

Glasgow City Food Plan – Actions and Outcomes



Overarching Outcomes:

1. Improved access to healthy affordable food and reduced food insecurity.
2. Increased understanding of the food system especially with regards to nutrition and sustainability.
3. More opportunities for communities to enjoy cooking and growing together
4. A thriving local food economy which promotes fair work and principles of sustainability.
5. Increased availability and use of seasonal, locally grown and produced food in or close to Glasgow.
6. Improved health and wellbeing as a result of improvements in our food system and food environment.
7. More food produced in ways that are good for the environment.
8. Reduced food waste, increased redistribution of surplus food, and reduced environmental impact from food waste.
9. Reduced greenhouse gas emissions (direct and indirect) arising from our food system.

Fair Food for All

Proposed short-term actions

In the next one to two years, Glasgow's partners will work together to:

- Understand current levels of food insecurity in the city and map the resources available to meet these needs;
- Build on the Food for Good collaboration which brought together agencies across different sectors to develop a more coordinated response for those in food poverty, focusing on preventing crises and acute provision to meet immediate need;
- Incorporate learning from other cities and countries into delivery of the Glasgow City Food Plan, for example from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nation's 'Right to Food in Cities' pilots, which aim to ensure that everyone has access to nutritious, sustainably produced and culturally appropriate food;
- Work with community-based staff to ensure that anyone accessing emergency food provision will be provided with income maximisation/welfare rights support;
- Further develop vital partnerships such as the Foodbank Forum and other key food-related groups across the city, building in spaces for service providers to discuss key issues and solutions;
- Continue to encourage more employers and businesses in Glasgow to become Living Wage employers, and consider targeted support for sectors such as catering and hospitality;
- Engage more businesses to support local organisations tackling food insecurity and create networking opportunities for businesses and local organisations to share key issues and solutions;
- Improve awareness of, and enhance easy access to, healthy, fresh food in local communities. A number of projects and initiatives are already being tested to help with this: there are four community pantries planned across the city and a pilot for the Rose Voucher scheme in Dalrnarnock, Calton and Bridgeton areas of the city. Learning from these models will inform next steps and consideration of extending across the city. Funding is in place for years 2 and 3.



Medium and long term actions

In the longer term (beyond two years), and building on the actions above, the following actions are proposed to continue progressing towards the long-term outcomes:

- Develop a more coordinated response to supporting those in food poverty, by developing an 'advice first' principle to help transition away from food aid referrals.
- Challenge the uneven distribution and availability of food in Glasgow. As highlighted earlier, this is an issue of fundamental importance for the Food Plan; however, it is complex and needs wider engagement and involvement of partners including business, licensing and planning.
- Lessons from the initiatives developed in the earlier stages of the Plan and evidence of what can be done to encourage better access to affordable healthy food in our communities and around our schools will inform the approach.

Community Food

Proposed short term actions

In the next one to two years Glasgow's partners will work together to:

- Establish a food information hub that will provide access to a range of resources (e.g. community food projects, community meals information hubs and growing spaces) as well as information and advice for existing community groups and potential new groups.
- Develop approaches to improve learning about the food system into the education curriculum in schools, colleges and community education. In agreement with GCC education and with Glasgow's colleges and training providers, support the delivery of food education that includes food growing, cooking on a budget, nutrition, reading food labels, understanding of the food system and its relationship with the environment, food choices and ethics, as well as experience-based learning.
- Review current community food training in Glasgow across all forms of education including informal/community. Identify gaps and develop recommendations for improvement, so that individuals can acquire the diverse skillset required to deliver in the community food sector.
- Increase community involvement in planning and design of local community food ventures, be they food hubs, growing spaces or other activities. This involvement will ensure approaches developed are need-based and have local ownership and support, as well as helping raise awareness of the community food opportunities.
- Pilot an approach to provide a single sign-up point for cooking courses (and in time other food courses) across the city. The pilot will be implemented in one area then considered for wider use.



Medium and long term actions

In the longer term (beyond two years), and building on the actions above, the following actions are proposed to continue progressing towards the GCFP's long-term outcomes:

- Build the resilience of the Community Food sector and ensure that it is supported and resourced to deliver in communities across the city. To do this, we need the further involvement and support of partners and other funders.
- Address the range of issues have been identified to improve the sustainability of the Community Food sector. This includes sustainable funding for community food projects, access to community assets and the prioritisation of community food hubs so that they can be accessed by everyone in the city.
- Improve pay and employment rights for the Community Food sector
- Implement progressive gardening, cooking and socialising programmes around food and nutrition within homeless residential provision and community justice services (e.g. Tomorrow's Women Glasgow and Community Payback Services). These need to be embedded within trauma-informed practice approaches and be service-user led.
- As a key priority, significantly increase Glasgow's food growing capacity; scaling up allotments and community growing as well as the development of larger scale urban farming in the city

Procurement and Catering

Proposed short-term actions

In the next one to two years Glasgow's partners will work together to:

- Incorporate more Scottish seasonal and local food into event and service catering, and school food across Glasgow City Council venues.
- Achieve Healthy Living Award status for all Council venues and staff outlets and consider options for a healthy vending policy.
- Achieve Bronze level Food for Life Served Here Accreditation for Glasgow City Council school meals. We will also build and improve links between the Children's Holiday Food Programme and local growing projects.
- Involve children and young people in designing school menus, hand in hand with food education around Scottish grown seasonal produce.
- Scope out a "best fit" community benefits methodology for food contracts to ensure better links between food procurement and food initiatives in the community.
- Work with the food industry and training providers to scope proposals to encourage greater uptake of catering careers in Glasgow. We will map existing training opportunities and consider what is required to fill the gaps.



Medium- and long-term actions

In the longer term (beyond two years), and building on the actions above, the following actions are proposed to continue progressing towards the GCFP's long-term outcomes:

- Involve a wider range of public, private and third sector partners in developing the procurement and catering theme as well as the business sector as the Plan develops.
- Increase the proportion of locally sourced or grown food in public contracts; however, this is heavily dependent on local availability. The current limited capacity for local production has been highlighted earlier and addressing this will be a priority for the Plan.
- Support small and medium sized food business to participate in public procurement, looking at examples from other successful local authorities. Engage with the sector to ensure that the support offered fits their requirements.

Food Economy

Proposed short term actions

In the next one to two years Glasgow's partners will work together to:

- Engage and align actions in this GCFP with the Scotland Food & Drink Partnership's sector recovery plan, when available.
- Bring partners together (potentially as part of the Sustainable Glasgow Partnership) to explore opportunities to increase the production and provision of local, sustainably produced food.
- Review catering and cooking courses offered at further education level to ensure they include education about sustainability and preventing and reducing food waste.
- Work with educational institutions and employers to create new apprenticeships in Food Tourism and Food Growing; aligning with the Food Tourism Recovery Plan and the potential food tourism apprenticeship programme.
- Explore ways to further engage with food businesses and restaurants to encourage reduction in food waste and adoption of circular economy principles as part of Glasgow's Circular Economy Route map.
- Continue work to encourage businesses/other employers to become Living Wage employers.
- Work with partners and develop communications to increase the use of food redistribution apps by individuals, community groups and businesses.
- Review and improve the support that is available to help people set up food growing businesses and link them to sector specific help.
- Engage with Scottish Government and national agencies to help secure support and funding for increasing local sustainably produced food and explore potential for urban and peri-urban agriculture and vertical farming.



Medium- and long-term actions

In the longer term (beyond two years), and building on the actions above, the following actions are proposed to continue progressing towards the GCFP's long-term outcomes:

- Increase the production and availability of locally grown, climate-friendly food, in particular the establishment of an urban farming project. This will require more vacant land and assets in the city to be available for food economy use such as market gardens and small enterprises.
- Work with national partners to increasing local food growing and food production across Scotland so that more locally grown food is available.
- Development of training options, apprenticeships and pathways in our schools and colleges for routes into urban farming.
- Support and encourage food businesses to adopt sustainability principles. This may include the development of an integrated food charter for the city e.g. "Glasgow Sustainable Food" accreditation.
- Strengthen links between commercial organisations and local community growers, producers and retailers to help support a more local food economy, informed by community wealth building principles.

Environment and Food Waste

Proposed short term actions

In the next one to two years Glasgow's partners will work together to:

- Increase the amount of sustainably-produced food in public procurement contracts (e.g. ties into earlier commitment in the procurement theme to work towards Food for Life Served Here in school meals).
- Work with local community groups/school and college education leads to embed learning about sustainable food production/procurement/preparation into curricula of local educational establishments and the communities around them.
- Map and review food redistribution services and opportunities in Glasgow and draw on learning from elsewhere to develop plans to increase and improve food redistribution.
- Reduce single use food and drink packaging, increase the number of outlets offering free water refills and publicise water refill stations through the implementation of the Glasgow City Councils Plastics Strategy.
- Work with support from Zero Waste Scotland to encourage public sector food providers to measure food waste and make plans to prevent/reduce food waste.
- Use a range of approaches to increase knowledge and skills about how to reduce the environmental impact of food through prevention of food waste, food redistribution and meal planning. Work with Zero Waste Scotland, local colleges, Chamber of Commerce (including the Circular Glasgow initiative) and NHS partners to engage citizens, businesses and public sector employees.



Medium- and long-term actions

In the longer term (beyond two years), and building on the actions above, the following actions are proposed to continue progressing towards the GCFP's long-term outcomes:

- Work with partners and local communities to explore opportunities, including suitable growing spaces, for increasing local, sustainably produced food, including agroecological urban farming in and around the city.
- Substantially reduce food waste across all sectors in Glasgow over the life of the Plan. We will monitor and measure the impact of the short-term actions and this will inform our approach for medium term actions to further tackle food waste.
- Food waste reduction requires intensive bottom-up work in communities and is a key role for community food hubs.
- Participate in a research project 'The Scottish Diet', led by Glasgow University Nutrition Department, to develop a common understanding of a sustainable, healthy diet that is appropriate and acceptable for a Scottish population and support a shift in eating patterns towards this through increasing supply and demand. We will also use the learning from this research to inform future action.

Children and Young People

Proposed short term actions



In the next one to two years Glasgow's partners will work together to:

- Review how partners across the public sector are working together to support and achieve the delivery of aims within Scotland's Healthy Weight & Diet Plan, to tackle dietary ill health, obesity and type 2 diabetes through wide-ranging actions that include retail policy, licensing, community weight management, and child and infant nutrition and identify areas for further action.
- Encourage more businesses to be "breastfeeding friendly".
- Promote the uptake of Best Start Food in Glasgow and learn more about barriers to uptake. Aim for maximum uptake with families who are eligible.
- Work with local educational leads for early learning and childcare establishments/schools/colleges to ensure a 'Good Food culture' permeates their school ethos and learning; tying in with key educational strategies such as the National Improvement Framework, Getting it Right for Every Child, Learning for Sustainability, Curriculum for Excellence and Better Eating, Better Learning. Ensure all schools have a functioning Good Food Group/School Nutrition Action Groups and develop that in consultation with young people.
- (Further) promote the uptake of healthy school meals in secondary schools, and develop street food pilots in secondary school to explore an update to healthy takeaway food in environmentally friendly packaging.
- Work with partners, including planning and licensing colleagues, to limit the clustering of fast food outlets around schools.
- Investigate the introduction of pre-ordering primary school meals to reduce waste and encourage young people to make healthier choices.
- Maximise the uptake of children's healthy weight services and healthy eating pilots for under-5s through promotion across community, primary care, education, children's services and third sector.
- Work with GCC to upskill catering staff and to share their skills and knowledge with teaching staff, pupils and their families.

Medium- and long-term actions

In the longer term (beyond two years), and building on the actions above, the following actions are proposed to continue progressing towards the long-term outcomes:

- Ensure there are quality assured curricular support resources available in all educational establishments, and teacher training and support is provided as required. This should include all aspects of the food system including diet, nutrition, food choices, growing food and reducing food waste.
- Explore approaches to allow more flexibility in the use of funding allocated for free school meals to ensure that the young people entitled to this access it and secure maximum benefit.
- Encourage and share good practice examples of partnership working between schools and community food groups across the city.
- Review and evaluate our approach to supporting families with young children who are at risk of being overweight.

Consultation questions

Please answer as many or as few questions as you wish. All consultation responses will be read by Glasgow City Food Plan Project Team. Responses from businesses and organisations will be published online, however you can request that your business or organisation remains anonymous.

1. How can we improve the 'Food Poverty – Fair Food for All' section and action points?
2. How can we improve the 'Community Food' section and action points?
3. How can we improve the 'Food Procurement and Catering' section and action points?
4. How can we improve the 'Food Economy' section and action points?
5. How can we improve the 'Environment & Food Waste' section and action points?
6. How can we improve the 'Children & young people' section and action points?
7. We hope to draw up a 'top 10' list of how the people of Glasgow can support the Food Plan. What could you do to support the Food Plan?
8. Is there anything else you would like to feed back?
9. Are you responding as an individual, organisation or business? If an organisation or business please could you provide more information, and your contact details if you are happy for us to get in touch with you.

We will publish all responses from businesses and organisations online. Do you wish your business or organisation to be named, or would you prefer for your response to remain anonymous?

If you are representing a business or an organisation that has not already contributed to the Glasgow City Food Plan:

Would your organisation like to be involved future work on the food Plan?

Or are there any actions already noted that you feel you could support?