

SOUTH OF SCOTLAND PRODUCE- MENU SHOWCASE

Executive Summary

1. The purpose of this Paper is to seek the SPCB's views and agreement on this proposal to showcase produce from the South of Scotland on the menus in the Members' Restaurant and the Garden Level Restaurant during the week commencing 5 December 2011.
2. Early agreement is sought from the SPCB to allow Sodexo to plan menus and source produce.

Issues and options

3. Two Member-sponsored events and one Member-sponsored exhibition will take place the week commencing Monday 5 December to showcase produce from the South of Scotland region. To coincide with, and to complement, the Member-sponsored events and exhibition, the Members have requested that the menus in the Members' Restaurant and the Garden Level Restaurant also showcase South of Scotland produce for the week. The events and exhibition are being sponsored by Aileen McLeod MSP and Paul Wheelhouse MSP.
4. The Member-sponsored events and exhibition met the SPCB's agreed criteria for events and exhibitions. They aim to highlight the produce on offer throughout the South of Scotland and also to encourage Members to work with their own local producers in order to provide the benefits shopping local has to the local economy, health and industry. .
5. The exhibition will be in the Garden Lobby display space from Tuesday 6 to Thursday 8 December. There will be a "Farmers Market" reception in the Garden Lobby on Wednesday 7 December showcasing produce from 14 different suppliers. There will also be a food seminar for Members on Thursday 8 December in Committee Room 1 from 12:30 to 14:30 to stimulate discussion and action on introducing food trails to the South of Scotland, following the lead Ireland has taken in this field.
6. It is proposed by the Events and Exhibitions Team that if this is successful, that we look at repeating this idea of showcasing produce from each of the other 7 regions in turn. The aim would be to showcase all eight regions during this session.
7. It is not possible at this stage to confirm the menu options as this will be dependent upon the produce available at the time. However, the quality of the dishes will be reflective of the restaurant they are being served within.
8. It is recommended that the SPCB approves the proposal for South of Scotland produce to be showcased in the Members' Restaurant and

the Garden Level Restaurant during the week commencing Monday 5 December 2011 and that the other 7 regions be showcased during this session. There would be no additional cost to the SPCB in showcasing this produce.

Governance Issues

9. Produce for the proposed menus has been sourced in accordance to the Scottish Parliament procurement regulations.

Publication Scheme

10. This Paper can be published.

Next Steps

11. Once approved, the Facilities Manager responsible for the catering contract and the relevant Event Officer will liaise with all parties concerned to agree suitable suppliers and menu options for the event.

Decision

12. The SPCB is asked to consider this Paper and to approve the showcasing of South of Scotland produce in the menus for the Members' Restaurant and the Garden Level Restaurant during the week commencing Monday 5 December 2011.

EVENTS AND EXHIBITIONS TEAM
ROY A S DEVON
November 2011