The Good Food Nation Bill

We have plenty of land in Scotland, and plenty of sea, and plenty of skilled people, scientists and innovators. There’s no reason why we shouldn’t have plenty of good food for everyone!

Right now, food is at the heart of some of Scotland’s biggest challenges, from inequality to ill health to ecological damage. We have a food system of injustice: many people are priced out of a decent diet, reliant on food banks and suffering the consequences of poor nutrition. Big business makes healthy profits, but we do not value the people who work to produce and process food, the farm animals, or the wildlife and natural resources, which enable us to eat well.

Until now Government has mostly looked at parts of the food system in isolation. There have been few opportunities for people to participate in making decisions about how the food system works.

That is all about to change!

The Scottish Government is going to introduce a ‘Good Food Nation Bill’, Scotland’s first piece of legislation that looks at the whole food system. This is potentially world-leading, connecting numerous government departments including social justice, health, agriculture, environment and rural development. This Bill is a change to enshrine the human right to food in Scots law and build a fair and just food system in Scotland.

The food system involves all of us, and we hope that this legislation will be a chance for everyone to shape Scotland’s food system, especially those who are affected by food injustices.