

North Lanarkshire Council Report

Policy and Strategy Committee

Does this report require to be approved? Yes No

Ref LR/AH/GF/GFN – June 2026 Date 11/06/26

The Good Food Nation

From Lyall Rennie

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Executive Summary

The Scottish Government have set out a vision for Scotland to be “a Good Food Nation, where people from every walk of life take pride and pleasure in, and benefit from, the food they produce, buy, cook, serve, and eat each day.”

The [Good Food Nation \(Scotland\) Act 2022](#) provides the legislative framework enabling Scotland to take steps towards realising our vision. The Act underpins in law the work that is already being done across the Scottish Government to make Scotland a Good Food Nation.

Good Food Nation plans (Scottish Government, 2024)

“The Act places duties on Scottish Ministers, local authorities and health boards to produce Good Food Nation Plans. These Plans will set out the main outcomes to be achieved in relation to food-related issues, the policies needed to do this and the measures that will be used to assess progress”

Objectives of the Good Food Nation Plan (GFNP)

The Good Food Nation Plan outlines Scotland’s vision of a future where everyone feels positive about the food they produce, buy, prepare, and eat. It seeks to tackle key challenges across the entire food system while encouraging improvements in public health, environmental sustainability, and economic wellbeing. The Plan is organised around **six** overarching outcomes that shape and guide its delivery.

Outcome 1 - Everyone in Scotland eats well: Ensuring access to safe, healthy, affordable and environmentally friendly food that respects cultural preferences.

Outcome 2 - Environmental sustainability: Creating a food system that supports the natural environment, climate, wildlife, and animal welfare.

Outcome 3 - Health and wellbeing: Promoting physical and mental health through better food choices and access to nutritious options.

Outcome 4 - Economic Success: Establishing Scotland as a global leader in high-quality food production, supporting local economies and job creation.

Outcome 5 - Food Culture: Fostering a culture of interest and education around sustainable food practices among Scottish population.

Outcome 6 - Reducing inequality: Addressing disparities in food access and health outcomes across different communities.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Policy and Strategy Committee:

- (1) Acknowledge the current position in relation to Good Food Nation Legislation.

The Plan for North Lanarkshire

Priority	Improve the health and wellbeing of our communities
Ambition statement	(15) Encourage the health and wellbeing of people through a range of social, cultural, and leisure activities
Programme of Work	Invest in North Lanarkshire

1. Background

- 1.1 In 2023 the Good Food Nation (Scotland) Act was enacted
- 1.2 In December 2025, the Good Food Nation Plan was published, marking a significant milestone in progressing a systems-based approach to food policy in Scotland.
- 1.3 The Scottish Government has indicated that Section 10 of the Act will commence on 1 April 2027. This commencement triggers the statutory 12-month period for relevant authorities (local authorities and territorial health boards) to prepare and publish their “local” Good Food Nation Plans.
- 1.4 In practice, early notification of the intention to commence Section 10 on 1 April 2026 effectively provides authorities with 24 months to develop these plans. This approach reflects feedback that the statutory 12-month period alone would be insufficient for producing comprehensive local plans.
- 1.5 It should be noted that this timeline may be subject to change following the recent Scottish Parliamentary election. While this introduces some uncertainty, early notice is being provided to support planning and timescale mapping.
- 1.6 Once developed, local authority plans will be required to be published by 1 April 2028 and reviewed every five years.

2. Report

- 2.1 Facility Support Services (FSS) colleagues have been identified as leads for the development of the mandatory Council's Good Food Nation Plans. This work will require collaborative input from all service areas to support the implementation of the legislation and associated plans.
- 2.2 Approval has been given to explore funding to dedicate some resources to undertake the Good Food Nation (GFN) work, in order to ensure deadlines for producing the plan is met. The resources will be set out to work across service departments to gather and coordinate this project.
- 2.3 To ensure an inclusive approach, engagement with third-sector organisations and key partners, including the NHS, will be essential. This will involve consultation with a wide range of stakeholders and local communities. Existing consultation mechanisms will also be considered where appropriate.

Good Food Nation action plans

- 2.4 Action Plans must be developed and published by **April 2028**. Each plan must include:
 - Clear outcomes
 - Policies
 - Indicators and measures
- 2.5 All published plans must include a statement explaining how officers have "had regard" to food-related issues and the principles set out in the National Good Food Nation Plan.
- 2.6 Plans must ensure inclusive communication and meaningful engagement with children and young people.
- 2.7 Plans must also consider the legal effect through specified functions.
- 2.8 At the time of writing, no financial commitment has been confirmed by the Scottish Government for the 2026–27 budget. Further discussions with COSLA are expected following the formation of the new Government.
- 2.9 Consideration must be given to the staffing and resources required to support both the development of Good Food Nation Plans and the implementation of this new legislation.

Good Food Nation consultation event

- 2.10 A Good Food Nation consultation event was scheduled for Thursday 29 May, where colleagues and partners attended to discuss the six outcomes of the legislation and how these impact on their service. It also provided an opportunity to inform future collaborations of the plans.

3. Measures of success

- 3.1 Good Food National action plan.

4. Supporting documentation

No supporting documentation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lyall Rennie". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L".

Name Lyall Rennie
Title Chief Officer (Community Operations)

5. Impacts

<p>5.1 Public Sector Equality Duty and Fairer Scotland Duty Does the report contain information that has an impact as a result of the Public Sector Equality Duty and/or Fairer Scotland Duty? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?</p> <p>If Yes, has an assessment been carried out and published on the council's website? https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/your-community/equalities/equality-and-fairer-scotland-duty-impact-assessments Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>5.2 Financial impact Does the report contain any financial impacts? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, have all relevant financial impacts been discussed and agreed with Finance? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?</p>
<p>5.3 HR policy impact Does the report contain any HR policy or procedure impacts? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, have all relevant HR impacts been discussed and agreed with People Resources? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?</p>
<p>5.4 Legal impact Does the report contain any legal impacts (such as general legal matters, statutory considerations (including employment law considerations), or new legislation)? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, have all relevant legal impacts been discussed and agreed with Legal and Democratic? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?</p>
<p>5.5 Data protection impact Does the report / project / practice contain or involve the processing of personal data? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, is the processing of this personal data likely to result in a high risk to the data subject? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, has a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) been carried out and e-mailed to dataprotection@northlan.gov.uk Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>5.6 Technology / Digital impact Does the report contain information that has an impact on either technology, digital transformation, service redesign / business change processes, data management, or connectivity / broadband / Wi-Fi? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?</p>

<p>Where the impact identifies a requirement for significant technology change, has an assessment been carried out (or is scheduled to be carried out) by the Enterprise Architecture Governance Group (EAGG)?</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>5.7 Environmental / Carbon impact</p> <p>Does the report / project / practice contain information that has an impact on any environmental or carbon matters?</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?</p>
<p>5.8 Communications impact</p> <p>Does the report contain any information that has an impact on the council's communications activities?</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact?</p>
<p>5.9 Risk impact</p> <p>Is there a risk impact?</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the key risks and potential impacts, highlighting where the risk(s) are assessed and recorded (e.g. Corporate or Service or Project Risk Registers), and how they are managed?</p>
<p>5.10 Armed Forces Covenant Duty</p> <p>Does the report require to take due regard of the Armed Forces Covenant Duty (i.e. does it relate to healthcare, housing, or education services for in-Service or ex-Service personnel, or their families, or widow(er)s)?</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the provision which has been made to ensure there has been appropriate consideration of the particular needs of the Armed Forces community to make sure that they do not face disadvantage compared to other citizens in the provision of public services.</p>
<p>5.11 Children's rights and wellbeing impact</p> <p>Does the report contain any information regarding any council activity, service delivery, policy, or plan that has an impact on children and young people up to the age of 18, or on a specific group of these?</p> <p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If Yes, please provide a brief summary of the impact and the provision that has been made to ensure there has been appropriate consideration of the relevant Articles from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).</p> <p>If Yes, has a Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA) been carried out?</p> <p>UNCRC – Article 24 (health and health services) UNC RC – Article 27 (adequate standard of living)</p> <p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>