

# Report

Report to:	<b>Climate Change and Sustainability Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>2 February 2022</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)</b>

Subject:	<b>Good Food Strategy Update – Quarter 2 2021/2022</b>
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## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to: -

- ◆ update the Committee of the status of Good Food Strategy actions and measures at Quarter 2 of 2021-2022.

## 2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) That the 2021-2022 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 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 was approved by the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee on 10 February 2021 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 2021-22 Q2 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		21
Status – Green	The timescale or target has been met as per expectations	9 (43%)
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	11 (52%)

4.3. The indicator showing an amber status refers to the share of free school meals uptake in primary schools. This is a year-to-date position and includes the April to June period, when schools were not fully operating due to Covid-19. Therefore, the figure does not reflect uptake in a normal year. Eleven indicators are classified as "Reportable at a later stage/contextual": three of them are contextual, four indicators are annual figures and will be reported at Q4 and four baseline indicators have not been established yet, but indicators will be provided at Q4.

4.4. The overall summary of improvements actions at the end of quarter two is as follows:

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Total number of improvement actions		36
Status - Blue	Action Complete	1 (3%)
Status – Green	The timescale or target has been met as per expectations	31 (86%)
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	4 (11%)

4.5. The status of four improvement actions will be reported later given the following reasons: the timescale has changed due to external reasons for one of them; one of the projects was initially planned to be developed during Q3/Q4; activities for two of the actions were postponed due to competing priorities.

4.6. 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

- ◆ As community food organisations play a key role in tackling food insecurity, the Council continues to support them with food deliveries. Seven organisations are supported on a regular basis with others supported depending on needs. From April to mid-September, 10,486 food parcels were distributed, the equivalent of 167,824 meals.
- ◆ There are currently 9,158 children eligible for low- income based Free School Meals Payments during the school holidays (£30 payment per fortnight).
- ◆ The Kitchen Learning Hub continues to be delivered remotely to service users of the Unpaid Work Service (Social Work) with food parcels delivered to each participant before the cooking session. The bread making sessions are now being delivered in house with bread donated to local food banks.
- ◆ The Youth Family and Community Learning service (Education) continues to provide food related learning programmes. In total, 190 learners participated to accredited and non-accredited programmes.

#### Good food in the public sector

- ◆ Menus in schools are now compliant with the new regulation for Nutritional Requirements for Food and Drink in schools.
- ◆ The Sustainable Food Procurement group helped organise a session called “How do Local Authorities procure Food and Drink” at the Lanarkshire Meet the Buyer event. The session aims to provide information to local businesses on how they can supply food and drink to the Council.

### Good food economy

- ◆ 92% of food businesses are compliant with food safety statutory requirements, the target being 85%.
- ◆ The Economic Development Service is currently running a project funded by SAC Consulting and the Council to raise the profile of the local food and drink sector. This includes encouraging groups and schools to grow food and offering support to community groups and schools in building skills, gaining employability and providing information about setting up food businesses.
- ◆ The Council part-funds a co-ordinator post for Lanarkshire Larder, which is a local network for local food and drink businesses.

### Good food growing

- ◆ Number of plot holders on council managed sites increased by 20% with the opening of the new allotment in Lammermoor in East Kilbride. Planning applications have also been approved for a raised bed site in Burnhill and tender process is underway. Development is about to begin on a small allotment site in Strathaven.

### Good food and the environment

- ◆ The Council signed the Glasgow Food and Climate Declaration showing its commitment to tackle climate emergency through integrated food policies.
- ◆ With support from the Council, 49 tonnes of food surplus have been distributed by the charity FareShare to local organisations. This represents 137,690 meal portions and a value of £206,532.

### Good food governance

- ◆ A network composed of food stakeholders from the third, private and public sector is regularly meeting to discuss specific food topics such as the impact of Covid-19 on food and the links between the food system and climate change.
- ◆ Membership to the UK network Sustainable Food Places has been achieved. This recognises and celebrates the partnership approach that the Council is taking to achieve positive changes on a range of key food issues.

## **5. Other Food Related Actions not Included in the IMPROVe Report**

- 5.1. Other actions in relation to food were developed but are not included in the IMPROVe report as the decision to implement them was taken after the approval of the 2021-2022 action plan.
- 5.2. This includes the expansion of Universal Free School Meals to P4 children and the development of the Scottish Milk and Healthy Snack Scheme in nursery. Both initiatives started in August and more information will be provided in the Q4 report.
- 5.3. Summer Session hubs ran within 14 locations across South Lanarkshire for a period of 6 weeks with breakfast and lunch served every day. Enrolment in the clubs was primarily targeted at those in receipt of free school meal entitlement, living with mental health, isolation, bereavement, anxiety, and financial difficulties and who are living in the surrounding communities. 834 participants attended, and Facilities provided up to 10,000 meals over the duration of the programme.

## **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 action plan were reported on a case-by-case basis.

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

- 8.1. By promoting Good Food, food which is environmentally friendly and helps tackle climate change, the Good Food Strategy is aligned with the sustainable development and climate change objectives of the Council. It supports the outcomes of the current Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy, in particular Outcome 1.2, stating that the Council is environmentally responsible in the procurement, use and disposal of resources. The strategy encourages procurement and consumption of sustainable food, supports the reduction of food waste and food packaging, promotes the redistribution of food surplus and encourages food recycling. It also aims to increase connections with the community, partners and the private sector to reduce the impacts of the food system (from farm to fork) on the environment and its contribution to climate change.

## **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 has been conducted and approved.

## **11. Strategic Environmental Assessment**

- 11.1. 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

**Alistair McKinnon**

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

12 January 2022

### **Link(s) to Council Objectives and Values**

- ◆ 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**

- ◆ Executive Committee 4 December 2019 - Good Food Strategy
- ◆ Climate Change and Sustainability Committee 10 February 2021 – Action Plan for the second 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:

Hélène Gourichon (Policy Officer for Food Development)

Ext: 4276 (Tel: 01698 454276)

E-mail: [helene.gourichon@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:helene.gourichon@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)