

# South Tyneside Food Action Plan proposal



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# What is the purpose of a Food Action Plan?

- Create a positive food culture within South Tyneside
- The Food Action plan considers:
  - Sustainability (to help adapt to climate change and reduce waste)
  - Affordability (to help our residents at a very challenging time)
  - The provision of healthy food (to boost health outcomes)
  - Placing a high value on food (to realise economic growth opportunities, reduce waste and improve wellbeing opportunities)
- The draft Food Action Plan has been co-produced across departments
- Four key themes have been identified alongside several high priority actions and quick-wins plus medium-longer term aspirations



# 1. Reduce levels of food waste among residents, businesses, and the Council

- Support surplus food kitchens/pantries, such as FoodCycle, to set up in the borough
- Work closely with our hospitality sector (building on recently launched Skills Academy)
- Work with schools on careers advice and guidance around the hospitality and food industries
- Provide support and advice to businesses as part of Business Week (June) and via the South Tyneside Pledge/Better Health at Work Award



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## 2. Encourage the production and consumption of sustainable and healthy food

- Ensure planned street food events offer healthy and sustainable food options
- Consider how healthy food and its provision can be built into regeneration schemes and projects and create a culture change
- Improve plant-based and low-carbon catering across Council services and commissioned providers (incl. leisure centre and library cafes, schools, the Town Hall, and catered events)



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### 3. Ensure sustainable nutrition is embedded in decision-making and strategic planning

- Establish a South Tyneside Food Partnership, representing stakeholders from across the food system
- This would have close links to departments across the Council (Public Health, Climate Change, Economic Policy) and play a key role in poverty reduction activity (as per recommendations from People Select Committee and forthcoming Poverty Truth Commission)
- Consider how this could also be embedded when looking to award contracts / planning applications / licenses



# 4. Improve food education across schools, the community, businesses, and the Council

- Create links with the outdoor curriculum and Forest Schools programme
- Work with schools to look at how the Food Action Plan can support outdoor learning and engage parents
- Improve food education and awareness e.g.
  - Growing and cooking your own food, energy efficient techniques etc.
- Applying 'Whole System' and 'Think Family' approaches



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# Next steps

- Desktop mapping – what services / projects are currently underway in South Tyneside which align with the plan?
- Identify key partners and leads for each theme and priority action
- Access resources and support via the [Food Active's Local Government Healthy Weight Declaration](#)
- Apply to Sustain's Food for the Planet campaign grant (£5K) to improve training and awareness
- Ensure this work aligns and supports existing policies / strategies



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