

Response ID ANON-2SNG-88XZ-V

Submitted to **Getting the best from our land, consultation on a draft Land Use Strategy for Scotland 2016 - 2021**

Submitted on **2016-01-29 15:46:26**

Information about you

Contact details and publishing consent:

Organisation/Group

Organisation/Group name*:

Grow Your Own Working Group

Organisation/Group address:**

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Other – please state...

Organisation/Group type 'other':

GYOWG is a coalition of public sector and third sector organisations

Title*:

N/A

Forename or initials*:

N/A

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Publish this response

We will share your response internally with other Scottish Government policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for Scottish Government to contact you again in relation to this consultation exercise?

Yes

What are your main areas of interest? Please tick up to three boxes.

Local community, Environment, Other - please state...

other:

And all of the above except deer and game management.

Vision, Objectives and Principles

1a Do you think that the Vision, Principles for Sustainable Land Use and three long term Objectives are still fit for purpose?

Not Answered

1b Please provide your reasons for your answer.

1b:

The Grow Your Own Working Group believes that it is vital that land should be provided to grow food sustainably in urban, peri-urban and rural areas. The value

of land particularly suitable to food production should be recognised and protected for this purpose. Every citizen in Scotland should have access to land to grow some of his or her own food; and to produce food for a social purpose.

Natural Resource Management

2a Do you agree that continued use of an ecosystems approach is an effective way to manage Scotland's natural capital?

Yes

2b Please provide reasons for your answer.

2b:
We are in support of an ecosystems approach where it does not require attaching monetary value to the environment.

Policy Alignment

3a Is the relationship as set out in the draft Land Use Strategy 2016 - 2021 clear?

No

3b Do you have any comments on the relationship between the LUS and Scotland's Economic Strategy 2015, National Planning Framework, National Marine Plan and other relevant policies?

3b:
We would like to draw attention to the Good Food Nation policy document, and question its relationship to LUS, SPP and NPF3 and other policies. If the latter policies sit above the Good Food Nation does that mean that they trump that policy? So would the business alignment of LUS objective 1 over-ride the food and health aspirations of Good Food Nation?

Planning

4a Do you think that the activities described above could be useful?

Yes

4b Do you have any suggestions on other kinds of information and activities that could be useful?

4b:
We agree that these measures could be useful. In addition, as above, we would welcome better linkages with greenspace and place-making policies. However, unless these measures are translated into statutory guidance, national outcomes or regulations, they may not affect the outcomes of planning decisions and may have little practical effect on development patterns.

Forestry

5 How could the content of the current Scottish Forestry Strategy be updated to better reflect the Objectives and Principles of the Land Use Strategy and other key priorities?

5:
We believe that there is a potential for greater recognition of agroforestry and orchards, which play an important role in habitat and flood management, carbon management and sustainable agriculture.

Land Reform

6a Do you consider that there could be advantages in having a single policy statement about land which deals with ownership, use and management?

Don't know

6b Do you have any comments on the relationship between current land related policies and how these would relate to a single policy statement?

6b:
Our land should be used in a way that delivers multiple benefits and for public benefits to be prioritised within that.

Ecosystem Services Mapping and Tools

7a Do you agree that models and GIS tools could help inform decision making about land use/management change?

Don't know

7b Please provide your reasons for your answer.

7b:

To be effective, the data must be accurate. Having access to information held by the research institutes on flood risk, land capability, soil types etc would be welcome in principle, especially if it can be overlaid using tools displaying multiple levels of information. GIS and other methodologies must be accessible for grass roots participation, and consultation should take place to establish user-friendly resources.

7c Do you think a baseline ecosystems services mapping tool could be useful?

Not Answered

7d Do you have any comments on a mapping tool?

7d:

Regional Land Use Partnerships

8a Do you agree that regional land use partnerships could be a helpful way to support regional delivery of the Land Use Strategy?

Not Answered

8b Who do you think could be best placed to lead these initiatives?

8b:

8c Can you suggest any alternative means of supporting the delivery of the Land Use Strategy at regional level?

8c:

8d Do you have any other comments on this policy?

8d:

Regional Land Use Frameworks

9a Do you think that regional land use frameworks could be useful to inform regional/local land use decision-making?

Yes

9b Which aspects of this approach do you think requires further development?

9b:

It is not clear why this is restricted to rural areas when peri-urban and urban areas often have most contentious land usage or complex factors to consider. Urban communities can contribute to this process and a distinction between rural areas, settlements and urban areas can set up artificial barriers. Edinburgh is talking about a 'food belt' round the city. A "region" for such purposes may be a mix of rural and urban land.

9c Do you have any comments on this proposal?

9c:

Land Use Mediation and Facilitation

10a Do you think that land use mediation or facilitation could be useful in a land use context?

Yes

10b Please provide reasons for your answer.

10b:

The Community Land Advisory Service's (CLAS) – which was set up partly through recommendations from the GYOWG - experience demonstrates that impartial, collaborative support and facilitation for community groups and landowners can often be effective in reaching agreements over land use.

Agriculture

11 Do you have any suggestions on other potential measures to encourage climate friendly farming and crofting?

11:

Smaller scale domestic and commercial food producers should be considered. We also need to find ways of ensuring agricultural policies reflect the potential for urban and peri-urban production to make a contribution to our food production, both domestic and commercial.

Agri-Environment

12a Do you agree that more localised map-based ecosystems assessments could be useful to assist in informing funding decisions?

Not Answered

12b Please provide your reasons for your answer.

12b:

Agri-Environment

13a Do you agree that an assessment of ecosystems health and a spatial approach could be helpful to further inform targeting for the next SRDP?

Not Answered

13b Please provide your reasons for your answer.

13b:

Urban Land Use

14a Do you agree that an urban pilot project could be useful?

Yes

14b Please provide your reasons for your answer.

14b:

For the approach to be adopted on a national basis, an urban pilot is essential.

Equalities

19 Do you have any comments on the policies and proposals in this draft Strategy in terms of how they may impact on any equalities group, i.e. with regard to age, gender, race, religion, disability or sexuality?

19:

Evaluation

Please help us improve our consultations by answering the questions below.

Matrix 1 - How satisfied were you with this consultation?:

Slightly satisfied

Please enter comments here.:

Matrix 1 - How would you rate your satisfaction with using Citizen Space to respond to consultations?:

Please enter comments here.: