

Glasgow Food Policy Partnership

Tuesday 26 September 2017

Notes and actions

1. **Apologies:** Ken Harris, Nigel Kerr, Deirdre Shaw, Bill Gray, Ylva Haglund, Pete Ritchie

Present: Robin Gourlay, Jill Muirie (Chair), Angela Mitchell, Ronan McGarry, Abi Mordin

2. **Previous action note:** This was agreed and will go on the website.

3. **Matters arising:**

The [Vegetable Summit](#) on 24th October. A discussion took place about who should go to this and whether the GFPP/GCPH could pay for places. Some suggestions were given but we were uncertain who had already been invited. Action: Jill to find out who in Glasgow has been invited and to consider who else might usefully be encouraged to attend.

SFC Health Check – a few GFPP members had discussed this and had trialled going through the health check. While this was a useful exercise the consensus was that it was not the right time to do it as a group and we should wait until our priorities and plans are agreed and we have had some time to take action. Action: Angela to provide our feedback on the health check to SFC.

New staff at Soil Association Scotland - Ronan McGarry (present) and Beth Webb are new members of the Soil Association Scotland Food For Life Scotland team and will be available over the next year or so to support the GFPP in various ways. Beth has considerable expertise in many areas of food policy and research, as well as experience of Sustainable Food Cities through her work with Bristol Food Network. Ronan will be managing the overall support and engagement between the partnerships and Soil Association Scotland in terms of Food for Life Scotland.

4. **GFPP future plans and agreement of specific deliverables:**

Jill suggested that she would like to use this meeting to agree a clear set of priorities, and to start to develop plans for how to progress each, with timescales and responsibilities that will allow us to see, and be seen to make, progress in our selected areas. However, she also highlighted the need to be pragmatic and realistic.

It was agreed that the priority areas for the GFPP work plan should be food poverty/insecurity, sustainable food procurement, 'sugar smart'/reducing sugar consumption, and food waste. It was agreed that sub-groups would be set up/reestablished to take the work forward on the priority areas each with an identified priority lead. The following details were agreed:

i. **Food poverty/insecurity:** Jill Muirie at GCPH to lead on this work.

In the first instance Jill will meet the coordinator of the Poverty Leadership Panel in Glasgow to discuss how the GFPP can help and support the food poverty work to move forward in the city at a strategic level. We will not be prescriptive in this, but see how we can contribute to existing and evolving plans.

The aim would be for recognition at a policy/strategy level of food poverty and what needs to happen over and above the work to address poverty in the city. This should build on the Glasgow –Edinburgh joint statement from 2015 by making a commitment on a more practical/meaningful level to 3 or 4 actions. These should relate to the new Glasgow Community Plan and PLP strategy and targets. The aim in terms of practical change would be for an increase in the accessibility of affordable, nutritious food in the most deprived neighbourhoods.

Action: Jill to arrange meetings to discuss a possible plan with GCC/PLP colleagues. Thereafter to establish a GFFP sub group to take this forward. All those interested in joining this subgroup to contact Jill.

Other relevant points during the discussion included:

- The need for greater financial support for community organisations to provide community meals (i.e. small pots of money for transport, storage, refrigeration)
- Reports from some community groups that FareShare not is not meeting their needs, e.g. including the annual cost to community organisations is too much (and why do supermarkets not pay?) and the uncertainty/variability of produce provided (unhealthy and/or near to expired food is difficult for community organisations to use and can end up in landfill anyway). *Action: Jill to explore the FareShare model in more detail and to see what data is collected in relation to these comments.*

ii. **Sustainable food procurement:** Ronan McGarry/Soil Association Scotland to lead on this. The subgroup/working group will be a city wide strategic partnership and Ronan is working on establishing this.

A group already exists in Edinburgh but the Glasgow group would be focused on issues that participants identify to be relevant here. Ronan is currently trying to identify appropriate people/operational leads in GCC, Cordia and NHS in the first instance to invite to be part of the group. Once the group have met an action plan will be developed that focuses on the top 3 or 4 things that participants agree they would like to see happen.

Action: All to contact Ronan with details of anyone who might appropriately be invited to be part of the group.

- iii. **Sugar Smart Campaign (reducing consumption):** North Glasgow Community Food Initiative to lead on this, with support from the Glasgow Community Food Network. This is being launched in Milton, Glasgow on Friday 6th October. *Action: Jill to circulate the invitation to all GFPP.*

It was agreed that GFPP members should helpfully consider if there were opportunities to adopt aspects of the Sugar Smart campaign into their organisations. Abi asked for more information and resources to be circulated. *Action: GFPP colleagues are also asked to consider how their organisations can adopt some aspects of the campaign; Jill to circulate a brief summary of the campaign to GFPP including links to resources and ideas about how different organisations can get involved.*

- iv. **Food waste:** To be led by Ylva Hagland/Zero Waste Scotland.

The aim would be for GCC to meet its legal requirements for the reduction in food waste going to landfill. This would be progressed through a GFPP paper to the GCC Sustainability Committee. *Action: Jill to speak to Ylva about progressing this. All those interested in being part of this subgroup to contact Ylva.*

Additional actions required:

Theme leads to formulate outcomes (short and longer term), and circulate within GFPP for comment within 4 weeks. All GFPP members to consider and identify which workstream(s) and subgroups they will support.

Actions to be developed in the light of these early discussions. Subgroups to work together to develop more detail including timescales and responsibilities. These should also include/link to local drivers and policy context/Community Plan and national policies such as Good Food Nation. Aim for these to be developed in the 2 months.

Jill to set up quarterly meetings of GFPP for the coming year.

5. SFC Coordinator Grant application:

Applications are now being invited with a November closing date. GCC and GCPH have offered funding which could be matched (if the application is successful) to allow a half time, 1 year coordinator post to support the GFPP. Further work is required to develop the remit of this post and the logistics (managing organisation etc). If further funding can be found, the post can be extended to more hours. The post would start in January 2018 for 1 year.

Action: Jill and Ronan to develop draft application and circulate for comment – by end October.

6. Updates:

Community Food Network: Abi reported that the network was progressing well since its launch in June and has established an office in the Kinning Park Complex.

- They are launching their 'roots to market' research on Friday 6th October. This research will be looking at developing local food economies in the city and the barriers to making progress.
Action: Abi to circulate details of the event to all.
- They are building their membership - trying to capture skills and resources that can be shared or traded across the network.
- Developing their website (hoping that it will be launched in the next 6 weeks or so)
- Developing a seed bank (and building links with a tool library which is being set up by others in the city)
- In general the GCFN would like to see more support for community meals as part of Glasgow's food poverty response. Specifically, this could usefully take the form of small pots of money for community organisations to pick up/transport food and to cover the costs of storage/refrigeration of food. *Action: Jill to incorporate this in to the food poverty strand of work.* As part of this the issue of the usefulness of surplus food provision services was raised – the cost of this is prohibitive to some community groups and, even when the service is used (and, so far as we know, supermarket and other surplus food providers do not pay for the service), the food provided can be unusable by the organisation (e.g. too close to use by dates, more than can be used and cannot be (re)frozen, not the type of food that the organisation chooses to provide, etc. As a result, community organisations have to transport some of this food to refuse facilities themselves. Abi highlighted the need for a community anaerobic digester for the food waste produced by community organisations and how it could be used to capture heat and produce compost which could be used by the community organisations (circular economy).

Mapping : Update on this to be requested from Nigel/Ken.

Important developments since June:

- Growing strategy for Glasgow being developed. Action: Ken to given an update at the next meeting.
- Concrete Garden involved in planning pop up shop as part of Resilient Possil project.

7. Next meetings

Jill to arrange next 4 quarterly meetings by doodle poll.