Over 50 Sustainable Food Cities Network members

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Sustainable Food Cities is a partnership between

[Logos of Food Matters, Soil Association, and Sustain]

Funded by

[Esmée Fairbairn Foundation]

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The Sustainable Food Cities approach is about…

- Creating a city-wide **cross-sector partnership** of public agencies (health, environment, economy), businesses, NGOs, community organisations and academic bodies.

- Developing a **joint vision** and **common goals** on how healthy and sustainable food can become a defining characteristic of their city.

- Develop and implementing an **action plan** that leads to significant measurable improvements in all aspects of food, health and sustainability.

“It is about completely re-imagining, and ultimately reshaping, a city (or town, borough, district, county) through the lens of good food”

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Six key issues

1. Promoting healthy and sustainable food to the public.
2. Tackling food poverty and increasing access to affordable healthy food.
3. Building community food knowledge, skills, resources and projects.
4. Promoting a vibrant and diverse sustainable food economy.
5. Transforming catering and food procurement.
6. Reducing waste and the ecological footprint of the food system.

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Key issue 2: Tackling food poverty, diet-related ill health and access to affordable healthy food

**Example of city initiatives:**

6. **Promote Healthy Start, free school meals and social food provision**

Carlisle’s [Fair Meals Direct](#) is an innovative service working to get ‘hearty, healthy, locally-produced food’ to some of Carlisle’s most vulnerable people.

Exeter’s [Make Lunch](#) kitchens provide free, healthy, cooked food during the holidays for pupils who usually receive free school meals.

Food Cardiff piloted ‘[Food and Fun](#)’, a school holiday enrichment programme providing nutritious food and fun activities for children during the holidays.

**Example of resources:**

6. **Promote Healthy Start, free school meals and social food provision**

The APPG on School Food’s Holiday Hunger Task Group published the [Filling The Holiday Gap Update Report 2015](#) outlining holiday provision activity in the UK and making further recommendations as to how central and devolved government could support future activities.

Brighton and Hove have produced a handy ‘how to’ [booklet on breakfast clubs](#), listing practical ideas based on findings from local research. They have also produced ‘[Eating Together](#)’ a study to understand the role of shared meals in reducing longer-term or ‘chronic’ food poverty.

[Casseroles Club](#) helps people share extra portions of home-cooked food with others in their area who are not always able to cook for themselves.

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The Awards structure

... is designed to recognise and celebrate the success of those places taking a joined up, holistic approach to food and that are achieving significant positive change on a range of key food issues.