

**APSE Scotland Online Soft FM Advisory Group Meeting – Tuesday 8 September 2026
(10.30am – 12noon)**

Welcome from Chair: Cllr Jim McMahon, East Ayrshire Council

1. Good Food Nation Plans – progress to date

Speaker: Discussion lead by representation from the Scottish Food Commission (inv)
This will provide colleagues with the opportunity to share experiences and current work on underway in relation to their Good Food Nation Plans as well as progress and updates to date.

2. Breakfast Clubs

This will provide colleagues with the opportunity to continue discussions on this topic following the previous Network in Glasgow.

3. Food supply resilience – managing rising costs and changing availability

This will provide the opportunity for colleagues to discuss and share information on what the biggest challenges to costs and availability are for your service? Including flexibility of menus, changes to procurement or supplier arrangements, seasonal and/ or local products being used more?

4. Cleanliness in classrooms

This will provide the opportunity for colleagues to share any campaigns or initiatives to help encourage pupils and school staff to take greater responsibility for keeping classrooms tidy.

5. Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) preparations

This will provide an opportunity for colleagues to discuss local authority progress within Soft FM services for the preparation of DRS (currently scheduled for October 2027).

6. The use of AI and IT within janitorial and building cleaning services

This will provide an opportunity to discuss and share the use of AI and IT within the services including the use of QR codes to record activities of your services. Providing insights into what technology helping improve these services and where challenges such as cost, skills requirements and operational risks were difficult to justify.

7. Opt in to Opt out class action potential impacts to local authorities

This will provide the opportunity for L Melville to share the key learnings from the recent roundtable event with the Fair Civil Justice regarding potential changes to legislation in Scotland which may impact Soft Facilities Management services.

8. APSE Update

Speaker: Louise Melville, Principal Advisor, APSE