

Report

Report to:	Community and Enterprise Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	12 November 2019
Report by:	Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

Subject:	Good Food Strategy
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ endorse the Good Food Strategy, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, and agree that the strategy will be referred to the Executive Committee for approval;
- ◆ approve the next steps for the launch and implementation of the Good Food Strategy; and
- ◆ request approval for the current temporary post of Policy Officer (Food Development) within Community and Enterprise Resources to be made permanent.

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the Good Food Strategy, attached as Appendix 1, be endorsed and referred to the Executive Committee for approval;
- (2) that following approval by the Executive Committee, the Strategy be launched in 2020 and implemented from 1 April 2020; and
- (3) that the temporary post of 1 FTE Policy Officer (Food Development) on Grade 3, Level 2 to 4 (£32,027 to £37,647) be added to the Community and Enterprise Resources establishment on a permanent basis.

3. Background

- 3.1. At its meeting on 22 June 2019, the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee approved the plan for the development of the Good Food Strategy.
- 3.2. A proposal of vision and objectives for the Good Food Strategy was made and approved by the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee on 3 September 2019. Subsequently, the Community Planning Partnership Board was informed of the proposal on 11 September 2019.
- 3.3. The process of definition of the vision and objectives included two stages. First, a mapping exercise was carried out to identify food initiatives within the Council and in the Council's area. A baseline of information with key statistics related to food was also established. A review of local, national and international policy frameworks was undertaken.

- 3.4. Second, a consultation period lasted two months with the publication of an online survey and the organisation of meetings and focus groups. A high number of responses were received and the results showed that respondents were in agreement with the proposal of vision and objectives.
- 3.5. The vision and objectives are aligned with national policies, will contribute to the achievement of specific Council's objectives and will address the main issues related to food in South Lanarkshire.
- 3.6. In addition to approving the vision and objectives, the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee approved the next steps for the definition of the strategy that is to say the production of the Good Food Strategy document including the definition of the key intentions to implement the strategy.

4. Good Food Strategy

- 4.1. The draft Good Food Strategy is attached as Appendix 1.
- 4.2. The strategy covers the period 2020 to 2025. It 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.
- 4.3. By taking into account all the aspects of food, the Council has set out objectives and intentions for us to deliver the vision of the strategy but also to work in collaboration with partners and support the community because everyone can play a role in the development of the Good Food Council.
- 4.4. In summary, the strategy includes the following sections:-
- 4.5. Introduction – This section provides a definition of Good Food and Good Food Council and the vision is stated. Since it is the first Council food strategy, the purpose of this introduction is also to explain why this strategy was developed and in which context. Moreover, it gives information about the targeted audience and the formulation process.
- 4.6. Overview of the food system - The objective of the section is to present the main challenges that are related to food in South Lanarkshire. It offers a baseline of information.
- 4.7. Policy context – The section gives an overview of the local and national policy frameworks. It shows that food is a cross-cutting thematic and that the strategy builds on policy from different sectors and levels.
- 4.8. Themes and objectives of the strategy – For each of the objectives of the strategy, the following sections are included to provide supporting explanation and justification for the objectives:
 - ◆ “Why did we set this as an objective?”. It gives an explanation of why the objective has been identified and why it is important for the Council
 - ◆ “What do we want to achieve?”. It presents the expected outcomes

- ◆ “What we will do to deliver and support change”. It refers to the intentions of actions
- ◆ “Some examples of what is already happening in South Lanarkshire”. It aims at recognising and showcasing some of the good practices undertaken by the Council, partners or 3rd sector

In particular, the section “Good Food Governance” presents the governance and reporting mechanisms at Council and Community Planning Partnership levels. It also shows how the Council intends to work with the third and private sector.

- 4.9. Monitoring framework – The section provides the list of indicators that will be used to monitor the impacts of the strategy against the various dimensions of the vision.
- 4.10. Further actions for household and businesses – The objective of the section is to show that everyone can play a role and contributes to deliver the vision of the strategy. In particular, it provides a list of straightforward actions that households and businesses can carry out.

5. Next steps and timescales

- 5.1. On the basis that the Committee endorses the Good Food Strategy, it is proposed that the strategy is referred to the Executive Committee on 4 December 2019 for approval and to the Community Planning Partnership Board on 12 February 2020 for information.
- 5.2 The strategy will be launched early in 2020. To prepare the different steps of the launch of the strategy, a communication plan has been prepared in collaboration with the Council’s Corporate Communications. This includes the graphic design of the strategy document for publication in the website and printing, a mini-campaign to introduce the publication of the strategy and its implementation and the organisation of an event to launch the strategy.
- 5.3 The official implementation of the Good Food Strategy will begin on 1 April 2020 so that it can start at the same time as the different Council Resource Plans and Services Plans. In the meantime, the action plan for the first year will be developed with the relevant Council services and in partnership with partners and other food stakeholders. The framework and basis for implementation will also be prepared.
- 5.4 During the implementation phase, regular updates on the implementation of the strategy will be provided to relevant committees as appropriate.

6. Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 6.1. 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.

7. Employee Implications

- 7.1 Development of the strategy is the key task of the Policy Officer (Food Development). In addition, all Resources are contributing to the development of the Good Food Strategy to ensure that a co-ordinated and comprehensive approach is adopted. Implication of Resources and services varies depending on the relevance of their activities with regards to food.

- 7.2 Given the complex and varied work identified within the proposed Good Food Strategy it is proposed that the current 18 month fixed term post of Policy Officer (Food Development) is changed to a permanent position within the Resource structure. This will allow the continued focus to ensure that the actions and objectives identified are progressed and delivered within the agreed timescales and that the work done to date with partners continues to be progressed.
- 7.3. It is proposed that the following temporary post within Community and Enterprise Resources be established on a permanent basis.

Post	Proposed Number of Posts (FTE)	Grade /SCP range	Hourly Rate	Annual Salary	Gross Cost (inc on costs 30.3%)
Policy Officer (Food Development)	1.0	Grade 3 Level 2 – 4 / 63 - 74	£17.55 - £20.63	£32,027 - £37,647	£41,731 - £49,054

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1 The costs associated with making the post permanent within 2019/2020 will be met from existing budgets within Community and Enterprise Resources.

9. Other Implications (Including Environmental and Risk Issues)

- 9.1. The Good Food Strategy will support the outcomes of the current Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy.
- 9.2. There are no implications for risk in terms of the information contained within this report.

10. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 10.1. Consultation with the public has been undertaken at a previous stage. The Equalities Impact Assessment as well as a Fairer Scotland Impact Assessment are on-going and will be compiled in advance of the publication of the strategy. The evaluation criteria of these two assessments were considered throughout the process of formulation of the strategy.

Michael McGlynn

Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

Paul Manning

Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

24 October 2019

Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives

- ♦ Work with communities and partners to promote high quality, thriving and sustainable communities;
- ♦ Support the local economy by providing the right conditions for inclusive growth;
- ♦ Support our communities by tackling disadvantage and deprivation, and supporting aspiration.

Previous References

- ♦ Community and Enterprise Resources Committee 22 May 2018 - Food Development – Policy Officer
- ♦ Community and Enterprise Resources Committee 22 January 2019 - Proposal for Food Strategy
- ♦ Community and Enterprise Resources Committee 3 September 2019 - Proposal for 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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