CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

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

Very important for people, the environment, the future and the economy.

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

It will be continuous journey with no end point, although recognising that we could do much better is a good place to start. If Scottish people were healthier and have a better connection with food, and the way food was produced worked for and with the environment and not against- we would be on the right track. Food should also be considered as an asset and viewed for its health and social value not just seen as a cheap commodity.

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

Yes, although there is perhaps some further legislation or acknowledgement around farming practices which are not present. There needs to be a true cost of food factored into our current food system. Damage from pollution to health problems are not considered and a sustainable food system is not being fully explored and addressed. Perhaps clearer definitions of what we mean by ‘good food’ would allow stronger targets to be set and met.

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

The availability of fresh, local and healthy foods are still more difficult to acquire than processed unhealthy foods. A Good Food Nation would mean that it would be accessible and affordable to buy good, local, healthy food everywhere. A focus on education would mean that future generations would learn how to connect and understand where food comes from (besides the shops) and waste would be reduced. Local and organic food would not just be available for higher earners and there would be no need for food banks. There are many social enterprises doing fantastic work around community food, in a Good Food Nation, they would be valued more highly and the knock-on effects of their work would make communities more prosperous – not just in a financial sense.

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

Explore the TTIP implications, link up with Health and Social Care Integrated bodies and Community Planning Partnerships to make sure good food nation is on the agenda when planning and procuring.
6. How do you think a Food Commission could best help?

To provide a strategic voice for good food for all planning, commissioning and statutory services.
To advise Government and assist with prioritisation.
To link Government plans with all sectors of society and monitor reception and effectiveness of these plans.

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

In education, not only the curriculum but also in school meals and snacks, in all NHS services, from cafeterias to community food programmes, in town planning, to make sure local, fresh is food is not squeezed out by processed, unhealthy and cheap food and in health, a decrease of diet related diseases and mental health improvements.

8. What are your views on the different approaches that could be taken to help us become a Good Food Nation?

To support and investment in community food enterprises, support small and environmentally friendly farming, support and invest in connecting local supply chains.

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?

Yes

10. Which other areas would you prioritise?

   Carbon responsible farmers and organic farming.

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

   Some of the economic growth in food and drink could be reinvested into community food social enterprises to facilitate further growth and supporting the triple bottom line.
12. What else should be considered?

Whole systems approach – a Good Food Nation is linked inextricably to other policy areas such as health, environment, food poverty.

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?

Continued conversations around what a good food nation could look like, support local community food social enterprises and continue to meet with the Community Food & Social Enterprise roundtable to think strategically on how best to support becoming a Good Food Nation.

14. How did you hear about this Discussion Document?

From colleagues

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.