the company has marketing /advertising strategies or undertakes lobbying or attempts political influence which may be deemed inconsistent or contradictory to World Obesity's advocacy positions or the positions of international bodies with which World Obesity is in official relations (e.g. the World Health Organization)?	No evidence
3. Are there any known organizations, bodies or campaigns being funded by the company which might be deemed inconsistent or contradictory to World Obesity's advocacy positions or the positions of international bodies with which World Obesity is in official relations (e.g. the World Health Organization)?	No evidence.
4. Is there reasonable evidence the company is failing on ethical criteria, e.g. child labour and employee welfare practices; environmental and sustainability practices; human right practices, or that in contrast it has good practices in place?	No evidence either way.
5. Does the company have a close business relationship with other commercial interests (e.g. subsidiary or parent company) that should be taken into account in the assessment of risk?	No evidence..
6. Are there other matters which might cause reputational damage or a conflict of interest? Are there any known concerns about the company's probity or reputation?	Note: there will be some ethical concerns over the use of laboratory animals in research. Strictly, these are the concern of the researchers and their ethical committees, not the animal feed suppliers, but animal rights groups may not see this as exonerating the company.