

Report

Report to:	Climate Change and Sustainability Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 September 2023
Report by:	Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

Subject:	2023/2024 Action Plan of the Good Food Strategy
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:

- ♦ agree the Action Plan for the fourth year of implementation (2023/2024) of the Council's Good Food Strategy

2. Recommendations

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation:

- (1) that the Council Action Plan for the fourth year of implementation (2023/2024) of the Good Food Strategy, attached as Appendix 1, be agreed.

3. Background

3.1. The Council's Good Food Strategy 2020 to 2025 was approved by the Executive Committee on 4 December 2019.

3.2. The Strategy provides a framework for actions to move towards healthier, fairer and more sustainable food systems in the Council's area and seeks to ensure that food plays a positive role in everyone's life. Change in the food systems has the potential to tackle challenges and bring positive outcomes in relation to health, well-being, social connections, poverty and inequalities, economy, including agriculture and tourism, environment and climate change and animal welfare.

3.3. By taking into account all the aspects of food, the Council has set out objectives and intentions to deliver the vision of the Strategy and to work in collaboration with partners and support the community.

3.4. The implementation of the Strategy started in April 2020. An update on the implementation of the Strategy is provided at quarter 2 and quarter 4 each year, with reports presented to the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee.

4. Good Food Strategy Action Plan 2023/2024

4.1. The Action Plan for the fourth year of implementation of the Good Food Strategy is attached at Appendix 1.

4.2. The Action Plan was developed based on inputs from the following services:-

- ♦ Community and Enterprise: Amenity services, Economic Development services, Environmental services, Facility services, Planning services, Refuse and Recycling services

- ◆ Education: Health and Wellbeing in schools, Youth, Families and Communities Learning services
- ◆ Finance and Corporate: Benefits and Revenue, Community Engagement Team, Money Matters Advice Services
- ◆ Social Work: Unpaid Work services

4.3 The Action Plan includes two sections: Performance indicators and Projects. Each section is divided into Good Food Themes:

- ◆ Good Food at Home and the Community
- ◆ Good Food in Public Places
- ◆ Good Food Economy
- ◆ Good Food Growing
- ◆ Good Food for the Environment
- ◆ Good Food Governance

Measures and actions are reported by outcome as defined in the Good Food Strategy.

5. Food Growing Strategy Action Plan 2023/2024

- 5.1. In addition to the Good Food Strategy, the Council has a statutory obligation to develop a Food Growing Strategy and provide allotments and other food growing opportunities (Community Empowerment Scotland Act 2015).
- 5.2. The Council's Food Growing Strategy was published in 2020, with a Food Growing Action Plan formulated annually in consultation with members of the Food Growing Group. This group is made up of partners, voluntary and third sector organisations. The Food Growing Action Plan is monitored by the Food Growing Group and Amenity Services oversees compliance with the statutory obligations defined by the Scottish Government. The Action Plan is publicly shared in accordance with statutory obligations.
- 5.3. Given the relationship between the Food Growing Strategy and the Good Food Strategy and the requirement to report within similar timescales, the Good Food Strategy Action Plan for 2023/2024 incorporates the main Food Growing Strategy actions, allowing progress on food growing to be reported to the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee (in green in Appendix 1).

6. Monitoring Framework

- 6.1. Progress of the Action Plan will be reported to the Climate Change and Sustainability committee at quarter 2 and quarter 4. The IMPROVe system will continue to be used to gather the progress from Services and to produce monitoring reports.
- 6.2. A mid- term review of the Strategy is also under development and will be published towards the end of 2023. This will assess the broader outcomes and overall impacts of the five-year strategy.

7. Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 7.1. Following the SEA pre-screening exercise and communication with the Scottish Government, it was concluded that no further action was required in relation to the SEA process for the Good Food Strategy and the Food Growing Strategy.

8. Employee Implications

- 8.1. Monitoring the implementation of the Good Food Strategy Action Plan is the key task of the Policy Officer (Food Development). The implementation of the Food Growing Strategy is monitored by Amenity Services.
- 8.2. In addition, the implementation of the strategies is the task of Resources and Services involved in food activities as identified during the development of the Good Food Strategy and Food Growing Strategy and as indicated in the action plan.

9. Financial Implications

- 9.1. Although there are no financial implications at this stage, specific financial implications related to the implementation of the Action Plan are foreseen and reported on a case-by-case basis.

10. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 10.1. By taking into account all the aspects of the food systems from farm to fork and encouraging the transition towards a more sustainable food system, the Food Action Plan 2023/24 will help to achieve the objectives of the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy.

11. Other Implications

- 11.1. There are no implications for risk in terms of the information contained within this report.

12. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 12.1. The Equalities Impact Assessment for the Good Food Strategy has been conducted and approved.
- 12.2. There were no consultation arrangements required for this report.

David Booth

Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

31 August 2023

Link(s) to Council Values/Priorities/Outcomes

Values

- ◆ Focused on people and their needs.
- ◆ Working with and respecting others
- ◆ Accountable, effective, efficient and transparent
- ◆ Ambitious, self-aware and improving
- ◆ Fair, open and sustainable
- ◆ Excellent employer

Priorities

- ◆ We will work to put people first and reduce inequality.
- ◆ We will work towards a sustainable future in sustainable places.
- ◆ We will work to recover, progress and improve.

Outcomes

- ◆ Our children and young people thrive.
- ◆ Good quality, suitable and sustainable places to live.
- ◆ Thriving business, fair jobs and vibrant town centres
- ◆ Caring, connected, sustainable communities.
- ◆ People live the healthiest lives possible.
- ◆ Inspiring learners, transforming learning, strengthening partnerships

Previous References

- ◆ Executive Committee 4 December 2019 – Recommendations Referred by Community and Enterprise Resources Committee
- ◆ Community and Enterprise Resources Committee 12 November 2019 – Good Food Strategy

List of Background Papers

- ◆ None

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:

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Appendix 1. 2023/2024 Good Food Strategy Action Plan



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1- Performance indicators

*The baseline refers to the starting point i.e. 2020/2021 which corresponds to the figure for the first year of implementation of the strategy. When this figure is not available (either because the data was not collected this year or because the measure was only included in subsequent action plans), the oldest figure available is included as well the date it refers to.

**Measures are set as contextual when there is no target or when the services have limited or no impact on the variation of the figure. Updates are therefore provided for information only as they reflect contextual changes in the food system.

Good Food at Home and the Community

Resource Outcome	1. Supporting good food education and culture 2. Reducing food insecurity and dignity			
Measure	Baseline 2020/2021*	Performance 2022/2023	Annual Target	Resource/Service
Number of learners from Youth, Family and Community Learning service (Education) benefiting from food related learning programmes	855	834	300	Youth, Family and Community Learning service/ Education
Number of children eligible for free school meals and supported during school holiday periods (£2.50 per day)	9,557 (2021/22) – the initiative started in 2021	9,544	Contextual**	Benefits & Revenue (Finance and Corporate)
Number of referrals to specific food initiatives for families experiencing food insecurity made by Council services and partners (Best Start Food applications; Healthy Start Voucher applications; Food Bank referrals; School meal applications; Scottish Welfare Fund applications)	1,656	3,565 (figure is much higher compared to baseline as referrals from partners are now captured while only referrals from the Council were included before)	Contextual	Money Matters/ Finance
Number of people receiving food parcels or vouchers distributed by food banks	50,656	57,709	Contextual	Community Engagement Team

Good Food in the Public Sector

Resource Outcome	3. Improving food in schools and council properties 4. Improving food in public places			
Measure	Baseline 2020/2021*	Performance 2022/2023	Annual Target	Resource/Service
Level of total (free and paid) primary school meal uptake (as proportion of total primary school meals which could be taken up over the period)	59%	66%	60%	Facilities C&E
Level of total (free and paid) secondary school meal uptake (as proportion of total secondary school meals which could be taken up over the period)	47%	38%	38%	Facilities C&E
Number of lunches served in nursery schools as part of the Scottish Government Early Years Initiative	288,486	571,245	Contextual	Facilities C&E
Number of free breakfasts served in primary schools during school days	Not available	727,816	Contextual	Facilities C&E
Level of free primary school meals uptake (as proportion of total primary school free meals which could be taken up over the period)	65%	73%	Maintain	Facilities C&E
Level of free secondary school meals uptake (as proportion of total secondary school free meals which could be taken up over the period)	41%	43%	Maintain	Facilities C&E
Annual public procurement spending on Fairtrade products in schools and Council premises	£3,890 (2020/21)	£9,348	Contextual	Performance and Development/ C&E
Annual public procurement spending on local food (i.e. food produced or manufactured in Scotland)	39% (2021/2022)	36%	Contextual	Performance and Development/ C&E

Good Food Economy

Resource Outcome	5. Supporting a good food retail and catering environment 6. Encouraging a fair and inclusive local food economy			
Measure	Baseline 2020/2021*	Performance 2022/2023	Annual Target	Resource/Service
Food businesses compliant with food safety statutory requirements	87.9% (2019/2020)	96%	85%	Environmental Health/ C&E
Number of local food businesses engaged with and supported	Not available	10	Contextual	Economic Development / C&E

Good Food Growing

Resource Outcome	7. Providing food growing opportunities 8. Promoting food growing and sustainability			
Measure	Baseline 2020/2021*	Performance 2022/2023	Annual Target	Resource/Service
Loss of Prime Agriculture Land as a result of non-agricultural development	Prime agriculture Land is 6213 hectares	0%	0%	Planning/ C&E
Increase in the number of overall plot holders on Council managed food growing sites by March 2024	275 plot holders	7.5%	10%	C&E/ Amenity
Increase in the area of Council land made available for food growing sites by March 2024	30,220 m2	4%	10%	C&E/ Amenity
Increase in the overall number of food growing participants on Council land including schools, care homes, housing areas and areas managed by community groups or third party organisations by March 2024	1,955 participants	167% (2021/2022)	5%	C&E/ Amenity
Occupancy levels at Council managed food growing sites	99%	99%	Minimum 98% uptake	C&E/ Amenity

Good Food for the Environment

Resource Outcome	9. Reducing food waste and packaging 10. Limiting the impact of food system on the environment and climate change			
Measure	Baseline 2020/2021*	Performance 2022/2023	Annual Target	Resource/Service
Undertake of waste compositional analysis to estimate the share of food waste in residual bins	Not available – ad hoc project	Not available – ad hoc project	Contextual	Refuse and recycling / C&E
Share of food waste from school catering which is recycled/composted	1% (2021/2022)	1%	Below 2%	Facilities/ C&E

Good Food Governance

Resource Outcome	11. Developing and strengthening food partnerships 12. Making good food a priority in the Council's area			
Measure	Baseline 2020/2021*	Performance 2022/2023	Annual Target	Resource/Service
Report on the £0.3m Food Strategy Support Fund budget including the community grants by March 2024	Not available – project started in 2022-2023	£0.27	£0.3	Performance and Development / C&E

2- Actions

Good Food at Home and the Community

Resource Outcome	1. Supporting good food education and culture 2. Reducing food insecurity and dignity	
Action	Measure	Resource/Service
Work in partnership with community food organisations and partners to identify and support the development of initiatives to tackle food poverty	Activities developed to tackle food insecurity including improving access to food and ensuring those accessing aid receive the advice and support required	Performance and Development / C&E
Deliver Kitchen Learning Hub to service users of the Unpaid Work Service	Increased number of service users participating in the hub and gaining REHIS qualifications. Service users report having more confidence to cook healthy meals for themselves and family and report a better understanding of nutrition and the impact on their health and wellbeing.	Unpaid Work Service/ Social Work
Employ an educational gardener to support service users of Unpaid Work Service undertake food growing as part of their unpaid work	Service users report increased knowledge and skills in gardening and food growing. Opportunity to undertake the Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society GLiN Award. Fruit and vegetables grown are distributed to support foodbanks and other community food initiatives promoting access to locally grown affordable produce.	Unpaid Work Service/ Social Work

Good Food in the Public Sector

Resource Outcome	3. Improving food in schools and Council properties 4. Improving food in public places	
Action	Measure	Resource/Service
Progress actions to increase supply of local food and drink in the Council following recommendations from the Market Capacity Assessment	Demonstrated actions to increase supply of food and drink in the Council	Performance and Development/ C&E

Good Food Economy

Resource Outcome	5. Supporting a good food retail and catering environment 6. Encouraging a fair and inclusive local food economy	
Action	Measure	Resource/Service
Encourage networking amongst the food and drink sector	Demonstrated activities to encourage networking in the sector	Economic Development /C&E
Promote use of local food produce through promotion and events	Demonstrated activities to promote local products	Economic Development /C&E

Good Food Growing

Resource Outcome	7. Providing food growing opportunities 8. Promoting food growing and sustainability	
Action	Measure	Resource/Service
Develop a Council wide Open Space Strategy (OSS) including consideration of the potential of open space for providing food growing opportunities	Consultants to be appointed to develop standards and analysis of the open space audit data at Council and locality level with public engagement carried out by the Council (draft OSS to be submitted for committee approval in 2024/25)	Planning & Economic Development / C&E
Promote awareness of, and provide guidance on, the development of Local Place Plan by local communities and in particular highlight the potential to support them in meeting food growing aspirations.	Demonstrated activities to promote and develop Local Place Plan	Planning & Economic Development / C&E
Ensure embedding of health and wellbeing issues in the preparation of Local Development Plan 3 (LDP3) in accordance with the NPF4	Early public engagement to inform LDP3 and committee approval to commence its Preparation of Evidence Report (including collation of evidence on Lifelong Health and Wellbeing)	Planning & Economic Development / C&E

Good Food for the Environment

Resource Outcome	9. Reducing food waste and packaging 10. Limiting the impact of food system on the environment and climate change	
Action	Measure	Resource/Service
Revise the content of the presentations provided by the Waste Education Team to schools in South Lanarkshire to include information about food waste reduction and recycling	Educational material updated by March 2024 including criteria to assess the impact of the educational programme	Refuse and recycling/ C&E

Resource Outcome	9. Reducing food waste and packaging 10. Limiting the impact of food system on the environment and climate change		
Action	Measure	Resource/Service	
Undertake campaigns promoting sustainable food to Council employees and South Lanarkshire residents	Type of campaigns promoting sustainable food	Performance and Development/ C&E	

Good Food Governance

Resource Outcome	11. Developing and strengthening food partnerships 12. Making good food a priority in the Council's area	
Action	Measure	Resource/Service
Promote Fairtrade principles in the Council's area together with members of the Fairtrade steering group and renew the Fairtrade Zone status of the Council	Fairtrade Zone Status renewed by August 2023	Performance and Development/ C&E
	Demonstrated activities promoting Fairtrade principles	
Encourage and facilitate information sharing among participants of the Good Food Forum and encourage a partnership approach to progress the objective of the food strategy	Demonstrated activities to encourage and facilitate networking and partnership	Performance and Development/ C&E
Facilitate discussions on local food production at the next Rural Community Conference (scheduled in March 2024)	Agenda, participants and outputs from the discussion	Economic Development
Work with partners including the Community Planning Partnership to define and implement collective actions to progress the objectives of the Good Food Strategy	Demonstrated actions to increase partnership working among partners and collective actions developed	Performance and Development/ C&E
Conduct a mid-term review of the Good Food Strategy	Publication of the mid-term review report	Performance and Development/ C&E