

POLICY NOTE

THE GOOD FOOD NATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2022 (COMMENCEMENT NO. 2) REGULATIONS 2024

SSI 2024/29

The above instrument was made in exercise of the powers conferred by section 28(2) of the Good Food Nation (Scotland) Act 2022. The instrument is *laid without procedure*.

These Regulations commence certain provisions of the Good Food Nation (Scotland) Act 2022 (“the Act”) which relate to the Scottish Food Commission.

Specifically, sections 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and the schedule of the Act are commenced.

Policy Objectives

The Good Food Nation (Scotland) Act 2022 requires Scottish Ministers to produce a national Good Food Nation Plan, and lay it before the Scottish Parliament. The Act also makes provision for certain things that must be considered during the drafting of the Plan, and for arrangements for reporting on the progress of the Plan, and reviewing its content at set intervals.

The Good Food Nation (Scotland) Act 2022 makes similar provisions requiring relevant authorities to produce plans. The Act also contains provisions establishing a Scottish Food Commission.

Section 28 of the Act allows Scottish Ministers to appoint by regulations a date of their choosing for most of the provisions of the Act to be brought into force. This instrument sets a date for all of the provisions of the Act that relate to the establishment of the Scottish Food Commission.

This instrument commences section 19 and paragraphs 1, 2, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21 of the schedule of the Act on 15 February 2024. Section 19 is commenced for the purposes of these paragraphs of the schedule of the Act only. These provisions relate to the status, members, staff and application of public bodies legislation to the Scottish Food Commission. This allows the Scottish Food Commission to be set up and for regulated appointments to take place.

Section 19 is commenced for all remaining purposes, along with sections 20, 21, 22, 23 and paragraphs 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 of the schedule to the Act on 30 June 2025. These provisions relate to the functions, independence, funding, powers, procedure and accountability of the Scottish Food Commission and enable to body to operate once it has been formally established.

EU Alignment Consideration

This instrument is not relevant to the Scottish Government's policy to maintain alignment with the EU.

Consultation

As this instrument only brings into force provisions of the Act, no consultation has been carried out in relation to this instrument.

Impact Assessments

As this instrument only brings into force provisions of the Act, no impact assessments have been carried out in relation to it.

Financial Effects

The Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands confirms that no BRIA is necessary as the instrument only brings into force the provisions of the Act and in itself has no financial effects on the Scottish Government, local government or on business.

Scottish Government
Agriculture & Rural Economy Directorate

January 2024