

# Questions

## About you

(Note: Information entered in this “About You” section may be published with your response (unless it is “not for publication”), except where indicated in **bold**.)

1. Are you responding as:
- an individual – in which case go to Q2A
  - on behalf of an organisation? – in which case go to Q2B

2A. Which of the following best describes you? (If you are a professional or academic, but not in a subject relevant to the consultation, please choose “Member of the public”.)

- Politician (MSP/MP/peer/MEP/Councillor)
- Professional with experience in a relevant subject
- Academic with expertise in a relevant subject
- Member of the public

Optional: You may wish to explain briefly what expertise or experience you have that is relevant to the subject-matter of the consultation:

2B. Please select the category which best describes your organisation:

Public sector body (Scottish/UK Government or agency, local authority, NDPB)

- Commercial organisation (company, business)
- Representative organisation (trade union, professional association)
- Third sector (charitable, campaigning, social enterprise, voluntary, non-profit)
- Other (e.g. clubs, local groups, groups of individuals, etc.)

Optional: You may wish to explain briefly what the organisation does, its experience and expertise in the subject-matter of the consultation, and how the view expressed in the response was arrived at (e.g. whether it is the view of particular office-holders or has been approved by the membership as a whole).

3. Please choose one of the following:

- I am content for this response to be published and attributed to me or my organisation
- I would like this response to be published anonymously
- I would like this response to be considered, but not published (“not for publication”)

If you have requested anonymity or asked for your response not to be published, please give a reason. (**Note: your reason will not be published.**)

4. Please provide your name or the name of your organisation. **(Note: The name will not be published if you have asked for the response to be anonymous or “not for publication”.)**

Name: *anonymous*

Please provide a way in which we can contact you if there are queries regarding your response. Email is preferred but you can also provide a postal address or phone number. **(Note: We will not publish these contact details.)**

Contact details:

5. Data protection declaration

I confirm that I have read and understood the [Privacy Notice](#) to this consultation which explains how my personal data will be used.

If you are under 12 and making a submission, we will need to contact you to ask your parent or guardian to confirm to us that they are happy for you to send us your views.

Please ONLY tick this box if you are UNDER 12 years of age.

## Your views on the proposal

Note: All answers to the questions in this section may be published (unless your response is “not for publication”).

### Aim and approach

1. Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposal to incorporate the right to food into Scots law?

- Fully supportive  
 Partially supportive  
 Neutral (neither support nor oppose)  
 Partially opposed  
 Fully opposed  
 Unsure

Please explain the reasons for your response.

*Clearly change is needed and a bold one at that. You can't escape the fact that this is an ambitious document and one with enormous courage. It would be naïve to think a jinni's wave could fix this but by taking it to parliament, it sends out a committed message to all contributing stakeholders, that this is something people are willing to fight for. Right now it is energy and energy that needs to be harnessed.*

2. Do you think legislation is required, or are there are other ways in which the Bill's aims could be achieved more effectively? Please explain the reasons for your response.

*Absolutely. We live in a time where unilateral decisions destroy the lives of individuals and communities and yet, with a shiny bit of PR and an apology, 'accidentals' convince themselves that this remedial action is just remedy. There will always be those who through their abuse of status, willfully circumvent the law, but legal accountability at government level is the only tool of redress and one that in theory supports the marginalized voice. As for achieving an outcome more efficiently, fixing this is a long game and we should be doing everything in our power to avoid the quick fix mistakes of the past*

3. Which of the following best expresses your view on an independent statutory body being given responsibility for overseeing and reporting on progress towards realising the right to food?

- Fully supportive
- Partially supportive
- Neutral (neither support nor oppose)
- Partially opposed
- Fully opposed
- Unsure

Please explain the reasons for your response.

*It's not parking permit policy we're talking about here. Humans (with any assumed, acquired and/or advantageous handle on power) have repeatedly demonstrated throughout history that we cannot be trusted. Only an eclectic, progressive and empirically steered consensus will truly fix this*

4. Should an independent body be given responsibility for overseeing and reporting on the right to food, do you think it should be:

- a newly created body

- an existing body (if so, please state which body in the comment box)   
either option

Please explain the reasons for your response.

*There are plenty of reasons to avoid introducing more hops than you need in a sensitive chain of command (red tape for one), but the reality however, is that most (if not all) of our key decision makers are those hollow of lived experience. Lived experience alone isn't sufficient to successfully govern the complex political landscape, but there is I believe, a strong case for welcoming its influence strategically and empathetically.*

5. Which of the following best expresses your view of enshrining a right to food into Scots law as a priority in advance of, and in a manner which is compatible with, any further Scottish Government legislation on wider human rights?

- Fully supportive  
 Partially supportive  
 Neutral (neither support nor oppose)  
 Partially opposed  
 Fully opposed  
 Unsure

Please explain the reasons for your response.

*Personally no government will be able to fix this in three or four terms because it doesn't relate only to food. The anthropological fabric of society has been subject to chronic erosion and there needs a tough and immediate change to legislation to allow the real visionaries a place at the table. It is impossible to fix everything, but imperative is the need for us to start making inroads toward this.*

6. Which of the following best describes your view of placing responsibility for guaranteeing the right to food on the Scottish Government?

- Fully supportive  
 Partially supportive  
 Neutral (neither support nor oppose)  
 Partially opposed  
 Fully opposed  
 Unsure

Please explain the reasons for your response

*There are many factors and sectors as outlined in the consult paper that make this a difficult policy to rule on, but whilst the nation crumbles, as long as those in the UK still dining with influence, an alleged £64k pension and a small but ticking over property portfolio, can slip their hand into their pocket and claim (not confer) £70k in furlough, it is not governments that need to be held to account, but individuals.*

## **Covid-19 pandemic**

7. What impact do you consider the effects of, and response to, the Covid-19 pandemic has had on the need for a right to food to be incorporated into Scots law?

- Increased the need for the Bill
- Reduced the need for the Bill
- No significant impact
- Unsure

Please explain the reasons for your response.

*It is at times like this when you hope the prevailing winds of fortune rise up in individuals and make their altruism known. If we are numb to the voices sat beside us during their moment of need, nothing in policy will restore our dignity or the connections lost.*

## **Financial implications**

8. Taking into account all those likely to be affected (including public sector bodies, businesses and individuals etc), is the proposed Bill likely to lead to:

- a significant increase in costs
- some increase in costs
- no overall change in costs
- some reduction in costs
- a significant reduction in costs
- don't know

*Short-term will without doubt require a significant amount investment/increase in costs but the potential long-term benefits for the health service and general wellbeing of individuals, communities, the environment and agricultural practices*

*would easily outweigh the former. There would also need to be financial incentives given to existing, intensive farming operations to assist them in transitioning.*

Please indicate where you would expect the impact identified to fall (including public sector bodies, businesses and individuals etc). You may also wish to suggest ways in which the aims of the Bill could be delivered more cost-effectively.

## Equalities

9. What overall impact is the proposed Bill likely to have on equality, taking account of the following protected characteristics (under the Equality Act 2010): age, disability, gender re-assignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation?

- Positive  
 Slightly positive  
 Neutral (neither positive nor negative)  
 Slightly negative  
 Negative  
 Unsure

Please explain the reasons for your response. Where any negative impacts are identified, you may also wish to suggest ways in which these could be minimised or avoided.

*Isn't this the question forecasters and fund raisers alike love? Whilst the world spins on its axis most of society appear to be rowing against the tide. Where we'll end up is anybody's guess.*

## Sustainability

10. In terms of assessing the proposed Bill's potential impact on sustainable development, you may wish to consider how it relates to the following principles:

- living within environmental limits
- ensuring a strong, healthy and just society
- achieving a sustainable economy
- promoting effective, participative systems of governance
- ensuring policy is developed on the basis of strong scientific evidence.

With these principles in mind, do you consider that the Bill can be delivered sustainably?

- Yes  
 No  
 Unsure

Please explain the reasons for your response.

If the bill achieves what it says on the tin then it will be down to the people to implement it. Are we ready to change our ways, to think differently, to want less?

## General

11. Do you have any other additional comments or suggestions on the proposed Bill (which have not already been covered in any of your responses to earlier questions)?

*Bills were passed in 1996 that committed to halve the number of hungry and malnourished from 991 to 495 million by 2015. After steadily declining for a decade, the figures are again rising at an alarming rate, with the number of undernourished people growing by 161 million during 2019 to 2020 alone. Although a large proportion of this increase is attributed to Asia and Africa, this brings the current estimated worldwide total to 690 million.*

*Clearly we've had a bump in population figures (5.8 billion in 1996 to 7.9 billion in 2022) so the rise could be exponential, but what of the 1996 intervention? Did it work? Naturally any initiative on such a grand scale takes years to reveal its quantitative impact and who's to say the SDG will not suffer a similar 'calm before the storm' fate? I concede there is absolutely no science in an opinion such as this, but when you look around, seven years after such ground-breaking world effort and intervention, are people happier, is the world in which we live healthier, are we still invested in communities, has the threat of war diminished, have we successfully managed to iron out the discrepancies between rich and poor and now that the internet has connected approximately 60% of world, are we each having richer and more altruistic inducing encounters that implore us to share what we have with others?*

