

Recommended Timeline for Good Food Nation Governance Processes

Key action	Date
Preparing for Good Food Nation Planning (some Relevant Authorities have already started on this) The Living Good Food Nation Lab are available to help those who haven't started preparing their plan to work through this stage. Please contact us at LivingGoodFoodNationLab@ed.ac.uk.	September to December 2026
Instigate engagement with, and discussions across partners, communities and where appropriate neighbouring Relevant Authorities On, what Good Food Nation means to their area and how they can prepare for, embrace the opportunity provided by, and instigate	September to December 2026
Individual or regional workshops to develop joint outcomes and agree collaborative outcome areas The Living Good Food Nation Lab are available to help with such events. Please contact us at LivingGoodFoodNationLab@ed.ac.uk.	September to December 2026
Assess the human resources needed Existing and new, with different experience, expertise and seniority – for the coordinating, advocating, mapping, negotiating, drafting, consulting and approval needed to develop the first Local Good Food National Plan. <i>Note: Scottish Government funding for Local Authorities for this work is not yet confirmed.</i>	Late 2026
Section 10 of the Good Food Nation (Scotland) Act to be triggered	April 2027
Work on draft version of Local Good Food National Plan The draft is there to stimulate a strong, nuanced and diverse conversation about what good food means in their community and how their community should be prioritising and how they should be working with, and towards, the six outcomes. <i>Note: The local council election period in May 2027 will generate a pre election gap in progress.</i>	Spring 2027

Key action	Date
Consultation on draft version of Local Good Food National Plan The Good Food Nation Act does not dictate the format, length or breath of consultations except for requiring engagement with children and young people. The timing of consultations need to consider school term times as well as the pre-election period. There may also be possibilities for joint consultations across different Relevant Authorities even if they are not proposing to produce joint Plans.	Spring to Early Autumn 2027
Using findings of public consultation to revise draft Plan and produce proposed Local Good Food National Plan Latest deadline around Christmas 2027. When planning this work, it is worth noting that the National Good Food Nation Plan changed significantly from draft to final version as a result of consultation.	October to December 2027
Lay proposed Local GFN Plan before appropriate Health Board and Local Authority governance/scrutiny boards, chambers and committees Good Food Nation Leads will have confirmed governance routes and be clear on dates for approval committees etc. given that papers are often required 4-6 weeks prior to senior level meetings such as Council Scrutiny Committees or NHS Health Board / Programme Board meetings. <i>Note: Each authority has slightly different governance requirements for consultation and approval through committee and full council.</i>	January and February 2028
Final (approved) first Local Good Food Nation Plan published With any required accompanying documentation by 1st April 2028.	April 2028