

GFPP SPRING MEETING

18th March 2025 , 2.30-4.00pm

Via Zoom

MINUTES

Present:

Riikka Gonzalez, GFPP

Jill Muir, Glasgow Centre for Population Health – GCPH (GFPP CHAIR)

Thalia Groucott, GCFN

Siobhan Boyle, Glasgow HSCP

Margaret Gilmour, Soil Association

Rebecca Ricketts, Chamber of Commerce

Helen Traill, University of Glasgow

Mark Fitzpatrick, GCFN

Ania Neisser, Third Sector Interface

Apologies:

Kathleen Caskie, Cllr Elaine McSporran, Gillian Edgar, David Lyon, Kristina Nitsolova, Gixia Leishman, Nick Hopkins, Deidre Shaw, Lorna Hamilton, Alex Patterson, Kelda McLean, Sarah Gowanlock, Laura Muir, Pete Ritchie, Mandy Morgan, Catherine McMahan, Simon Kenton-Lake, Ewan Curtis, Cllr Christy Mearns, Stephen Brown

Apologies:

1. Welcome and apologies

As noted.

2. Note of last meeting and matters arising

These were agreed as accurate - with the exception of a small change in relation to the Terms of Reference. Riikka will change the reference to 'Public Oversight Group' to 'Public Health Oversight Group'. **Action: Riikka**

Matters arising included:

- Nourish Scotland's Public Diner event which was held at the end of September in Civic House and the [accompanying report](#).
- Taste the Place, which was developed by Rebecca Ricketts as part Glasgow 850 and will be launched in April. Thalia is also working on a podcast speaking to three

venues and this will be available on 7th April. Rebecca noted that she has signposted GCFN's Climate Activators to participating food venues who focus on beans and pulses.

- Jill noted that the Community Food Group of the Food Plan are planning a focus on cultural food and an event is planned for later in the year.
- The Terms of Reference have been updated and published online.
- The minutes of all working groups meetings are available online.
- We are working in identifying funding for participation from organisations.
- The Courtyard Pantry's afterschool food provision is being evaluated by the University of Glasgow through their Scottish Alliance for Food Collaboration.
- We are awaiting an update on the community food market research.
- The Annual Networking event took place in October 2024 and another is planned for 2025.

3. Partnership Health Check

Riikka introduced the partnership health check and described how it is encouraged by Sustainable Food Places to do in a regular basis.

Riikka shared the scores and compared these with 2018's scores and it was noted that there were improvements across many domains – however the results were only derived from three individuals who had responded to the most recent assessment. It suggested that this could be shared at a future in person event e.g. the next Annual Networking Meeting. In the meantime, Riikka encouraged everyone to complete the assessment so that a fuller picture can be obtained. **Action: All to contribute**

4. Glasgow City Food Plan

- working group updates
- annual report

Jill provided some brief updates on the sub-groups, as follows:

- **Fair Food For All Partnership** – Is focusing on managing the Cash First work through the grant received from the Scottish Government for the ending the need for food banks work. The partnership has been expanded for the purposes of steering and advising on the Cash First project and is halfway through the project and is awaiting the results of several pieces of commissioned research which will give a more detailed breakdown of the nature of food insecurity in Glasgow such as the patterning, particularly the population groups that are most likely to experience food insecurity and those who experience repeated food insecurity. The Centre for Civic Innovation in Glasgow City Council has been commissioned to pull together a range

of data to help with understanding those patterns better. Jill advised that they are entering the second phase of the work and are hoping that that will allow them to take the findings and use them to inform service delivery, so that when the project ends its funding in January, there is some kind of sustainable change that's happened as a result of it. Mark noted that GCFN has also produced some 'Cash First Action Profiles' that show case studies of cash first work in Glasgow.

- **Food Waste Reduction** – Are focusing on working with schools and have a big food waste reduction project about to begin in collaboration with Zero Waste Scotland. This will measure food waste from dining halls before and after a 6 or 8 week Food Waste Warriors intervention in the schools with teachers and pupils.
- **Community Food** - Is being led Glasgow Community Food Network and their main focus is on bringing community organisations together for an event that celebrates what community food organisations are achieving, particularly with regard to cultural foods. They are also looking at some longer term plans.
- **Catering and Procurement** – Jayne Jones of NHS GGC has joined to lead this group which has restarted meetings with varied attendees and a rotating chair. The group are looking at a range of different initiatives in partnership with universities and public sector caterers and procurers to think about how we can use community benefits better. They are thinking about how we can get more local, locally produced foods into public sector.
- **Food Economy** – Has been working with City of Glasgow College who are leading on the work with further education providers to integrate food sustainability education in their curriculum and Riikka has been in touch with the college to see if one of the small businesses that we work with could speak to the students. The group is working on bringing more community markets to Glasgow and the Courtyard Pantry is looking at potential for setting up market at Queens Cross Housing Association. The 4th edition of the Glasgow Sustainable Food Directory with Slow Food Glasgow is now in development and there will be a training event for all the existing and aspiring members on the 13th of May at Civic House. Thalia is also working on a podcast episode for that as well, including some sustainable food suppliers.
- **Urban Agriculture** – Kyle Baldock has joined this group and is working with the council to identify land for growing, particularly in light of the reduction of market gardens in Glasgow from 3 to none.

- **Children and Young People** - The main focus at the moment is getting the good food working groups up and running again in schools and they are working closely with the new quality improvement officer at City Council to reinvigorate those groups in a number of schools including early years, primary and secondary schools in Glasgow. This aims to get them to think about a whole system approach to improving food in schools. Members of the group were at the health and well-being education event last week, promoting the work to schools there.

Jill concluded by commenting that we are now in year 4 and will be entering year 5 of the City Food Plan work and next year would involve a 'mid plan' review, which will enable us to take stock and reflect.

5. Good Food Nation Update – Jill

Jill advised that plans are underway with Local Authorities and NHS Boards to develop their own Good Food Nation plans and there will be efforts made to produce a coherent plan that avoids duplication of existing work. There will be extensive consultation and engagement to develop these. Work will also be done to join up planning with the different Local Authorities working within the NHS GGC Board boundaries. Events will begin to be held to start this process. Jill also spoke about the guidance produced for Local Authorities, entitled [Writing a Good Food Nation plan: a brief guide for relevant authorities - gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot/publications/writing-a-good-food-nation-plan-a-brief-guide-for-relevant-authorities/pages/1-3.aspx).

Jill and Mark commented on how the Scottish Food Coalition are looking to develop a guide to support relevant authorities in developing the Good Food Nation plans that has examples of what good food could look like.

6. Communications and Campaigns Update

Riikka provided an update on activities from the beginning of the year. The included:

- Hosting information stalls at one at the Adam Smith Business School Sustainability events and at the Glasgow City Council Education event aimed at all the education staff in the last couple of months.
- Hosting webinars on cash first on the theme of 'dignity in practise' and on 'alternative community retail'.
- Planning a webinar on healthy and sustainable food work happening in Glasgow-based universities. Another webinar is planned looking at healthy weight supports across the life course linking to 'Thrive Under 5' child healthy weight programme.
- Sharing podcasts on the Glasgow Mushroom Company, vegan haggis in relation Veganuary and Burns night and the Scottish Human Rights Bill and how it relates to



food. Planned podcasts include sustainable food in Glasgow linked to the Sustainable Food Directory, interviews with venues included in Taste the Place and an interview with Govan Community Food Project.

Riikka and Thalia advised that a call out has been made for projects to host network visits to showcase work going on across the city. **Action: All to note**

Riikka noted that the Full of Beans campaign evaluation has been published and Glasgow City Council's Catering Team won an award for taking part in the campaign. SCAF is holding a webinar on the evaluation today. It was noted that the campaign was also included in Global Beans report and in the Glasgow Times.

Finally, Riikka advised that Thalia has produced a Communications Strategy that is available on the website. Riikka also advised that she will follow up on the GCFN networking event.

Action: Riikka

6. GFPP Partner Updates/Partner Collaborations

Riikka asked everyone to make use of the partner updates document between meetings as this is really helpful for reports and funding applications etc.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/12kSkpybR66GSdJ6NnINHxSjcPYOmCa5p/edit>

Further updates:

- **Mark** advised that GCFN are hopefully going into another phase of their Cash First work and will employ sessional workers one day a week to engage with community food organisation. Mark has been distributing Glasgow Helps' 'Worrying About Money?' leaflets and asking questions about what training support community organisations might need. GCFN are hoping to get a survey out to community food organisations just to see what training they require. Mark also advised that the Food and Climate Action Team are looking for continuation funding after their National Lottery Funding ends.
- **Siobhan** advised that NHS GGC Health Improvement are looking to review their representation on their subgroups of the food plan to see they work together and how they can strengthen communication with their colleagues. Siobhan also advised that they had received support from NHS GGC Public Health team to initiate a community food grant scheme which was in line with Glasgow City Food Plan. Suzanne from GCFN supported the administration of a variety of funded projects across the city and these are now in the process of being evaluated. This includes 36 community cookery courses that were run over the course of the year. Siobhan also noted that 'Thrive Under Five' have transitioned

across into a wider project, which is the 'Whole Family, Wellbeing in General Practise Project' across 12 GP practises. This will include vouchers for cooking equipment, pantry memberships and meal packs across the 12 GP practises for families. Siobhan also noted that the 'Yes to Veg' project, which ran in nurseries in Glasgow, has been evaluated and they are awaiting the report; there are plans to use comparator nurseries to measure the success of the intervention. A presentation will be circulated when available. Finally, Siobhan noted that the Alexandra Rose Charity partnership continues to operate as part of 'Thrive Under 5' in Drumchapel area and Ruchazie and is being set up in Govan.

- Margaret advised that the Soil Association ran a competition at Scot Hot this year and the chef from BaxterStorey at Glasgow Caledonian University won overall. BaxterStorey, Glasgow Caledonian University, has also moved from a Bronze Food for Life Award to Silver. She noted that Renfrewshire Council have returned to the Food for Life scheme and they looking at rolling out the Food for Life scheme into some of the visitor attractions across Glasgow, and working with a couple of other local authorities in Scotland. Margaret also commented that there has been a lot of social media coverage of the 'Give Peas A Chance' project which they have been running with a farmer in Aberdeenshire which is very similar to Full of Beans as lots of different key stakeholders are involved in bringing together creative ways of getting peas onto the menu. This project also won an award at the Children's Food Summit in London. Finally, Margaret advised that she had recently visited Islay and Jura to look at how wild venison has been introduced as a local product, with a processing plant on the island and making venison burgers and meatballs for schools.
- Rebecca advised that Interfaith Glasgow are going to be running a series of four events in relation to Taste the Place and Invisible Cities, who upskill former homeless people, will run a Taste the Place inspired walking tour.
- Helen advised that she is putting a funding proposal together to undertake a further evaluation of the Full of Beans campaign a year on.

7. AOB

Thalia Groucott advised that the Sustainable Food Places Network undertook a collaborative process to build an anti-racism strategy for the network and there were a series of meetings with members of food partnerships across the UK. From this they created a strategy based on those sessions and they're now looking to launch it to make it easy for food partnerships to enact it. Thalia advised that she can share it by email to those who are interested.



8. Dates of next meetings

GFPP meeting, 2-3.30 pm on 16th September 2025

GFPP/GCFP Annual Networking Meeting, 30th October (hold the date)