

# Scottish Food Coalition

## OPPPORTUNITY: Chair of the Scottish Food Coalition

### Background

The [Scottish Food Coalition](#) (SFC) is a civil society grouping of more than 60 diverse organisations working for a just transition to a fair, healthy, sustainable food system. Our members are NGOs concerned with poverty, health, environment and animal welfare, as well as trade unions, small producer organisations, international development organisations and faith groups. We have been working together since 2016 and had a major success in securing the passage of the Good Food Nation Act (Scotland) 2022.

The Coalition is also a partner in the [Living Good Food Nation Lab](#) which supports local authorities and health boards with their first Local Good Food Nation Plans, conducting research into how to bring Scotland Good Food Nation vision to life.

We are recruiting for a new Chair to replace Professor Mary Brennan from the University of Edinburgh Business School who stepped down after being selected as a member of the Scottish Food Commission.

### Role of the Chair

With the publication of Scotland's first 'National Good Food Nation Plan' later this year and the subsequent Local Good Food Nation Plans, this is an exciting and critical time for the Scottish Food Coalition.

To perform this role, you'll need to have a strong respect for, and interest in, the range of civil society organisations campaigning for food system transformation. SFC is a member-led Coalition and as such requires cooperation and consensus building from all involved, with the role of the Chair being key to facilitating this. In addition, we are looking for a Chair who will:

- Work with our Operations Group to oversee the strategic direction and governance of SFC. The group meets monthly.
- Chair SFC full-coalition meetings (four a year) and work with the SFC Coordinator to develop agendas and papers for those meetings.
- Provide support to the paid SFC Coordinator and assist in managing wider Coalition relationships.
- Act as an SFC spokesperson for the media and at external events, as appropriate
- Liaise with member organisations to ensure their views are acknowledged and represented
- Attend meetings with the Scottish Government, MSPs and other external bodies as needed

The successful candidate should be willing to work on SFC related work for a minimum of 3 to 4 days a month, with at least some of this time being between Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm to accommodate specific meetings.

### Role criteria

#### ESSENTIAL

- Interest and curiosity in the politics and people of food policy across Scotland and beyond
- Knowledge and interest in the Good Food Nation (Scotland) Act and the work of the Coalition to date

- Experience of navigating, negotiating and balancing the views and interests of multiple organisations around an agreed collective purpose and key asks
- Skills in hosting events, and facilitating discussion with a diverse audience of stakeholders
- Experience in chairing meetings with, and representing views to, political, policy and other relevant stakeholder groups

**DESIRABLE:**

- Experienced in chairing groups with very broad membership
- Experience preparing and collectively writing parliamentary consultation responses, parliamentary questions, letters to parliamentarians and policy makers, press releases, and/or position papers/reports
- Experience of giving oral evidence to parliamentary committees and engaging in advocacy activity with parliamentarians, policy makers and other stakeholder groups
- Knowledge and experience of diverse funding landscape to support the activities of the Coalition
- Access to spaces and event management support to host -person Coalition meetings and events

**More information**

SFC is committed to equality and diversity, and we encourage applications from anyone who meets the above criteria, but particularly welcome applications from those who are currently under-represented in chair or board roles. We are open to this role being shared between two people.

Salary: Non-remunerated, although some budget for expenses.

Deadline: midnight Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August

**To apply, in the first instance please send a letter of application outlining how your experience makes you suitable for the role and what you would bring to the future work of the Coalition.**

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the role of Chair in more detail, please email Simon Kenton-Lake, SFC Coordinator: [info@foodcoalition.scot](mailto:info@foodcoalition.scot)