Mark scheme Data on the environmental impact of different food groups.

Use this data to suggest 5 features of a sustainable diet for the planet. Note that the bars indicate the range of impact based on different agricultural practices. Some data is not yet available.

There are differing points which could be drawn out from the data. Examples include those below but other valid points should be credited. (1 mark per point up max 10)

All the foods shown in green are those which are more sustainable.

The amount consumed per person affects the sustainability. (People in developed countries will need to eat less).

Qualitative factors such as the inclusion of protein and fat are also important to consider in providing nutritional balance.

Choosing foods which have a consistent impact regardless of agricultural practice (ie small range bars) might be helpful.

A sustainable diet for the planet would be largely plant based with an emphasis on cereals, legumes and nuts.

The inclusion of fish in the diet will be an important source of protein and oils for some people.

Small amounts of eggs, chicken and dairy could also be included where best practice is used. The substitution of plant based milks eg soya, oat would have a lower impact.

The production of ruminant meat eg cows and sheep has a higher mean impact in every category than any other foods making it unsustainable to include large amounts of these in a sustainable diet.

