CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

1. How important do you think it is that we aim to be a Good Food Nation?

Extremely important. Improving the quality of Scotland’s food and eating habits offers significant health and business benefits as well as improving the image of the country as a whole.

2. How would we know when we had got there? What would success look like?

Perhaps it should be seen as an ongoing process rather than something with an end in sight.

3. Do you agree with the proposed vision? How would you improve it?

The vision is good, but it’s the detail of the road map that is important.

4. How would your life be better? What does being a Good Food Nation mean in your locality?

When local people from all sectors of society are able and want to buy locally produced food. When it becomes the norm and not just something the middle classes engage with through Farmer’s Markets. More local businesses to challenge the large supermarkets.

5. Are there any other essential steps we need to take before setting out on this journey?

How will the big supermarkets fit into the vision? How will they support it and not undermine it?

6. How do you think a Food Commission could best help?

Presumably a Food Commission will coordinate all the different aspects of the initiative to ensure joined up thinking and effective communication.

7. In what areas should indicators be set to check we are on track towards our goals?

Schools, hospitals, care homes

8. What are your views on the different approaches that could be taken to help us become a Good Food Nation?
This would have to be approached from every possible angle; public sector food, restaurants and take-aways, what people buy and cook in their own homes, how we educate our children about food, how we market our food produce to the wider world.

9. Do you agree with the proposed initial focus on:
   - Food in the public sector
   - A children’s food policy
   - Local food
   - Good food choices and
   - Continued economic growth?

   I think these are important areas of focus, particularly the public sector and children's food policy.

10. Which other areas would you prioritise?

   I strongly feel that a major area of focus has to be big business, and to look at ways to reduce the stranglehold that multinational corporations have over the food choices we realistically have today. Without reducing the influence and power held by MNCs over the food we eat many of the excellent aims of the initiative will be very difficult to achieve.

11. What other steps toward achieving a Good Food Nation would you recommend?

   I believe that educating our children to a greater depth than we currently do about where our food comes from is vitally important; how it is produced in the 21st century; what really constitutes good wholesome food (not just what the supermarket advertisements tell us) and what doesn't; how growing seasons and life cycles work in nature, and to teach them to question why Kellogs are so keen for them to eat Coco Pops every morning and the effect it will have on their bodies if they do!!

12. What else should be considered?

   Mobilising civil support for change to the way the food industry is run will be important in challenging the power of the MNCs- it is only if their profits are threatened that they will alter their practices. Public consultation is a great start, but encouraging more active involvement to bring pressure to bear would be invaluable I believe.

13. What steps do you plan to take to help Scotland on the journey toward becoming a Good Food Nation – in the next month and in the next 12 months?

   To share the information on social networking sites
14. How did you hear about this Discussion Document?

Consultation event

Responding to this Consultation Paper

We are inviting written responses to this consultation paper by 17th October 2014. Please send your response with the completed Respondent Information Form (see "Handling your Response" below) to:

goodfoodnation@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Or by post to:
Good Food Nation
Food and Drink Division
B1 Spur
Saughton House
Edinburgh
EH11 3XD

If you have any queries please contact Eugenia Christie at 0131 244 9574.

This consultation, and all other Scottish Government consultation exercises, can be viewed online on the consultation web pages of the Scottish Government website at http://www.scotland.gov.uk/consultations.

The Scottish Government has an email alert system for consultations, http://register.scotland.gov.uk. This system allows stakeholder individuals and organisations to register and receive a weekly email containing details of all new consultations (including web links). It complements, but in no way replaces Scottish Government distribution lists, and is designed to allow stakeholders to keep up to date with all Scottish Government consultation activity, and therefore be alerted at the earliest opportunity to those of most interest. We would encourage you to register.

Handling your response

We need to know how you wish your response to be handled and, in particular, whether you are happy for your response to be made public. Please complete and return the Respondent Information Form which forms part of the consultation questionnaire attached an annex as this will ensure that we treat your response appropriately. If you ask for your response not to be published we will regard it as confidential, and we will treat it accordingly.

All respondents should be aware that the Scottish Government is subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and would therefore have to consider any request made to it under the Act for information relating to responses made to this consultation.
Hi
I attended a recent "Good Food nation" consultation in Stirling and would like to give you my feedback as requested. I think it is an excellent and extremely important initiative and I applaud the Scottish executive for launching it and for engaging the public in the process.

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Leigh Biagi