

Report

Report to:	Climate Change and Sustainability Committee
Date of Meeting:	28 February 2024
Report by:	Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

Subject:	Good Food Strategy Update – Q2 2023/2024
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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 2 of 2023/2024

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the 2023/2024 Q2 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 Action Plan for the fourth year (2023/2024) of implementation of the above Good Food Strategy was approved by the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee on 20 September 2023 and is monitored using IMPROVe. Its progress is reported to the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee at Quarter two and Quarter four.

4. Good Food Strategy 2023-2024 Q2 Update

- 4.1. The 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 two is as follows:-

Total number of performance/ contextual measures		22
Status – Green	The timescale or target has been met as per expectations	12 (55%)
Status – Amber	There has been minor slippage against timescale or minor shortfall against target	0 (0%)
Status - Red	There has been major slippage against timescale or major shortfall against target	0 (0%)
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	10 (45%)

- 4.3. There is no performance measure showing an amber or red status.
- 4.4. Ten of the performance measures are either reported as contextual (four measures) or will be reported later (six measures) at quarter four. Measures which are contextual are for information only.
- 4.5. The overall summary of improvement actions at the end of quarter two is as follows: -

Total number of improvement actions		17
Status - Blue	Action Complete	0 (0%)
Status – Green	The timescale or target has been met as per expectations	17 (100%)
Status – Amber	There has been minor slippage against timescale or minor shortfall against target	0 (0%)
Status - Red	There has been major slippage against timescale or major shortfall against target	0 (0%)
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%)

- 4.6. There is no performance measure showing an amber or red status.

- 4.7. Progress on all objectives, actions and measures is set out in Appendix 1. Some of the highlights for each of the themes of the Good Food Strategy include:

Good Food at Home and the Community

- ◆ Eleven “Spectacular Summer Session” hubs (Education) were successfully delivered across the four localities in key locations across South Lanarkshire with breakfast and lunch served each day. Across the 6 weeks, over 4,500 meals were provided by Facilities Services
- ◆ The Youth Family and Community Learning service (Education) delivered a large variety of food related learning programmes to 277 learners in quarter one and two
- ◆ The Unpaid Work Service (Social Work) expanded their service: the food growing project increased in terms of size and range of food products grown; a healthy soup lunch is now served to all Unpaid Work service users and is available seven days a week
- ◆ In line with the national plan “Cash-First- towards ending the need for food banks in Scotland” published June 2023, the Council agreed to extend the Financial Wellbeing Support Fund for two years. As a result, Money Matter Advice Services have been providing £50 cash payments to people facing financial insecurity issues, including food insecurity, since October 2023
- ◆ A community networking event including community food organisations was organised by the Community Engagement Team during the Challenge Poverty Week in October 2023 at the Hillhouse and Earnock Community Centre. The objective of the event was to highlight the vital work that local organisations are carrying out in relation to tackling poverty and inequality and to find more about the range of support that local organisations provide

Good Food in the Public Sector

- ◆ Levels of total primary and secondary school meal uptake (free and paid) exceeded the targets as well as the level of free primary and secondary school meals uptake.
- ◆ Outcomes of the Market Capacity Assessment including the next steps (i.e. action plan) were presented at the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee on 20 September 2023. Actions undertaken in quarter three and four include: continuing engagement with businesses identified; exploring the possibility to use the Quick Quote process to increase the supply of local food and drink in specific South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture venues; identifying and analysing practices developed in other comparable local authorities; delivering the business accelerator programme “Eat South Lanarkshire”; supporting discussion with the food and drink network Lanarkshire Larder; and promoting sub-contracting opportunities to local businesses. An update on the implementation of these actions will be included in the Q4 Good Food Strategy update report

Good Food Economy

- ◆ 95% of food businesses were compliant with food safety statutory requirements, the target being 85%
- ◆ During quarter one and quarter two, engagement with the food and drink sector included: marketing of, and attendance/exhibiting at the National Meet the Buyer Event in Edinburgh on 17 May 2023; SLC representation on the Lanarkshire Larder Committee to ensure that outcomes, including increased membership and networking, are achieved; work with external consultant to devise the EAT Lanarkshire scale up programme aimed exclusively at SLC food and drink companies

Good Food Growing

- ♦ With the opening of the Chatelherault allotment site in summer 2023, the number of plot holders on Council managed growing sites increased by 64 (which represents an 18 percent increase compared to last year) and total area increased by ten percent. The occupancy level of these sites is 99 percent
- ♦ The Council wide Open Space Strategy is under development with the consideration of open space for food growing. The engagement strategy for the formulation of the Council Local Development Plan 3 (LDP3) was developed. The new LDP3 represents an opportunity to further embed health and wellbeing in planning policies

Good Food and the Environment

- ♦ A Waste Compositional Analysis undertaken in July 2023 showed that over 33% of waste in the residual bin was compostable, 17% of which was food waste, the rest being garden waste. These figures show that residents are still not fully engaged in recycling food and garden waste
- ♦ The Waste Education Team continues to work with the Litter Strategy Officers and Education Service to develop communication materials for schools throughout South Lanarkshire

Good Food Governance

- ♦ The Fairtrade Zone Status of the Council was renewed following its successful application. The Council also supported the Fairtrade Education Award at the Scottish Fairtrade Awards Ceremony 2023
- ♦ The Community Planning Partnership Food Group was constituted after nomination of its members during summer 2023. The group worked on the implementation of the action plan approved by the CPP Board including promoting good food across the partnership, increasing networking among partners and with the community, sharing information and considering common actions on priority areas (i.e. food poverty and food served in public places), monitoring national and local food related policy developments

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 progress.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. There are no direct financial implications as a result of the report.

8. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 8.1. The Good Food Strategy 2023/2024, 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 other implications as a result of the report.

10. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 10.1. The Equality Impact Assessment for the Good Food Strategy was conducted and approved.
- 10.2. There was no other requirement for consultation in terms of the information contained in this report.

David Booth

Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

8 February 2024

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 20 September 2023 – Action plan for the fourth year of implementation of the 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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