

20.6.22

Rural Affairs, Islands and Natural Environment Committee

The Scottish Parliament

Edinburgh

EH99 1SP

Dear RAINE Committee members and Clerks,

On behalf of the Scottish Food Coalition, I am writing to warmly welcome the passing of the Good Food Nation (Scotland) Bill last week. This Bill marks a seminal shift in Scottish food policy through the creation of a strong and cohesive legislative framework that will help facilitate and deliver a better food system for all in Scotland. Many difficult and systemic challenges though remain, and as such we must all build on the momentum created by the Bill in order to deliver its vision for Scotland's food system.

We would like to place on record our thanks to all members of the committee for your collaborative approach to this Bill and the level of scrutiny it was afforded. We very much welcomed seeing how the Committee worked together and invited evidence from a broad range of stakeholders, including members of the SFC, to ensure that a diverse evidence base around the various food system topics were heard. We now feel the Bill is stronger than when first brought forward, and that Committee members working alongside various stakeholders have all helped achieve this.

We would also like to thank the Committee Clerks who were very effective to work with in ensuring the views from a number of Coalition organisations, and the SFC's collective voice, were heard throughout the bill process by the Committee.

We look forward to continuing to working with you in supporting the Bill (and Food Commission) as the Government further develops the Good Food Nation vision through the Scottish Food Commission and the forthcoming Good Food Nation Plans.

Kind Regards

Professor Mary Brennan, Chair of the Scottish Food Coalition