CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

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

Extremely important. Food is vital building block not only in individual healthy lives but also in connected and sustainable communities. For too long Scotland has been a land of great produce but associated with the poor diet of the majority of its citizens.

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

When good food is a privilege enjoyed and available to everyone in Scotland.

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

The proposition should insist that the good food nation is accessible and relevant to all of Scotland’s people including those at the margins of society.

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

A good food nation would be a fairer, happier, healthier and more sustainable society to live in.

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?

Building collaborations across sectors and encouraging public – private – third sector alliances. Fareshare illustrates how a problem in one area can become a solution in another. We must share resources, both intellectual and material. Government can use its bodies, like Scottish Enterprise, to look across sectors for opportunities for growth and resource efficiency. Food surplus is built into any food system that aims to guarantee access to affordable food for all and is therefore inevitable. Surplus should not, however inevitably become food waste, and can and should be redirected ethically and morally to people who are in need. Food waste systems should prioritise feeding people over creating energy from waste food. Scotland should look at France’s equivalent to Fareshare to see how effective Government support is enabling the redistribution of surplus food.

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?

Fareshare would include effective reduction of food waste amongst these priorities and the hard wiring of sustainability into the further development of the Good Food Nation

10. Which other areas would you prioritise?

Fareshare would like to see a more direct and overt programme to address food poverty in Scotland. Although attention has been given to addressing the temporary crisis brought on by reforms of the welfare system and the subsequent growth in food banks – food poverty has always been with us and mostly lies hidden at the margins of society. It comes with exclusion and isolation at any age but particularly in the elderly.

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

Comments

12. What else should be considered?

In a great example of working across policy areas, the Scottish Government made funding available over the next 2 years to strengthen the operation of food charity FareShare in Scotland. FareShare takes surplus food - good
food that would otherwise go to waste - from the food industry, including manufacturers, retailers and wholesalers and redistributes it to a network of charities that share a common goal of helping to fight poverty, disadvantage and exclusion. By ensuring good food is not wasted, we turn an environmental problem into a solution, helping to feed thousands of vulnerable people every day.

There is an opportunity for Scotland to build a Fareshare system embedded into its industry and public sector food systems that prioritises feeding people over creating energy from waste food. This ‘surplus’ food not only saves the charities money but helps to rebuild lives.

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?

Fareshare in Scotland currently redistributes around 500 tonnes of food – that is nearly 1,000,000 meals per year. By 2016 we hope to have built that to 2000 tonnes of food and made Fareshare the default solution for edible food waste in Scotland as part of creating a fairer and more sustainable nation.

14. How did you hear about this Discussion Document?

online