

Cyflwynwyd yr ymateb hwn i'r ymgynghoriad ar y [Bil Bwyd \(Cymru\) Drafft](#)

This response was submitted to the consultation on the [Draft Food \(Wales\) Bill](#)

OSFB004

Ymateb gan: | Response from: Unigolyn | An individual

Overarching principles

Question 1: Do you agree with the overarching principles that the Bill seeks to achieve?

Yes

Wales needs a development of food and drink that creates a sustainable process that creates a circular economy reducing the carbon footprint of production manufacturing and logistics

Question 2: Do you think there is a need for this legislation? Can you provide reasons for your answer.

Yes

Through legislation a direction of travel can be discussed argued and agreed without legislation it is at the political whim of one or two individuals

Food Goals

Question 3: Please provide your views on the inclusion of the Food Goals within the Bill as the means to underpin the policy objectives.

Food goals provide a point to aim at it makes the understanding within all directly or indirectly involved a purpose

Question 4: Do you agree with the inclusion of a Primary Food Goal supplemented by Secondary Food Goals?

Yes Wales cannot be self sustaining with regard to food and drink as a consequence not all food and drink production can be primary. The addition of secondary food goals i hope would remove some of the silo mentality that presently exists

Question 5: Are there additional / different areas you think should be included in the Food Goals?

The removal of the silo culture is vital. There needs to be much more understanding and cooperation between agriculture and horticulture with food and drink producers maximising value added products. At the same time there needs to be understanding and cooperation between the producers and hospitality and retail

Question 6: Do you have any additional comments on the Food Goals, including the resource implications of the proposals and how these could be minimised?

If the food goals are put together well in consultation with all the industries concerned then the resource implications will automatically be minimised as the goals should create profit and wealth within the industries meaning that more can be done for all in Welsh society

Question 7: Please provide your views on the inclusion of targets within the Bill as the means to measure how the Food Goals are being advanced.

Targets are vital within the bill but need to be set in realism and not box ticking. They need to be considered and revised on a regular basis

Question 8: Do you agree with the process for setting the targets?

Yes and no. The targets need industry input from stage one they need to be realistic and be able to be altered. There needs to be the ability of a target to fail without repercussions but to be recognised early and altered - this is how business is done

Question 9: Do you think the reporting mechanisms set out in the draft Bill provide sufficient accountability and scope for scrutiny?

It appears the reporting mechanism seems to go back to the government. I understand that this is in some ways logical BUT governments and their civil service departments never admit to getting things wrong. This cannot become a party political football. Accountability has to be transparent and movable

Question 10: Do you have any additional comments on the targets, including the resource implications of the proposals and how these could be minimised?

Targets in the past i feel have come from the likes of Kantor who if the results do not appear within an epos system don't get recorded. The recording of the figures needs to be industry led but there needs to be trust between the industries involved and the government and their departments which i fear is not in place at present

Wales Food Commission

Question 11: What are your views on the need for a Welsh Food Commission?

Vital

Question 12: Do you agree with the goals and functions of the Welsh Food Commission? If not, what changes would you suggest?

yes in principle but is a lot more complicated in practice. The present food board is made up of businesses that have all had major grants from the government and the toadyism needs to be removed for the benefit of the industries as a whole

Question 13: Do you agree with the size of the membership of the Food Commission and the process for appointing its members?

The Food Commission needs to be far more synodical than is proposed. Government appointees will do as the government wants and disregards those at the coal face those that make Welsh Food and drink the wonderful product that it is

Question 14: What are your views on the proposal that the chair and members can serve a maximum term of five years and that an individual may be re-appointed as a chair or member only once? Do you believe this is appropriate?

Agreed on the 5 year term but not sure about the re appointment. With synodical process this would include far more people but not necessarily far more cost.

Question 15: Do you have any additional comments on the Food Commission, including the resource implications of the proposals and how these could be minimised?

This needs to be industry led and not civil service led and as said if the food bill works with and for the industry then profits will flow and then government resources can be minimised. Look at FDF in say the East Midlands

National Food Strategy

Question 16: Do you agree that there is a need for a national food strategy?

Yes

Question 17: Do you believe the Welsh Government's current strategies relating to 'food' are sufficiently joined up / coherent?

No no no

Question 18: Does the draft Bill do enough to ensure that Welsh Ministers take advice and consult on the strategy before it is made. If no, what additional mechanisms would you put in place?

No it does not. There needs to be involvement from the ground upwards across agriculture horticulture food and drink producers hospitality retail and tourism

Question 19: Do you think the provisions of the draft Bill relating to reporting on the national food strategy are sufficient? If not, what changes would you like to see?

The timescale is wrong. Yes the food bill needs to lay out a strategy for 12 months 2 years and five years and possibly ten years BUT this needs to be reported every quarter not every 2 years. This should be concise and not floury Big institutions report every quarter days after the end of the quarter and that must be the aim here

Question 20: Do you think the provisions of the draft Bill relating to reviewing of the national food strategy are sufficient? If not, what changes would you like to see?

No As per 28 Reveiwing needs to be continuous every quarter whats working whats not working. That that is working great but still needs to be kept under review the areas that are not working need to be QUICKLY examined altered and revised

Question 21: Do you have any additional comments on the National Food Strategy, including the resource implications of the proposals and how these could be minimised?

When you look at the Young Farmers movement each club is run by a committee with possible sub committees for specifics. Senior members are elected to the county level and senior members here are elected to regional level and then to national level. How does it work because decisions are madfe locally and the unpaid benefits are for the members. So resource implications are minimised The same needs to be set up within the food and drink industries with little or no civil service input apart from possible secretariate.

Local Food Plans

Question 22: Do you agree that there is a need for local food plans?

Vital

Question 23: Does the draft Bill do enough to ensure that public bodies consult on their local food plans before they are made. If no, what additional mechanisms would you put in place?

Which is first the chicken or the egg? If from the syodical system there is trust built up between local food groups and local public bodies then consultation will be regular and ongoing. This trust will take time to build and needs transparency from the public bodies

Question 24: Do you think the provisions of the draft Bill relating to reporting on the local food plans are sufficient? If not, what changes would you like to see?

The reporting on local food plans will work seamlessly if all those in the locality have the same aims. If this is not working then some sort of mediation needs to be brought in quickly to get all back on the same rope

Question 25: Do you think the provisions of the draft Bill relating to reviewing of the local food plans are sufficient? If not, what changes would you like to see?

No as said previously reviews need to be continuous officially reporting every quarter not every two years

Question 26: Do you have any additional comments on local food plans, including the resource implications of the proposals and how these could be minimised?

Local food plans can be easy with a syodical process covering all aspects of production but also supply and all social aspects

General Provisions

Question 27: Do you agree with the list of persons defined as being a 'public body' for the purpose of this Bill?

Yes but it may be useful in some areas to include such as the Trussel Trust

Question 28: Do you have any views on the process for making regulations set out in the Bill?

The regulations have to work in practice and that needs input from those at the coal face

Question 29: Do you have any views on the proposed commencement date for the Act?

The sooner this starts the better but big decisions need to be made a few months in quick legislation tends to be bad legislation

General Views

Please provide any additional information relevant to the draft Bill.
