Contributions of the Food Service & Catering Industry EXTENDED RESPONSE

ACTIVITY 2: After you have completed your social, economic and environmental table, You are required to write THREE (3) paragraphs in the space below. These can be positive or negative impacts and must follow a proper paragraph structure (PEEL).

<u>Discuss</u>, using <u>examples</u>, the <u>impact</u> of the food service and catering industry on <u>society</u>, the <u>economy</u> and the <u>environment</u>.

The food service and catering industry is a multifaceted sector that plays a vital role in contemporary society, fulfilling the basic human necessity of nourishment. Specifically, this dynamic and influential industry has the capacity to significantly shape social behaviours, economic trends and environmental sustainability. However, by examining the undeniable impact associated with each domain, it becomes evident that numerous benefits are often accompanied by ongoing and highly prevalent challenges.

Societally, the food service and catering industry acts as a cornerstone in fostering social

interactions and cultural exchanges. In particular, restaurants, cafes and catering events
provide spaces for communal gatherings, thus, enhancing social cohesion and cultural
diversity. For instance, the rising trend of ethnic restaurants promotes inclusiveness, inspires
greater creativity, introduces uninformed communities to diverse culinary traditions and
overall, fosters a greater appreciation for cultural heritages. Conversely, the ever-changing
consumer behaviour and trends creates instability and pressure on the industry. Meaning, the
consumer demand for plant-based, nutrient-rich foods has forced establishments to modify
menu items, leading to increased costs and operational challenges. The interest in veganism
and vegetarian diets has weakened local demand for meat products, forcing the agricultural
sector to become dependent on overseas markets to sustain growth



