

Rural Affairs and Islands Committee  
Wednesday 03 September 2025  
23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting, 2025 (Session 6)

## The proposed national good food nation plan:

### Introduction

1. On 3 September, the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee will take evidence from a roundtable of stakeholders on the proposed national good food nation (GFN) plan.
2. The aim of the evidence session is to allow the Committee to hear stakeholders' views on the proposed plan.

### Background

3. The [Good Food Nation \(Scotland\) Act 2022](#) requires the Scottish Government to publish a national GFN plan. The proposed national GFN plan had to be laid by the 30 June 2025 for a scrutiny period of 60 days (30 days of which must not be during recess or dissolution). The [proposed national plan](#) was laid on 27 June and the scrutiny period will end on 29 September.
4. The national GFN plan must—
  - set out the main outcomes, as well as the indicators/measures for measuring and policies for achieving these outcomes (section 1(3)).
  - have regard to how “food-related issues” affect a non-exhaustive list of outcomes set out in section 1(6).
  - have regard to five principles (section 2).
5. The [Scottish Government consulted on its draft national GFN plan and on the specified functions between January and April 2024](#) and [published its analysis of the national GFN plan consultation responses in September 2024](#).
6. The Scottish Government has to publish the final national plan “before the end of the period of 3 months” after the end of the 60-day period (section 1(2)). In practice, this means the first national plan will be finalised and published before the end of 2025.
7. The Scottish Ministers would only need to have regard to the national GFN plan when exercising a ‘specified function’. The specified functions will be set out in regulations to be considered under the affirmative procedure.
8. The draft regulations are expected to be laid later this autumn; this would ensure they can come into effect at approximately the same time as the finalised plan. The Committee will consider these draft regulations when they have been laid.

## **Next steps**

9. It is proposed that, following the session, the Committee will write to the Cabinet Secretary to highlight the Official Report detailing the issues raised during the discussion. It is intended that this will feed into the Scottish Government's deliberations ahead of finalising the plan.
10. The evidence taken at this meeting will also inform the Committee's consideration of the 'specified functions' SSI later this autumn.

**Clerks to the Committee**  
**September 2025**