CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

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

Please see attached response.

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

Please see attached response.

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

Please see attached response.

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

Please see attached response.

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

Please see attached response.

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

Please see attached response.

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

Please see attached response.

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

Please see attached response.
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?

Please see attached response.

10. Which other areas would you prioritise?

Please see attached response.

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

Please see attached response.

12. What else should be considered?

Please see attached response.

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?

Please see attached response.

14. How did you hear about this Discussion Document?

Please see attached response.

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 8574.

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.

Where respondents have given permission for their response to be made public and after we have checked that they contain no potentially defamatory material, responses will be made available to the public in the Scottish Government Library (see the attached Respondent Information Form). These will be made available to the public in the Scottish Government Library by (date to be confirmed). You can make arrangements to view responses by contacting the Scottish Government Library on 0131 244 4556.

Responses can be copied and sent to you, but a charge may be made for this service.

What happens next?
Following the closing date, all responses will be analysed and considered in shaping the direction of Scotland’s Food Policy.
Recipe for Success: Scotland's National Food and Drink Policy
Becoming a Good Food Nation

1. As the national trade association for the convenience store industry in Scotland, Scottish Grocers Federation supports the proposed vision outlined in the Good Food Nation consultation document. There are approximately 5,500 convenience stores in Scotland; these stores provide over 42,000 jobs,

2. Most adults in Scotland use a local convenience store and on average they visit their local store 4 times per week – this is the highest visit rate in the UK. The average basket spend in Scotland is £7 – again this is the highest in the UK.

3. Research by Harris International Marketing (him!) shows that convenience store customers in Scotland are prepared to pay a 5% premium for locally sourced products.

4. Customers want to see more locally sourced products within the 'fresh' category. This category includes: fruit, vegetables, fish, meat, bread and bakery.

5. The Food Commission can best help by using its expertise and influence to improve the capacity of independent retailers to build sound commercial relationships with genuinely Scottish (and genuinely local) food producers, manufacturers and suppliers. Our members are increasingly aware of the benefits of stocking local produce and promoting this to their customers.

6. The route to market is not always straightforward: our members have often found difficulty in attempting to source products from local producers who perhaps have designated their production to specific large retailers or require to operate on a larger scale than suits smaller retailers.

7. In our view it is crucial that the Good Food Nation initiative connects with, compliments and adds value to the Scottish government-funded SGF Healthy Living Programme (HLP).

8. The HLP aims to increase the range, availability, quality and affordability of fresh produce and other healthier categories within convenience stores, especially in our most disadvantaged communities, thus helping to improve the eating habits of people in Scotland.

9. There are over 1,400 stores participating in the programme, 62% of them operating in disadvantaged communities.

10. The Good Food Nation initiative appears to offer the possibility of connecting with the HLP to increase and enhance the range of locally-sourced healthy eating options. We would urge the Scottish government to initiate discussion – involving SGF – with the relevant directorates to ensure that this potential is maximised.