

Good Food Nation

Programme of Measures

2019 update

November 2019



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
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GOOD FOOD NATION PROGRAMME OF MEASURES

2019 UPDATE

FOREWORD

By Fergus Ewing MSP, Cabinet Secretary for the Rural Economy, and Gary MacLean, National Chef for Scotland



I am delighted to provide this update setting out the work the Scottish Government has carried out over the last year in order to achieve our goal of becoming a Good Food Nation.

We have worked across all sectors of our society, from continuing our work on restricting the promotion and marketing of targeted food and drink high in fat, sugar or salt where they are sold to the public, to progressing our strategies on alcohol and tobacco, continuing to tackle food waste in Scotland, and continuing to support our food and drink businesses to export to more markets across the world.

Some of the steps we have taken in the last 12 months as we work towards our Good Food Nation goal include another 100 convenience stores joining the Healthy Living Programme; £200,000 invested to support small and medium enterprises to lower the calorie content of their food or drink products; additional funding of £2 million to support breastfeeding; £300,000 invested in our Eco-Schools programme; £2.7 million provided to support the Scotland Food & Drink Export Plan; and help to generate over £100 million food and drink sector sales via our Ambition 2030 work.

I am proud to provide this update to demonstrate the incredible steps we have taken in the last 12 months, and I look forward to achieving much more in the next year as we continue to build upon this good work, supported by our Good Food Nation legislation.

Fergus Ewing
Cabinet Secretary for the Rural Economy
November 2019

Gary MacLean, National Chef for Scotland



I am extremely proud and humbled to be Scotland's First National Chef. I have been working with the Scottish Government's Good Food Nation Team for two years.

The role comes with a huge job description, but I have decided that I want to focus on food education for all and food poverty.

In my time in the post I have worked with, and spent time with, some incredible people who are making a real difference in people's lives through food.

Food education is very close to my heart, I found my love for food at high school and have spent most of my career in food education in my role at the City of Glasgow College.

I have spent a lot of time in schools working with teachers and pupils from nursery, primary and secondary education. Often I find that food is a fantastic medium for breaking down barriers and bringing people together.

I have also spent a lot of time working with community groups and charities who are using food for a great deal of reasons, including education and nourishment, and again breaking down stereotypes. There are countless volunteers who are changing Scotland one plate at a time.

My feeling is that there is more to food than just sustenance of the body, it's who we are as people; it's an amazing tool to bring people and communities together that has so many benefits for the health and wellbeing of everyone.

The best part of my job as National Chef for Scotland is meeting all the incredible people who are making a real difference every day in Scotland. I am proud to support these people in their hard work and dedication in making Scotland a Good Food Nation.

Gary MacLean
National Chef for Scotland

Good Food Nation Programme of Measures

Introduction – 2019 update

The first Good Food Nation Programme of Measures, published in September 2018, set out the range of measures being carried out across the Scottish Government to deliver our Good Food Nation ambition in Scotland.

These measures were set across five key areas:

1. Health
2. Social Justice
3. Knowledge
4. Environmental Sustainability
5. Prosperity

The Programme of Measures identified over 100 separate pieces of work which were already being done, or were planned, across Scotland. This new document provides an update on the work that has been carried out since September 2018 on some of the measures contributing to the achievement of our Good Food Nation ambition.



1. HEALTH

VISION

The vision is for everyone in Scotland to have ready access to the healthy, nutritious food they need, with dietary-related diseases like heart disease and diabetes in decline. This is what the population deserve in a country which produces such high quality food in abundance.

Highlighted *Health* measures setting out action we have taken to achieve the vision since 2018:

The Healthcare Retail Standard

2018 position: The Healthcare Retail Standard sets criteria where 50% of food and 70% of drink sold in all NHS Scotland shops is 'healthy' and only certain items can be promoted. We committed to a full evaluation of the initial roll-out of the Healthcare Retail Standard in 2018.

2019 update: The [evaluation report](#)¹ of the initial roll-out was published in January 2019.

The evaluation report found that initially there was a limited range of products available which met the 'healthy' criteria but over time suppliers amended the unhealthier elements of their products which increased the range of products which complied with the Healthcare Retail Standard.

Following introduction of the Healthcare Retail Standard, it was found that customers were buying more products which met the Healthcare Retail Standard 'healthy' criteria.

The evaluation and first year of the HRS have informed a change in criteria, including:

- A ban on energy drink sales to under 16s;
- Healthy criteria for baby food;
- Relaxation on promotions for sugar-free chewing gum.

¹ <http://www.healthscotland.scot/media/2326/evaluation-of-the-healthcare-retail-standard.pdf>

Healthyliving Award

2018 position: The Healthyliving Award is a national award for the foodservice sector in Scotland. Our plans for the Healthyliving Award are closely linked to an Out of Home 2018 consultation which asked tough questions of the role of schemes such as the Healthyliving Award, including how to use the Healthyliving Award most effectively and in what out of home settings.

2019 update: Food Standards Scotland's 2018 Out of Home consultation led to the identification of a range of measures which will inform the forthcoming Out of Home Strategy for Scotland. The recommended measures include:

- Mandatory calorie labelling at the point of choice, including when buying food 'on the go' and when ordering a takeaway / home delivery;
- Improving the range of healthy food and drink choices available on children's menus;
- Setting a mandatory standard for healthier food in the public sector.



Healthy Living Programme

2018 position: The Healthy Living Programme is a voluntary scheme run in over 2,200 convenience stores through the Scottish Grocers Federation since 2006. The scheme helps to promote healthier produce in the stores.

2019 update: The Healthy Living Programme now has over 2,300 members which constitutes around 40% of the convenience trade in Scotland. Two-thirds of the stores are situated in the most deprived areas of Scotland. The stores participating in the Healthy Living Programme continue to use [Eat Better Feel Better](https://www.parentclub.scot/articles/eat-better-feel-better)² materials and have fruit available for sale at checkouts.

² <https://www.parentclub.scot/articles/eat-better-feel-better>

Small and Medium Sized Enterprise (SME) Reformulation

2018 position: In partnership with the Food and Drink Federation Scotland, we planned in autumn 2018 to introduce practical support to help businesses to get expert advice on reformulating food and drink to lower the calorie content.

2019 update: We are investing £200,000 over a three-year period from 2018/19 to support Scottish small and medium enterprises to reformulate commonly consumed products to lower the calorie content.

School food and drink regulations

2018 position: The Scottish Government consulted in 2018 on the recommendations of the review of school food and drink regulations. Consultation findings will inform the revised Nutritional Requirements for Food and Drink in Schools (Scotland) Regulations 2008 and associated guidance.



2019 update: The [analysis report](#)³ of responses to the consultation on the recommendations of the review of school food and drink regulations was published in June 2019, receiving over 1,300 responses.

Work is now underway to amend the school food and drink regulations with implementation of the new regulations in the autumn of 2020.

The Healthy Eating in Schools guidance will be updated to take account of the changes to these regulations.

³ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/report-responses-consultation-nutritional-requirements-food-drink-schools/>

New support for community Grow Your Own opportunities in disadvantaged areas

2018 position: Our intention is to provide new financial support for local authorities and community groups for the establishment of community growing facilities, particularly in areas of social deprivation around Scotland. We will set up a Community Growing Fund of £80,000 for this purpose.

2019 update: The Community Growing Fund launched February 2019. Grant awards have been made to 30 third sector organisations, community bodies or public sector organisations such as primary schools for a wide range of community growing projects.

One funded project, the Langholm Initiative, is featured in the case study overleaf.

The [funded projects](#)⁴ are required to complete their funded projects by March 2020.



⁴ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/community-growing-fund-2019-to-2020-projects-funded/>

Case Study – Community Growing Fund – The Langholm Initiative

The Community Growing Fund opened to applications from 28th February to 31st March 2019. The grant scheme was open to third sector organisations, community groups and public sector organisations such as schools.

Grant funding was available for a wide variety of purposes, including the purchase and building of raised beds, poly tunnels and other cultivation facilities, the purchase or lease of tools and equipment and the purchase of top soil and plant stock.

Applications were scored on a range of criteria, including how the project would meet the four Good Food Nation objectives, the number of people to benefit from the project and whether the project is located in an area of social deprivation.

A total of 30 applications were awarded a grant, up to a maximum of £3,000.

The Langholm Initiative, Dumfries & Galloway, was one of the successful applicants to the Community Growing Fund. The Langholm Initiative, in partnership with the Langholm Chilli Club, was awarded grant funding to purchase two poly tunnels and associated materials for use by the local community. The poly tunnels are being erected on previously redundant areas of land, and so bringing the land back into productive use.

By using the poly tunnels primarily to grow chilli plants, the project provides many benefits to the local community including lessons in horticulture, the promotion of and access to healthy foods, cooking demonstrations and reducing the carbon footprint and food miles for the chilli fruits grown and consumed locally.



Food and drink high in fat, sugar or salt

2018 position: Scottish Government will consult this autumn to restrict the promotion and marketing of targeted food and drink high in fat, sugar or salt.

2019 update: A consultation on proposals for restrictions on the promotion and marketing of food and drink high in fat, sugar or salt where they are sold to the public closed in January 2019. The [consultation analysis report](#)⁵ was published on 13 September 2019.

In the 2019/20 Programme for Government, we committed to introducing a Restricting Foods Promotions Bill in the 2020/21 legislative programme.

Food For Life Programme

2018 position: The Food For Life Programme is operating across 11 local authority areas in Scotland, supporting the provision of more locally sourced, healthier food being served throughout the local schools.

2019 update: Two more local authorities have now achieved the Food For Life Served Here award for their school meals, with 13 local authority areas now participating in the scheme. 19 million Food For Life Served Here meals are now being served by these local authorities every year.



⁵ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/reducing-health-harms-foods-high-fat-sugar-salt-consultation-analysis/>

Non-broadcast advertising of junk food

2018 position: Scottish Government will protect children with action to extend current restrictions for non-broadcast advertising of junk food.

2019 update: Discussions have been held with the trade association for outdoor advertising. Work is also underway to develop a pilot programme to test a ban of junk food advertising on billboards, etc. in the Dundee and eastern Scotland area. Financial and health impacts will be considered during this pilot.

Alcohol and tobacco strategies

2018 position: Scottish Government has ground-breaking strategies on alcohol and tobacco.

2019 update: We have published several frameworks and strategies to take steps to address alcohol and tobacco consumption, featured in our case study overleaf.



Case Study – Alcohol and tobacco strategies

We have taken a range of actions on alcohol :

- Our new [Alcohol Framework](#)⁶ was published in November 2018;
- Our action plan on tobacco control - [Raising Scotland's Tobacco-Free Generation](#)⁷, published in June 2018, committed to consultations in 2019/2020;
- Our new alcohol and drugs strategy [Rights, Respect and Recovery](#)⁸ was published in November 2018.

Our Alcohol Framework contains 20 priority actions to tackle Scotland's alcohol-related harm including:

- A forthcoming consultation on alcohol marketing restrictions to protect children and young people;
- Pressing the UK Government for a 9pm watershed on TV alcohol advertising and cinema advertising restrictions;
- Evaluating minimum unit pricing and reviewing the price after 1 May 2020; and
- Developing a new social marketing campaign promoting the alcohol low-risk guidelines of 14 units per week – our new Count 14 campaign began in March 2019.

Our action plan on tobacco control includes:

- Consultations on introducing offences for smoking around hospital buildings; and
- Banning advertising and promotion of electronic cigarettes.

The consultations will run from September 2019 to March 2020, leading to secondary legislation in the first half of 2020.

Tobacco control marketing campaigns will run in early 2020 on stop-smoking services and about the new laws banning smoking around hospitals.

Our new alcohol and drugs strategy was published November 2018, and sets out our range of investment and support for those affected by alcohol use. The action plan is currently in development with stakeholders.

⁶ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/alcohol-framework-2018-preventing-harm-next-steps-changing-relationship-alcohol/>

⁷ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/raising-scotlands-tobacco-free-generation-tobacco-control-action-plan-2018/>

⁸ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/rights-respect-recovery/>

Out of home food strategy

2018 position: Food Standards Scotland will consult this autumn on an overarching Out of Home strategy which will include measures to reduce calories and proposals for calorie labelling.

2019 update: Following its consultation [Proposals to improve the Out of Home environment in Scotland](#)⁹, the Food Standards Scotland Board agreed a set of proposals in August 2019 for an Out of Home strategy and will be advising Ministers in due course. The FSS Board paper can be accessed [here](#)¹⁰. In support of the Board paper FSS has also published:

- [An analysis of the FSS public consultation on Improving the Out of Home food environment in Scotland](#)¹¹;
- [Qualitative Consumer Research on eating outside the home](#)¹²;
- [The Out of Home environment in Scotland \(June 2015 – June 2018\)](#)¹³.

Support for breastfeeding

2018 position: We aim to reduce breastfeeding attrition rates and improve the quality of support for breastfeeding mothers, particularly in the days immediately following birth.

2019 update: Additional funding of more than £2m has been provided to Health Boards and third sector partners to support breastfeeding. We aim to increase the duration of breastfeeding and improve the breastfeeding experience for women to meet the commitment in the [Diet and Healthy Weight Delivery Plan](#)¹⁴ to reduce the drop off in breastfeeding rates at the six to eight week point by 10% by 2025.

On 1 June 2019, we launched the new national Breastfeeding Friendly Scotland scheme which will support our aim to positively influence attitudes to breastfeeding in Scotland.

⁹ <https://consult.foodstandards.gov.scot/nutrition-science-and-policy/proposals-to-improve-the-out-of-home-environment-i/>

¹⁰ <https://www.foodstandards.gov.scot/publications-and-research/publications/fss-board-meeting-21-august-2019>

¹¹ <https://www.foodstandards.gov.scot/publications-and-research/publications/analysis-of-a-food-standards-scotland-public-consultation-on-improving-the>

¹² <https://www.foodstandards.gov.scot/publications-and-research/publications/qualitative-consumer-research-on-eating-outside-the-home>

¹³ <https://www.foodstandards.gov.scot/publications-and-research/publications/the-out-of-home-environment-in-scotland-june-2015-june-2018>

¹⁴ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/healthier-future-scotlands-diet-healthy-weight-delivery-plan/>

Best Start foods in Scotland

2018 position: Changes to Welfare Foods in Scotland will include replacing Healthy Start Vouchers with a new Best Start Foods smartcard, increasing payments, expanding the range of eligible foods available and simplifying the application process. The changes will come into force in summer 2019.

2019 update: Best Start Foods Payment Card to support expectant mothers and families on low income benefits with children under 3 years of age launched on 12 August 2019.

The payment card enables the family to purchase foods such as milk (including 1st infant formula), eggs, fruit, vegetables and pulses in either fresh, frozen or dried format. The card can be used in any grocery store that has access to a mastercard payment card facility.

Families who might be entitled to best start foods should apply via [this link](#)¹⁵.



¹⁵ <https://www.mygov.scot/best-start-grant-best-start-foods/>

Allotments and community growing

2018 position: We are working with partners including the Central Scotland Green Network to increase allotment and community growing opportunities in Scotland.

2019 update: [7 community growing projects in 2019/20](#)¹⁶ are being supported through the Central Scotland Green Network across the central belt of Scotland totalling £113,000.



Photo courtesy of Steve Tolson

Allotments legislation implementation

2018 position: Part 9 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 came into force on 1 April 2018. Amongst other things, this requires all local authorities to publish their food-growing strategies by 1 April 2020.

2019 update: Two tranches of statutory guidance to assist local authorities to carry out their duties under Part 9 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 for local authorities have been published in [November 2018](#)¹⁷ and [June 2019](#)¹⁸, and a [workshop](#)¹⁹ took place in November 2018 to assist local authorities in developing their food-growing strategies.

¹⁶ <http://www.centuralscotlandgreennetwork.org/news-and-events/news/1307-investing-in-green-communities>

¹⁷ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/part-9-community-empowerment-scotland-act-2015-allotments-guidance-local-authorities-section-119-duty-prepare-food-growing-strategy/>

¹⁸ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/part-9-community-empowerment-scotland-act-2015-allotments-guidance-local-authorities/pages/2/>

¹⁹ <http://www.growyourownscotland.info/food-growing-strategies/>

2. SOCIAL JUSTICE

VISION

The vision is for everyone in Scotland to have the means to have ready access to the healthy, nutritious food they need.

Highlighted *Social Justice* measures setting out action we have taken to achieve the vision since 2018:

Fair Food Fund

2018 position: As set out in the Programme for Government we will be increasing the Fair Food Fund budget from £1.5 million to £3.5 million in 2019-20. This will enable us to continue our work to promote food delivery models that embrace the dignified food principles.

2019 update: Our Fair Food Fund has been progressively increased and is now £3.5 million. This fund supports dignified responses to food insecurity which help to tackle the causes of poverty. It is evolving the response away from charitable and towards human rights approaches. In January, we published an [evaluation](#)²⁰ of the *Transformation* element of the fund from 2016-18 : See further details in the case study overleaf.



²⁰ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/review-fair-food-transformation-fund/pages/11/>

Case Study – Fair Food Fund

Our Fair Food Fund is now £3.5 million. It is designed to support dignified responses to food insecurity and has funded initiatives such as community meals, low cost community food pantries and links to further money advice and support.



In January 2019, we published an [evaluation](#)²¹ of the *Transformation* element of the fund from 2016-18 which showed that projects have been able to help families to access healthy food and reduce social isolation in welcoming peer support settings. It also highlighted the importance of referrals to wider advice and support to help people increase their income and reduce the need for food provision.

In 2019-20, our [focused approach](#)²² to school holiday support will mean that over 60,000 children will have access to activities and nutritious food.

We know that income is a key driver of food insecurity during the school holidays – our new Scottish Child Payment, worth £10 a week per eligible child, will lift 30,000 children out of poverty once rolled out in full by the end of 2022. Payments for eligible families with a child under 6 will be made by Christmas 2020.



²¹ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/review-fair-food-transformation-fund/pages/11/>

²² <https://news.gov.scot/news/school-holiday-meals-for-children>



Boosting incomes

2018 position: Scottish Government has a broader and more structured approach to boosting incomes in general, as set out in the Every Child, Every Chance: The Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan.

2019 update: The [first progress report](#)²³ on action committed within the Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan was published in June 2019. This report captures the unique offer available to children and families in Scotland and provides updates on all of the actions committed:

Key progress made in 2018-19 includes:

- Increasing the minimum level of School Clothing Grants in Scotland to £100 for every eligible child;
- Launching Fair Start Scotland, Scotland's new employability service;
- Making the first payments of the Carer's Allowance Supplement. The supplement was worth £442 in 2018-19.
- Launching the new Money Talk Team Service (previously known as Financial Health Check);
- Announcing plans for a new Scottish Child Payment to low income families in receipt of qualifying benefits, paid on a monthly basis by Social Security Scotland – worth £10 per child per week.

²³ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/tackling-child-poverty-delivery-plan-first-year-progress-report-2018-19/pages/1/>

Living wage

2018 position: Actions being taken to promote the payment of the living wage.



2019 update: We are in the second year of our three year plan to build a Living Wage Nation and we have made substantial progress. Since 2018 we secured an uplift in the hourly rate of over 8,105 employees across Scotland – as part of our ambition to achieve at least an additional 25,000 uplifts by 2021 through employer accreditation. This is putting more money in the pockets of families across Scotland.

We committed a further £380,000 to the Poverty Alliance for 2019-20 to build upon the growth in workers receiving the real Living Wage and drive up accreditation.

Measuring food insecurity

2018 position: A commitment to measuring food insecurity in Scotland.

2019 update: We are measuring food insecurity through the Scottish Health Survey, following recommendations from the Independent Working Group on Food Poverty. UK Government announced in February that it would be following our lead. The [latest data](#)²⁴ shows that 9% adults experienced food insecurity in 2018.

Human rights and rights of the child

2018 position: We have a Programme for Government commitment to incorporate the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) into Scots law and the work of the First Minister’s Advisory Group on Human Rights Leadership.

2019 update: In 2016, we accepted the recommendation of an Independent Working Group on Food Poverty to consider enshrining the right to food. A new National Taskforce for Human Rights Leadership will be co-chaired by Professor Alan Miller and the Cabinet Secretary for Social Security and Older People. The new taskforce met for the first time on 2nd October 2019.

The Taskforce will take forward recommendations from the Advisory Group on Human Rights Leadership (December 2018) – in particular the proposal for a new Act of the Scottish Parliament to incorporate internationally-recognised human rights into Scots Law. The taskforce will be asked to consider all internationally-recognised human rights, which includes the right to food.

The taskforce will develop and publish its proposed programme of work in due course. The expectation is that the taskforce will develop proposals for a new “Scottish Bill of Rights”, to be published before the end of March 2021.

We are committed to incorporating the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) into Scots Law. We will deliver the legislation needed to do this by the end of March 2020. Our consultation on how a new Act could incorporate the UNCRC closed on 28 August and we will respond to this in the coming months.

²⁴ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/scottish-health-survey-2018-summary-key-findings/>

3. KNOWLEDGE

VISION

The vision is for Scots to take a keen interest in their food, knowing what constitutes good food, valuing it and seeking it out whenever they can. This starts with young children who we want to see armed with the knowledge and opportunity to understand where their food comes from and to make the right choices throughout their lives.

Highlighted Knowledge measures setting out action we have taken to achieve the vision since 2018:

Food Education Programme

2018 position: Building on previous initiatives to educate our young people on where their food comes from, we are now going to bring forward a new overarching Food Education Programme incorporating over £500,000 of existing funding and a number of strands of activity, including facilitating more visits to farms for school children.

2019 update: We launched the [Good Food Futures programme](#)²⁵ in June 2019 which aims to provide an overarching coordinated and end-to-end approach to the delivery of food education to young people and encourage careers in the food industry.

The Royal Highland Education Trust have been awarded further funding to increase the number of farm visits and events for school children. Their aim for 2019/20 is to undertake visits and events with around 14,000 children, with plans to increase this further in the following years.



²⁵ <https://www.gov.scot/news/an-appetite-for-education/>

Curriculum for Excellence

2018 position: Curriculum for Excellence, which includes children aged 3 to 18, states food education is about more than just learning how to cook and choose food, but also learning about the relationship to health and wellbeing and encompassing sustainability, advertising and culture.

2019 update: In June 2019 we published the [Learning for Sustainability Action Plan](#)²⁶ which aims to provide more opportunities for young people to learn about sustainable living, which can include the sustainable production and consumption of food .

Eco-Schools Scotland Programme

2018 position: Scottish Government provides support for inclusion of food as a theme in the Eco-Schools Scotland programme which focuses on sustainable consumption, environment and origins of food.



2019 update: We continue to provide grant funding to enable Keep Scotland Beautiful to deliver its [Eco-Schools Scotland](#)²⁷ programme. Food and the environment continues to be a key focus for the [programme](#)²⁸. For the financial year 2019-20 SG funding amounted to £300,000.

Another Keep Scotland Beautiful project, [Climate Ready Classrooms](#)²⁹, prepares young people to join a national network of carbon literate ambassadors who plan and act on climate change issues within their own schools and communities.

²⁶ <https://education.gov.scot/improvement/Documents/LearningforSustainability-Vision2030ActionPlan.pdf>

²⁷ <https://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/sustainable-development-education/eco-schools/>

²⁸ <https://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/sustainable-development-education/eco-schools/ten-topics/food-and-environment/>

²⁹ <https://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/sustainable-development-education/climate-change-education/climate-ready-classrooms/>

Food for Thought Fund

2018 position: With nearly £460,000 of support from the Scottish Government in 2018-19 alone, the Food for Thought Fund is a competitive fund that supports food education related projects in schools to help pupils learn about food.

2019 update: Support for our [Food For Thought Programme](#)³⁰ has continued this year with 174 schools benefiting from the fund. This good work has continually shown benefits to school children and teachers, and funding is planned for a further 2 years.

Schools (Health Promotion and Nutrition) (Scotland) Act 2007

2018 position: To improve food provision and food education, and ensure schools are promoting health, Education Scotland will, by the end of 2020, publish a self-evaluation framework to support the implementation of the Schools (Health Promotion and Nutrition) (Scotland) Act 2007.

2019 update: Education Scotland's Health and Nutrition Inspectors are working in collaboration with local authority school catering and education colleagues from across Scotland to develop the self-evaluation framework. Trialling of the framework will begin by the end of 2019.

Scotland's National Chef

The National Chef will increase awareness of the objectives of the Good Food Nation Policy – healthy, environmentally sustainable and affordable food for all, with positive messages about the importance of cooking using locally sourced, Scottish products.

Update: Scotland's National Chef has carried out over 10 engagements this year in a range of settings including the Royal Highland Show, primary schools and a community garden, giving inspirational talks and cookery demonstrations.

We continue to identify opportunities for the National Chef to contribute strategically to the work of the Scottish Government and enhance our policy thinking.

³⁰ <https://education.gov.scot/what-we-do/ensuring-the-impact-of-cfe/Food%20for%20Thought%20Education%20Fund>

4. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

VISION

The vision is for a decline in the environmental impact of food consumption in Scotland, for the benefit of the environment, industry and the people of Scotland.

Highlighted *Environmental Sustainability* measures setting out action we have taken to achieve the vision since 2018:

Scottish Rural Development Programme

2018 position: Scottish Rural Development Programme (SRDP) environmental practices deliver inputs on pesticides and chemicals to assist climate change and reduce the negative impact on biodiversity. The programme supports farmers and land managers to adopt environmentally friendly land management and farming practices. This is through direct support for land management, advice and knowledge transfer.

2019 update: The SRDP will continue to operate until the end of 2020. Since 2015 nearly 1 million hectares of land is under environmental management with over 2,700 contracts worth almost £180 million put in place under the Agri-Environment Climate Change Scheme. In addition, advice and knowledge transfer supports farmers and land managers to protect and enhance our environment.



Food Waste reduction target

2018 position: The Scottish Government has committed to consulting on whether the Food Waste Reduction Target should be statutory.

2019 update: As stated in the Food Waste Reduction Action Plan published in April 2019, we will consult on seeking legal powers for a mandatory Food Waste Reduction Target by the end of 2019.

Food waste data

2018 position: Work is ongoing to the baseline data around food waste and food losses generated in industry and on the farm.

2019 update: Targeted work is ongoing to gauge levels of food waste and surplus across Scotland, the UK and Europe. The Food Waste Reduction Action Plan and the Programme for Government commit the Scottish Government to explore opportunities to place requirements on businesses to publicly report on their waste and surplus, initial views on this are sought in the Circular Economy Bill consultation <https://consult.gov.scot/environment-forestry/circular-economy-proposals-for-legislation/>

Scottish Food Waste Prevention Target

2018 position: In 2016, the Scottish Government announced a target of reducing all food waste in Scotland by 33% by 2025, against a 2013 baseline.

2019 update: The Food Waste Reduction Action Plan sets out the Scottish Government's proposals to tackle food waste. It makes connections to EU, UK and Scottish activities in place which tackle food waste. It also connects with other Scottish Government policies and commitments in respect of food and waste generation, including the Climate Change Plan, Circular Economy Strategy and Good Food Nation.

Environment Strategy for Scotland

2018 position: Scottish Government published a discussion paper [Developing an Environment Strategy for Scotland](https://www.gov.scot/publications/developing-environment-strategy-scotland-discussion-paper/)³¹ in June 2018. The Environment Strategy will set out a shared, overarching vision that describes our guiding ambitions for Scotland's environment and our role in tackling global environmental challenges. It will support progress towards achieving the vision by identifying a set of supporting outcomes and priorities for action in order to deliver them.

2019 update: In February, we [published](https://www.gov.scot/publications/analysis-report-responses-online-discussion-developing-environment-strategy-scotland/pages/3/)³² an independent analysis of responses to the online discussion held in 2018. It concluded that there is broad support for our proposals for developing the Environment Strategy, including our draft vision, outcomes and knowledge accounts, with some suggestions for refinement.

We will set out our working vision for the Environment Strategy in the coming months. The strategy will form part of our overall strategic approach to environmental policy, alongside future arrangements for environmental principles and governance if the UK leaves the EU.



³¹ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/developing-environment-strategy-scotland-discussion-paper/>

³² <https://www.gov.scot/publications/analysis-report-responses-online-discussion-developing-environment-strategy-scotland/pages/3/>

5. PROSPERITY

VISION

The vision is for food companies to be a thriving feature of the economy and places where people want to work. It is for people who serve and sell food – from schools to hospitals, retailers, cafes and restaurants – to be committed to serving and selling good food. The vision is also for Scotland to be a world leader whose success makes Scotland a destination of choice for those who value quality local food and a place to whom other countries turn in order to learn how to become a Good Food Nation.

Highlighted *Prosperity* measures setting out action we have taken to achieve the vision since 2018:

Food and drink exports

2018 position: Scotland's food and drink exports have been increasing year on year since 2007 and are now worth a record £6 billion.

We want to continue this momentum and seek to get more of our businesses exporting to more markets across the world.

2019 update: Scottish Food and Drink Exports were worth a record £6.3 billion in 2018.

A new £4.5 million collaborative Scotland Food & Drink Export plan was published in June 2019, supported by £2.7 million from Scottish Government and remaining contributions split equally between Scottish Development International and industry.

The plan will continue the existence of in-market specialists in key markets throughout the globe and look to enhance engagement carried out through global trade shows and engagement with other key global stakeholders.



Showcasing Scotland

2018 position: A Showcasing Scotland regional programme of events has been developed to help meet growing demand for local products in local markets.

2019 update: A large showcasing Scotland event took place at Gleneagles in October 2019 with 150 UK and International buyers meeting with 150 Scottish suppliers.

Rural funding transition period

2018 position: Scottish Government completed its consultation on the document “Stability and Simplicity: proposals for a rural funding transition period” in 2018 and results were being analysed.

2019 update: The Scottish Government set out its proposals for future agriculture funding in its June 2018 consultation ‘Stability and Simplicity: Proposals for a rural funding transition period’ with an approach that follows four principles of stability, simplicity, sustainability and security.

The Government response to the Stability and Simplicity consultation sets out a five-year transition period to provide people in rural businesses with as much security as possible. During this time, the Scottish Government intends to broadly retain the current support schemes for active farming, food production, environmental improvements, forestry and rural development, currently delivered by CAP Pillar 1 and Pillar 2. However, we are also looking at whether processes can be simplified and streamlined while working to identify improvements that deliver efficiencies and better outcomes.

The approach sets out two phases:

- A period of stability, with little change to the current system, until the end of 2020, followed by;
- A period of simplicity, where simplifications and improvements will be made, and potential new schemes for longer term policy will be piloted, between 2021 – 2024.

A [Farming and Food Production Future Policy Group](https://www.gov.scot/groups/farming-and-food-production-group/)³³ has been established to advise on future policies for Scotland post-2024.

³³ <https://www.gov.scot/groups/farming-and-food-production-group/>

Food and drink industry – Ambition 2030

2018 position: The Government continues to work in partnership with the industry to deliver Ambition 2030, the new food and drink strategy for Scotland. Published in 2018, the strategy set an ambition to double the value of the sector to £30 billion by the year 2030.

2019 update: Food and Drink sector turnover and exports are both at record levels and on track to meet 2030 growth targets. For example, since April 2018 Seafood Scotland have delivered 25 projects and events in 10 countries and 18 cities across the globe. The 3 seafood specific trade shows Seafood Scotland co-ordinated resulted in approximately £102.8m sales generated, 883 new contacts generated and 310 new customers identified. A new programme of activity is being considered for post March 2020.

Food and drink sector plans

2018 position: The Government is working in partnership with the food and drink industry to develop a series of sector specific action plans to drive forward growth across the sectors.

2019 update: The first national sector strategies were launched for the food tourism, pigs, fruit and vegetable, venison, brewing and seafood industry sectors, targeting over £1.8 billion in growth. Other sector strategies which are in development include strategies for the dairy and beef sectors.

Mainstreaming Rural Policy

2018 position: We appointed the National Council of Rural Advisors to recommend future actions to sustain a vibrant and flourishing rural economy.

2019 update: Our Economic Action Plan, first published in October 2018, takes forward specific actions that enhance businesses, places and the lives of people in rural Scotland.

More than 90% of the recommendations made by the National Council of Rural Advisers are being delivered through national programmes of work. Many have been included and committed to within the Economic Action Plan.

Sustainable growth and environmental impacts for the aquaculture industry

2018 position: The need to strike an appropriate balance between the sustainable growth of the aquaculture industry and the associated environmental impacts is recognised.

2019 update: The Scottish Government's response to the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee report on Salmon Farming in Scotland (29 January 2019) included, as part of any future request for planning advice, that Marine Scotland will expect a condition requiring an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) to be delivered for any consents for marine aquaculture planning applications (when there is, or there is potential for, wild/farmed salmon interaction).

In July we updated local authorities and industry that Marine Scotland's screening and scoping responses will advise what we would expect EMPs to include (as a minimum), should the applicant submit a planning application. Consultation responses will also confirm whether these areas have been included in an EMP.



Regulatory framework for aquaculture sustainable growth

2018 position: The Scottish Government and its agencies are working with the sector, and with others, to develop a policy and regulatory framework that enables sustainable growth while maintaining the right balance across our economic, environmental and social responsibilities.

2019 update: Our Technical Working Group has been tasked with developing a practical framework for assessing the sea lice loading and management requirements, taking account of the best available scientific understanding and the precautionary principle. The group comprises experts from the regulators - Marine Scotland, Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Scottish Natural Heritage and representatives of local authorities.

It is intended that this framework will underpin future planning advice. Through the framework, adaptive management based on enhanced monitoring will create an enabling environment for encouraging further aquaculture development where impacts can be mitigated.





Knowledge Transfer and Innovation Fund

2018 position: Provision of support to a range of collaborative projects under the SRDP's Knowledge Transfer and Innovation Fund delivers innovative projects that aim to improve efficiency, enhance profitability, improve habitats and optimise environmental performance.

2019 update: 27 projects have been funded to date with £5.5 million of grant funding awarded.

Sea lice reporting

2018 position: In June this year, industry began publishing site level sea lice data and fulfilled a commitment made under the framework to move to proactive and open reporting of mortality information – a pioneering approach in the farming sector.

2019 update: A review of Scotland's farmed fish sea lice policy was a priority action for Scottish Government which was included in Scotland's 10 Year Farmed Fish Health Framework (published in 2018).

Outcomes of the review included:

- The introduction of legislation in 2020 that will require all marine farms to report a weekly sea lice number to Scottish Government;
- Reduction of the reporting and intervention thresholds in lice on adult female fish from June 2019;
- A commitment, unless there is compelling evidence to the contrary, to a further reduction of intervention thresholds in lice on adult female fish in 2021;
- That we will explore the establishment of independent sea lice count checks.



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The Scottish Government
St Andrew's House
Edinburgh
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ISBN: 978-1-83960-335-8 (web only)

Published by The Scottish Government, November 2019

Produced for The Scottish Government by APS Group Scotland, 21 Tennant Street, Edinburgh EH6 5NA
PPDAS657422 (11/19)

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