CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

1. How important do you think it is that we aim to be a Good Food Nation?
   Please see comments in separate letter dated 17 October 2014.

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

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

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?
   Comments

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

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

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

Comments

10. Which other areas would you prioritise?

Comments

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

Comments

12. What else should be considered?

Comments

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?

Comments

14. How did you hear about this Discussion Document?

Comments

**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
Dear Sir/Madam

Scottish Government Discussion Document - Becoming a Good Food Nation

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above Discussion Document. I am responding on behalf of the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS), which is the sole national body recognised by Government for the accreditation, against recognised standards, of organisations providing all types of evaluation services. UKAS is appointed as the National Accreditation Body by The Accreditation Regulations 2009 (SI No 3155/2009) to operate across all parts of the United Kingdom.

UKAS supports the proposals set out in the discussion document to improve the food culture in Scotland and believes that it could make a positive contribution to this agenda.

UKAS is already very active in the food and drink sector in Scotland. UKAS accreditation provides confidence in many of the certification schemes in place to promote the production of quality food such as those run by Quality Meat Scotland and Scottish Quality Salmon. UKAS accreditation provides an assurance of the competence, impartiality and consistency of the certification process, thereby giving confidence that the certified produce meets the standards set out.

Whilst existing schemes mostly cover the quality and safety aspects of food in the production phase, there is no reason why similar schemes could not be developed to provide confidence in the quality of the food and drink served by restaurants, other food retail outlets and public sector providers. UKAS would be very happy to consider with the Scottish Government and other interested parties whether there would be benefit in developing an accredited certification scheme to identify good practice in the production and delivery of healthy food or to add credibility to those schemes already running in the sector (eg the Food for Life Catering Mark mentioned on p15 of the discussion document). UKAS believes that there could be considerable benefit in having an accredited ‘Healthy Eating’ mark or logo to identify to consumers food and drink that meet good dietary standards. A scheme such as this could contribute considerably to the improvement of dietary habits in line with the aspirations set out in the discussion document.
If you would like to consider these proposals in more detail or would like further background on how UKAS, as the National Accreditation Body can add credibility to certification schemes, I would be happy to meet with you to provide more information.

Yours faithfully

Malcolm Hynd
External Affairs Manager