

# Cross-Party Group on Food

27 February 2024 at 6pm, Committee Room 3  
(hybrid option available), chaired by Rhoda Grant  
MSP

## Agenda

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the Last Meeting (28 November 2023)
3. Matters Arising
4. **Update: The National Good Food Nation Plan consultation**

Mairi Gougeon MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands, will attend the meeting to provide an update on [the National Good Food Nation Plan consultation](#).

5. **Discussion: The National Good Food Nation Plan consultation**

There will be a discussion on the National Good Food Nation Plan consultation. The discussion will focus on the two elements below. Please consider your thoughts on these elements ahead of the discussion to help keep the conversation as focused as possible:

**The national Good Food Nation Outcomes** – Do the Good Food Nation Outcomes describe the kind of Scottish food system you would like to see? What, if anything, would you change about the outcomes and why?

**Snapshot Box examples of what life in a Good Food Nation could look like for different groups** – Do these reflect what you would like your life to look like in a Good Food Nation? What changes, if any, would you make?

6. AOB

7. **Dates of the next meetings**

Tuesday 28 May, and the AGM will take place on Wednesday 11 September.

## **Background information**

[The National Good Food Nation Plan consultation](#) opened on 24 January 2024. This consultation covers the content of the first national Good Food Nation Plan and asks for views on the national Good Food Nation Outcomes; ways of measuring progress; and how different groups envision life in a Good Food Nation.

The consultation is also seeking views on specified functions, which will be defined in secondary legislation. In this case, Scottish Ministers will be legally required to have regard to the national Good Food Nation Plan when carrying out any governmental work listed as a specified function. The aim is to ensure that Scottish Ministers are considering the impact that their actions will have on future policy related to food.

### **The national Good Food Nation Outcomes**

**Outcome 1:** Everyone in Scotland eats well with reliable access to safe, nutritious, affordable, sustainable, and age and culturally appropriate food.

**Outcome 2:** Scotland's food system is sustainable and contributes to a flourishing natural environment. It supports our net zero ambitions, and plays an important role in maintaining and improving animal welfare and in restoring and regenerating biodiversity.

**Outcome 3:** Scotland's food system encourages a physically and mentally healthy population, leading to a reduction in diet-related conditions.

**Outcome 4:** Our food and drink sector is prosperous, diverse, innovative, and vital to national and local economic and social wellbeing. It is key to making Scotland food secure and food resilient, and creates and sustains jobs and businesses underpinned by fair work standards.

**Outcome 5:** Scotland has a thriving food culture with a population who are interested in and educated about good and sustainable food.

**Outcome 6:** Scotland has a global reputation for high-quality food that we want to continue to grow. Decisions we make in Scotland contribute positively to local and global food systems transformation. We share and learn from best practice internationally.

### **Snapshot Box examples of what life in a Good Food Nation could look like for different groups**

The relevant Snapshot Box examples for the Cross Party Group on Food are included below.

#### **Snapshot Box: As a public caterer in a Good Food Nation**

- I procure healthy, fresh, in-season, and nutritious food to meet the needs of the people using my services

- I recognise the role that food can play in strengthening community ties. I promote and provide healthy, enjoyable, and sustainable options as the norm on my menus
- My procurement choices help to support a variety of producers
- I have reduced avoidable food waste as much as possible, and I ensure that unavoidable food waste is disposed of in a sustainable manner

### **Snapshot Box: As a retailer in a Good Food Nation**

- As an employer, I meet Fair Work First criteria. I ensure that all procurement contracts I enter into are fair and equitable for producers
- I create a store environment that makes healthy and nutritious options affordable and appealing for everyone. I help consumers to better understand the nutritional quality and provenance of the food I sell
- Decisions I make in store and through procurement help Scotland to achieve its net zero ambitions, for example by minimising food waste.
- I play an important role in supporting a stronger local food economy and increasing food security in Scotland

### **Snapshot Box: As a restaurant owner in a Good Food Nation**

- I celebrate fresh, seasonal produce and integrate it into my menu. I have an active role in supporting my local food economy
- I share my passion for good food with my customers so that they become more informed about its provenance, how it's prepared and its nutritional value
- As an employer, I meet Fair Work First criteria. I create a rewarding work environment for my employees
- I am creative with my menu. This can help me to minimise food waste for the benefit of my business, people, and the environment

### **Snapshot Box: As a farmer/crofter in a Good Food Nation**

- I feel that my work is respected and that I am able to get a fair price for my produce. I can easily sell my produce locally should I wish to do so
- My farming and land management practices reduce my environmental impact, increase biodiversity and ensure high animal welfare standards on my farm or croft
- I benefit from a variety of support, including training and advice, to help me run a successful and sustainable farm or croft
- I help to build resilient supply chains and contribute to food security in Scotland

### **Snapshot Box: As a fisher in a Good Food Nation**

- I feel that my work is respected and that I am able to get a fair price for my catch
- I support the marine environment and ecosystem with sustainable fishing practices
- I benefit from and enable a fair and safe working environment
- I seek opportunities to bring my product to a wider market in Scotland, and to promote its contribution to a healthy diet
- I can access a variety of support to help me to run a sustainable fishing business

### **Snapshot Box: As a food processor in a Good Food Nation**

- I work with producers, wholesalers, retailers and out of home food providers to ensure resilience along the whole supply chain while meeting demand and minimising waste
- I make my products healthier and more sustainable, using fresh, seasonal ingredients where possible, and can access support to do this.
- I invest in and develop my workforce, ensuring they can enjoy opportunities to enhance their skills whilst benefiting from a safe working environment
- I contribute to the important role that the food and drink sector has in Scotland's economy

### **Consultation Engagement Events**

During the consultation the Scottish Government will be running a series of public events online and in-person across Scotland to allow individuals and communities to share their views and inform the national Good Food Nation Plan. The events are free of charge. These need to be booked in advance. [Find out more and register.](#)