

# Report

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

|          |                                                 |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Subject: | <b>Good Food Strategy Update – Q4 2022-2023</b> |
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## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to: -

- ◆ update the Committee on the status of Good Food Strategy actions and measures at Quarter 4 of 2022-2023

## 2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s): -

- (1) That the 2022-2023 Q4 position in respect of actions and measures within the Good Food Strategy is noted.

## 3. Background

3.1. On 4 December 2019, the Executive Committee approved the Good Food Strategy which covers a five year period from 2020 to 2025.

3.2. The vision of the Strategy is to contribute to the improvement of the quality of life of everyone in South Lanarkshire where food is celebrated, supports healthy life and wellbeing, is affordable and accessible to all, encourages a fair and inclusive food economy, has limited impacts on the environment and climate change, and promotes animal welfare.

3.3. The Strategy sets out outcomes and actions organised around six themes and twelve objectives:

### Good Food at Home and in the Community

1. Supporting good food education and culture
2. Reducing food poverty and insecurity

### Good Food in the Public Sector

3. Improving food in schools and in Council properties
4. Improving food in public places

### Good Food Economy

5. Supporting a good food retail and catering environment
6. Encouraging a fair and inclusive local food economy

#### Good Food Growing

7. Providing food growing opportunities
8. Promoting good food growing and sustainability

#### Good Food for the Environment

9. Reducing waste and packaging
10. Limiting the impact of the food system on the environment and climate change

#### Good Food Governance

11. Developing and strengthening food partnerships
12. Making good food a priority in the Council's area

- 3.4. The Strategy sets out specific actions to be undertaken to deliver these objectives under each theme.
- 3.5. The Strategy was approved by the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee on 31 August 2022 and is monitored using IMPROVe. Its progress is reported to the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee at Quarter 2 and Quarter 4.

#### **4. Good Food Strategy 2022-2023 Q4 Update**

- 4.1. The Council progress report comes in two parts; the first part contains performance/contextual measures towards the Strategy's outcomes, and the second part contains improvement actions for each of the themes within the Strategy.
- 4.2. The overall summary of performance measures at the end of Quarter 2 is as follows:-

|                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                 |           |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Total number of performance/ contextual measures |                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>22</b> |
| Status – Green                                   | The timescale or target has been met as per expectations                                                                                                        | 11 (50%)  |
| Status – Amber                                   | There has been minor slippage against timescale or minor shortfall against target                                                                               | 2 (9%)    |
| Status - Red                                     | There has been major slippage against timescale or major shortfall against target                                                                               | 1 (5%)    |
| Reportable at a later stage/ contextual          | For some measures, the statistics are not yet available to allow us to report whether the target has been reached or not. These will be reported when available | 8 (36%)   |

- 4.3. Two of the measures show an amber status and these are measures related to food growing. Targets related to the number of plot holders on Council managed food growing sites and size of Council land made available to food growing could not be reached because of a delay in delivering a new allotment site in Chatelherault, Hamilton. If completed, number of plot holders would have increased by 27% (compared to a target of 10%).
- 4.4. One of the measures is red as the overall number of food growing participants on Council land including schools, care home, housing areas and areas managed by community groups or third party organisations could not be estimated this year due to the partial information shared by food growing participants.
- 4.5. Eight of the measures are contextual as the update is for information only.

4.6. The overall summary of improvement actions at the end of Quarter 2 is as follows: -

|                                         |                                                                                                                                                                 |           |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Total number of improvement actions     |                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>20</b> |
| Status - Blue                           | Action Complete                                                                                                                                                 | 4 (20%)   |
| Status – Green                          | The timescale or target has been met as per expectations                                                                                                        | 11 (55%)  |
| Status – Amber                          | There has been minor slippage against timescale or minor shortfall against target                                                                               | 4 (20%)   |
| Status - Red                            | There has been major slippage against timescale or major shortfall against target                                                                               | 1 (5%)    |
| Reportable at a later stage/ contextual | For some measures, the statistics are not yet available to allow us to report whether the target has been reached or not. These will be reported when available | 0 (0%)    |

4.7. Four of the measures are currently amber but two of them will be progressed through the preparation of the Open Space Strategy and the delivery of the Local Development Plan 3 which formally commenced following the approval of the Planning Committee on 8 August 2023. The third measure being amber relates to the preparation of Local Place Plan and communities are now encouraged to develop some. The fourth amber measure refers to the review of existing services to collect food waste in rural areas which is dependent on the terms of the emerging Circular Economy Bill and the new Waste Route Map which may impact the current exemption to collect food waste in rural areas.

4.8. The red measure refers to the publication of the mid-term review of the Good Food Strategy. This action has been carried forward to 2023-2024 and the outcomes from the review will be presented to the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee in November 2023.

4.9. Progress on all objectives, actions and measures is set out in Appendix 1. Some of the highlights for each of the themes of the Council include:

#### Good Food at Home and the Community

- ◆ Summer Session Hubs ran within 14 locations for a duration of 6 weeks with breakfast and lunch served each day to 834 children in total
- ◆ In addition to the delivery of the Kitchen Learning Hub, the Unpaid Work service (Social Work) started a new project in 2022 promoting a seed to plate approach with the recruitment of an Educational Gardener, which allows service users to grow fruits and vegetables within Auchentibber grounds
- ◆ The Youth Family and Community Learning service (Education) has delivered food related learning programmes to 834 learners
- ◆ A cash referral leaflet developed by the Independent Food Aid Network (IFAN) in partnership with the Council, Citizen Advice Bureau and local food banks was launched in May 2022. The leaflet helps people with maximising income and accessing any existing financial entitlements. In South Lanarkshire, 44,000 leaflets were distributed in 31 organisations

### Good Food in the Public Sector

- ◆ The Food Pledge developed by Facility services is promoted on all menus, promotional materials and is available in the Council website
- ◆ Levels of total primary and secondary school meal uptake (free and paid) have exceeded the targets as well as the level of free primary and secondary school meals uptake
- ◆ The analysis on the capacity of local food and drink businesses to supply food to the different Council buyers was carried out by consultants from July to October 2022, and involved Council services, local businesses, and other external partners. A report is being presented to the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee on 20 September 2023, outlining the work done to date in relation to the report recommendations

### Good Food Economy

- ◆ 96% of food businesses were compliant with food safety statutory requirements, the target being 85%
- ◆ For the second year, the Council part-funded a co-ordinator post for Lanarkshire Larder, which is a local network for local food and drink businesses including 60 members
- ◆ Eight food and drink businesses received a Business Support Grant totalling approximately £74,000

### Good Food Growing

- ◆ Despite the fact that food growing targets were missed this year due to the delay in delivering the new site in Chatelherault, the Council has 3 sites under development to be completed in 2023-2024: 1/ Chatelherault, Hamilton (potential for 64 new plot holders), 2/ Richmond extension, Rutherglen (potential for 18 new plot holders), 3/ Cuningar Loop, Rutherglen (potential for a minimum of 58 new plot holders)
- ◆ Plans considering the provision of land for food growing and embedding health and wellbeing when possible are under development involving a range of Council services

### Good Food and the Environment

- ◆ The Waste Education team reviewed the materials presented in primary schools to include a section on the food waste journey and to emphasise the need to reduce food waste
- ◆ A new pilot project was developed by Facilities services together with Education services and the Waste Education team to monitor food waste from school catering
- ◆ Facility services is now meeting the Environmental Protection (Single-use Plastic Products) (Scotland) Regulation 2021 introduced in June 2022

### Good Food Governance

- ◆ 26 community groups or partners organisations have received Food Strategy Community Grants funded through the Council Food Strategy Support Fund
- ◆ The Community Planning Partnership Board took the decision to adopt a more integrated approach to food among partners at its meeting in September 2022 with the approval of several recommendations including sharing more information, mainstreaming and promoting Good Food, and engaging with communities to support them in the development of healthier, fairer and more sustainable food systems

## **5. Strategic Environmental Assessment**

- 5.1. 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

## **6. Employee Implications**

- 6.1. Resources and services involved in food related activities are required to contribute to the implementation of the Good Food Strategy to ensure that actions and targets are met. The Policy Officer (Food Development) monitors and reports the Council's progress.

## **7. Financial Implications**

- 7.1. Specific financial implications relating to the implementation of the Council were reported on a case-by-case basis.

## **8. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications**

- 8.1. The Food Council 2022-2023, 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, will help to achieve the objectives of the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy.

## **9. Other Implications**

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

## **10. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

- 10.1. The Equality Impact Assessment for the Good Food Strategy has been conducted and approved.

- 10.2. There were no consultation arrangements required for this report.

**David Booth**

**Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)**

1 September 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

**Previous References**

- ◆ Executive Committee 4 December 2019 - Good Food Strategy
- ◆ Climate Change and Sustainability Committee 31 August 2022 – Council for the third year of implementation of the Good Food Strategy
- ◆ Climate Change and Sustainability Committee 09 November 2022 - Good Food Strategy Update – Q4 2022-2023

**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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