



ALDI STORES LIMITED (BATHGATE)

Pottishaw Road, Junction 4 / M8, Bathgate, West Lothian EH48 2FB

Telephone: 01506 657030
Facsimile (Admin): 01506 652931
Facsimile (Trading): 01506 676835

Andrew McCornick
President
NFU Scotland
Rural Centre – West Mains, Ingliston
Newbridge, West Lothian,
EH28 8LT

24 July 2020

Dear Mr McCornick,

I write to you in reference to your open letter to Scottish Shoppers dated 8th July 2020 in order to reaffirm Aldi's commitment to Scottish suppliers and producers.

Together with our suppliers, through one of the toughest times for our sector, we kept the nation fed by continuing to provide customers with the great quality affordable food they have come to expect at Aldi.

We are extremely proud of the relationships we have with our Scottish suppliers, and these relationships are more important than ever. We know that we are all continuing to navigate through uncertain times and with this in mind I want to share a couple of new commitments we have made.

The ongoing partnerships we hold with our suppliers are essential to delivering Aldi's price promise to customers. Many of these partnerships have been forged over the past 30 years and we do not intend to change the way we operate. We are immensely proud to have topped the GCA's GSCOP survey for the last seven years and are committed to continuing to treat our suppliers with respect, whatever the future holds.

In March, we confirmed that we would be paying our smallest suppliers, those with a turnover of £1m or under, immediately, to help alleviate some of the pressures that the Covid-19 crisis may have caused. I am pleased to confirm that we will be extending this commitment until the end of 2020. This is of particular benefit to Scottish suppliers due to their scale.

You may have seen that at the beginning of July, we made a commitment to only ever source British Chicken and Beef irrespective of any future trade deals to show our support for farming in the UK, which is crucial to every aspect of our lives. It provides us with some of the best food in the world, sustains our rural economies and maintains our countryside. That is why it was easy for us to commit that Aldi will only ever source fresh meat for our everyday range from UK farmers.

As you know, Aldi regularly outperforms our competitors in the NFU Shelfwatch surveys. This year we have come top in the NFU Chicken Shelfwatch survey stocking 90 per cent Scottish chicken lines, and last year we were commended for stocking 96 per cent Scotch Beef PGI, 100% Scotch Lamb PGI and 100% Specially Selected Pork in our everyday ranges. We remain 100% committed to continuing this Scottish sourcing.

We are proud to have reached our ambition to stock over 450 Scottish products significantly ahead of our target of the end of 2020, and we have committed to increase this to over 500 locally sourced products in the next two years. In order to highlight the provenance of our Scottish products to our customers we will continue to label them with our Best of Scotland logo.

At Aldi we believe that collaboration amongst all levels of the food supply chain are essential and therefore we remain as committed as ever to supporting our Scottish suppliers and the Scottish farming industry, without which we would not be able to offer the highest level of product quality in our stores.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Graham Nicolson'.

Graham Nicolson
Group Buying Director