CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

1. How important do you think it is that we aim to be a Good Food Nation?
   It is very important as it impacts on all aspects of society from wellbeing, health to sustainable livelihoods that are not based on exploitation but care of the environment and living forms.

2. How would we know when we had got there? What would success look like?
   It is an ongoing and long term process which is complex and difficult to measure. So I don’t find this a helpful question to ask. It requires deep cultural and behavioural changes as well as changes economically and politically across different scalar levels some of which are beyond the control of a nation state. Success if one can assess this in the short term would have to encompass the social, cultural, health, environmental and livelihood/economic aspects of society.

3. Do you agree with the proposed vision? How would you improve it?
   Overall the preoccupation with success at an international level has to be strongly balanced with an emphasis on local food and livelihoods. The emphasis on the latter is important in supporting the consumption of local foods and supporting local economies.

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

Comments

5. Are there any other essential steps we need to take before setting out on this journey?
   Most people are not aware of this consultation – initiatives to raise awareness needed.

6. How do you think a Food Commission could best help?
   I cannot see the need for another QUANGO – it is best to integrate such initiatives into the elected bodies that already exist.

7. In what areas should indicators be set to check we are on track towards our goals?
8. What are your views on the different approaches that could be taken to help us become a Good Food Nation?

A bottom up approach involving schools, communities, policy makers and producers

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?

The first 4 make sense, but feel that the focus should be on families or households rather than children per se as children lives are affected by the adults and their circumstances. They cannot be treated as if they are isolated units. The last one on economic growth is more of a route or a mechanism to achieving other objectives rather than an end in itself, so I find its inclusion rather confusing.

10. Which other areas would you prioritise?

A focus on addressing the affordability of food might be a good idea - I don't mean making food cheaper but perhaps subsiding staple foods for low income families.

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

I would also like to see more synergy between this policy on food and other policy areas such as planning policies (the building of supermarkets and their impacts on local food producers), climate change, and social justice (especially the exploitation of labour inherent in food production and addressing the needs of low income households).

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?

Though my household could do more we already have an organic croft where we produce some of our food, we buy locally as much as possible
and try to buy products that are fairly traded and sustainably sourced

14. How did you hear about this Discussion Document?

Through Nourish Scotland events

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.