

Report

Report to:	Climate Change and Sustainability Committee
Date of Meeting:	9 November 2022
Report by:	Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

Subject:	Good Food Strategy Update – Quarter 2 2022/2023
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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 2022/2023

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) That the 2022/2023 Quarter 2 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 through the development of a Good Food Council 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 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 action plan set out specific actions to be undertaken to deliver these objectives under each theme.
- 3.5. The action plan for the third year of implementation of 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 Quarter 2 Update

- 4.1. The action plan 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	7 (32%)
Status – Amber	There has been minor slippage against timescale or minor shortfall against target	1 (5%)
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	14 (64%)

Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding

- 4.3. One of the measures is amber which is the level of uptake of school meals (free and paid) in secondary schools, the uptake being 39% and the target 47%. Uptake has been lower since the pandemic and this is in line with the national trend as shown by the Healthy Living Survey (national survey carried out in February 2022). However, the level of uptake is improving and in period 6 alone, the uptake was 44%.

- 4.4. Fourteen of the measures will be reported later or are contextual. With respect to nine indicators, Q2 data is not available at the time of reporting and may only be reported on an annual basis (therefore will be reported at Q4). With respect to five indicators, Q2 data is reported as contextual because the update is for information only. There is no target, nor does it make sense to set one (e.g. number of food parcels delivered by food banks).
- 4.5. The overall summary of improvement actions at the end of quarter two is as follows: -

Total number of improvement actions		20
Status - Blue	Action Complete	1 (5%)
Status – Green	The timescale or target has been met as per expectations	16 (80%)
Status – Amber	There has been minor slippage against timescale or minor shortfall against target	2 (10%)
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	1 (5%)

Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding

- 4.6. Two of the measures are amber. These measures relate to Planning projects: the audit for the development of the Open Space Strategy has been delayed due to a lack of resources to carry out this work but is now nearly complete; no Local Place Plans were produced as their development is dependent on local communities and desire to produce a plan and interest has been limited so far.
- 4.7. One measure is to be reported later. Progress on the mid-term review of the Good Food Strategy will be undertaken later next year.
- 4.8. Progress on all objectives, actions and measures is set out in Appendix 1. Some of the highlights for each of the themes of the action plan include:

Good food at home and the community

- ◆ Summer Session Hubs ran within 14 locations this summer for a duration of 6 weeks with breakfast and lunch served each day to 834 children in total
- ◆ The Kitchen Learning Hub was delivered to 169 service users of the Unpaid Work Service (Social Work) and bread making sessions to 202 service users. The service also started a new project promoting a seed to plate approach with the recruitment of an Educational Gardener, it will allow service users to grow vegetable within Auchentibber grounds
- ◆ The Youth Family and Community Learning service (Education) has delivered food related learning programmes to 567 learners over the first six months of the year, already surpassing the planned annual target of 220 learners.

- ◆ A cash referral leaflet developed by the Independent Food Aid Network in partnership with the Council, Citizens' Advice Bureau and local food banks was launched in May and distributed in several places in South Lanarkshire including at the Summer Session Hubs and in schools. The leaflet helps people maximise income and access any existing financial entitlements

Good food in the public sector

- ◆ The Food Pledge developed by Facility Services is promoted on all menu promotional materials and available on the Council website
- ◆ The analysis on the capacity of local food and drink businesses to supply food to the different Council buyers was carried out from July to October 2022 with consultations with Council services, local businesses, and other external partners. Results will be presented and next steps discussed from November 2022

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
- ◆ Economic development supported 62 local food and drink businesses by directly providing advice, signposting them to a broad range of other support services and by supporting them with networking and funding

Good food growing

- ◆ Progress in relation to food growing (including the number of people involved in food growing and size of land made available for food growing) is now being reported annually
- ◆ Plans considering the provision of land for food growing and embedding health and wellbeing when possible are under development by Planning in collaboration with other Council Services. This includes the Open Space Strategy, the Local Place Plans and the Local Development Plan 3

Good food and the environment

- ◆ The decision was taken to offer hot composters to rural areas as an alternative to extending the food waste collection service to rural areas that do not currently have a means of recycling food waste. The tendering process to purchase hot composters is now complete
- ◆ The Waste Education team reviewed the materials presented in primary schools to include a section on the food waste journey and to emphasize the need to reduce food waste
- ◆ Facility Services is now meeting the Environmental Protection (Single-use Plastic Products) (Scotland) Regulation 2021 introduced in June 2022

Good food governance

- ◆ The "South Lanarkshire Good Food Forum discussion list", made up of more than 50 food stakeholders in the Council area is regularly used to share information such as the development of new local food initiatives or funding opportunities

- ◆ 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. Employee Implications

- 5.1. 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.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. Specific financial implications relating to the implementation of the action plan were reported on a case-by-case basis.

7. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 7.1. The Food Action Plan 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 Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy.

8. Other Implications

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

9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 9.1. The Equality Impact Assessment has been conducted and approved.

10. Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 10.1. 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

David Booth
Executive Director

18 October 2022

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 – Action Plan for the third 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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