Reviewer's report

Title: Trading between healthy food, alcohol and physical activity behaviours

Version: 2 Date: 4 October 2014

Reviewer: Seana Gall

Reviewer's report:

Major compulsory revisions
1. The discussion has very little reference to existing literature. As such, it seems very speculative. I think the authors should revise the discussion with this comment in mind.
2. The results presented in line 334 onwards show data on how some young people did have balanced lifestyles. This appears to contradict the earlier statements on lines 260-266 that say no young people had balance lifestyles.

Minor essential revisions
1. Please add the word 'years' to the age ranges given in the abstract and throughout the text.
2. There is a range given when discussing changes in weight in the UK (26.3%-34.8%). What is this range? Please revise to make this clear.
3. There needs to be more detail on the diaries used. I can see this work is under review but the reader needs more information on this.
4. The interviews seemed to specifically prompt the young people to discuss what they wanted to change. Was there any support given to these people to help them change after the study? If not, can the authors discuss the ethical implications of this.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests