



In Autumn 2007, the Scottish Parliament agreed with the Scottish Government that a national food policy is needed for Scotland.

A national discussion paper has now been published as the first step towards making that proposal a reality. This will take into account all aspects of food, from health and education to the economy and tourism, sourcing more Scottish food through public procurement, and making healthier food more accessible to all in Scotland.

Comments on the discussion paper ***Choosing the Right Ingredients: the future of food in Scotland*** are invited from all groups, organisations and individuals in Scotland to help shape the future of food in Scotland.

The Scottish Government's vision for food and making Scotland healthier includes **changing behaviour and attitudes; improving safety and freshness in institutional and catering sectors; supporting industry to drive demand for affordable and healthy food; and better access to affordable, safe, healthy and fresh seasonal food**. The discussion paper sets out several of the key issues in balancing some of these ideas and a number of the suggestions mentioned in the paper reflect much of the activity that is already taking place within low-income communities in Scotland.



Community Food and Health (Scotland) or CFHS believes that the experience and understanding of disadvantaged communities will be crucial in ensuring future policy around food is inclusive and effective and is keen to assist Scotland's low-income communities to **have their say** by:

- ? **raising awareness of the discussion paper and encouraging individual responses**
- **holding a FREE national event (18 MARCH 2008, PIPING CENTRE, 32 McPHATER STREET, GLASGOW, (11 am to 3 pm) for those involved in food and health activity in low-income communities to facilitate discussion and collect responses to feed back to the Scottish Government**
- ? **offering funding to support local/regional meetings on the future of food in Scotland**

***"Policy is actually all of our business ... we all need to be at the heart of it to shape it and take it forward in ways that make sense to the communities we all live and work with."***

**Lizanne Conway, Health Improvement Programmes Manager, Communities and Voluntary Sector, NHS Health Scotland (addressing a recent CFHS conference)**

## Have your say

### by submitting your response directly to the Scottish Government

You will find instructions on how to submit your response in the discussion paper ***Choosing the Right Ingredients: the Future for Food in Scotland***, which is available to download from the Scottish Government website

[www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Business-Industry/Food-Industry/Discussion](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Business-Industry/Food-Industry/Discussion)

or is also available **free** from:

Blackwell's Bookshop, 53 South Bridge, Edinburgh, EH1 1YS

tel: 0131 622 8283,

email: [business.edinburgh@blackwell.co.uk](mailto:business.edinburgh@blackwell.co.uk)

**The closing date for responses is 25 April 2008.**

## Have your say

### by taking part in our national seminar

A **FREE** national event is to be held at the **Piping Centre in Glasgow on 18 March**, for those involved in food and health activity within low-income communities to ensure that they can share their aspirations, concerns and opinions about a national food policy for Scotland. External facilitators will be engaged to assist in the collection of views and complete a written submission to the Scottish Government

Please note that places are limited (around 60) for this event. If interest from your group is high, you might like to consider a local or regional event as detailed below.

To register for this event, **please complete and return the enclosed booking form by 4 March 2008**. Applications will only be accepted on an official form.

## Have your say

### by organising your own local meeting

CFHS is also offering to underwrite local or regional community events on the future of food for Scotland, up to a maximum of £500. The funding could be used for hall hire, catering, childcare or other expenses that will promote participation.

**Responsibility for organising a meeting in their community would lie with the applicant.**

If you are interested in organising a community meeting, contact CFHS for an application form. The simple form will ask for brief details on what you intend to do and why, and a financial breakdown. Applications will only be accepted on an official form.

Local/regional meetings will be expected to report their findings directly to the Scottish Government. However, CFHS would welcome some feedback on your event

In order that the local/regional meetings take place in time to feed back in time for the response deadline of 25 April, the closing date for applications for funding of up to £500 is **28 February 2008**.



**National Food Discussion  
Have your say**

**by taking part  
in our national seminar**

**Tuesday 18 March 2008  
Piping Centre, 32 McPhater Street, Glasgow  
11 am - 3 pm**

**PLEASE COMPLETE TO REGISTER YOUR PLACE**

**Name**

**Organisation**

**Address**

**Telephone**

**Email**

**Any special dietary or access requirements?**

**Booking forms must be returned by 4 March 2008 to:**

**Community Food and Health (Scotland)  
c/o SCC, Royal Exchange House,  
100 Queen Street,  
Glasgow G1 3DN  
Tel: 0141 226 5261  
email: [cfh@scotconsumer.org.uk](mailto:cfh@scotconsumer.org.uk)**



**[www.communityfoodandhealth.org.uk](http://www.communityfoodandhealth.org.uk)**

**Please note that if you are interested in organising a local/regional event, please contact us to receive a separate application form for funding or visit our website to download the appropriate form .**