

Our Ref: BD/md
Your Ref:
Contact: Brian Dunbar
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Date: 28 December 2005



Elizabeth Baird
Head of Food Marketing and Policy Branch
Scottish Executive
Environment and Rural Affairs Department
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47 Robb's Loan
Edinburgh
EH14 1TY

Community Services
Paul Jukes, Director
Buchanan Business Park,
Cumbernauld Road, Stepps,
GLASGOW G33 6HR
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Dear Ms Baird

Consultation Paper - Country of Origin of Beef in Beef in the Food Services Sector

I am responding for North Lanarkshire Council, in my role of Catering Services Manager, responsible for the Catering Service provision to Education (School Meals), Social Work (Welfare Meals) and Community Services (Commercial Meals)

I am in agreement with the broad principles proposed as outlined within the consultation paper and summary as detailed in Option 2.
I would agree that there is greater consumer demand and awareness to know the Country of Origin for food products.

My concerns are that under EU Procurement Regulations, our authority is not able to stipulate a preferable country of origin when tendering for Beef (or Butchermeat products in general).

Also there is the growing lobby for the sustainability agenda whereby authorities are being encouraged to look at local products, which conflicts with current E U Procurement Regulations.

In addition, there will be the heightened expectation by consumers that our beef is either Scottish or British but will generate a reaction when our menus inform them that the Country of Origin of the Beef could be in fact 'non EU'.

Therefore as a service provider, I may have a negative consumer reaction, which currently is outwith, the control of my authority and other local authority service providers in Scotland.

On behalf of this local authority, whilst supporting option 2, I would be grateful if our concerns were considered by the Scottish Executive as part of the consultation.

Yours sincerely

Brian Dunbar
Catering Services Manager

**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF BEEF IN THE FOOD SERVICE
RESPONDEE INFORMATION FORM**

Please complete the details below and attach it with your response. This will help ensure we handle your response appropriately:

Name:

Postal Address:

Consultation title: **Country of Origin of Beef in the Food Service Sector**

1. Are you responding as: (please tick one box)

- (a) an individual (go to 2a/b)
(b) **on behalf of** a group or organisation (go to 2c)

2a. INDIVIDUALS:

Do you agree to your response being made available to the public (in SE library and/or on SE website)?

- Yes (go to 2b below)
No, not at all

2b. **Where confidentiality is not requested**, we will make your response available to the public on the following basis (**please tick one** of the following boxes)

- Yes, make my response, name and address all available
Yes, make my response available, but not my name or address
Yes, make my response and name available, but not my address

2c ON BEHALF OF GROUPS OR ORGANISATIONS:

Your name and address as respondees **will be** made available to the public (in the SE library and/or on SE website). Are you content for your response to be made available also?

- Yes
No

SHARING RESPONSES/FUTURE ENGAGEMENT

3. We will share your response internally with other SE 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 the Scottish Executive to contact you again in the future in relation to this consultation response?

- Yes No