



# Action Plan

Good Food Doncaster will promote the use of food as an organising theme to make life better for Doncaster residents, to improve physical and mental health, to improve our economy, to enact positive social change, and to protect our local environment.

Following discussion at our 'Food Hack' event in June 2017, and our initial governance board meeting in August 2017, the following action plan lays out a range of priorities for our organisation. In setting these priorities, we have worked from the Sustainable Food Cities priorities, which have been tailored to suit our goals; in light of this, 'Working to improve physical and mental health' has been afforded a full category, and the idea of using food to build cultural capital has been added, to reflect Doncaster's diverse population.

## PRIORITY 1 PROMOTING HEALTHY AND SUSTAINABLE FOOD TO THE PUBLIC

### Action Points

1. Engage in a range of campaigns aimed at ensuring that healthy and sustainable food is promoted to the public.
2. We will promote an inclusive partnership of equals, to encourage residents to become involved.
3. Work to improve access to, and desirability of, garden growing and allotments.
4. Work with the local authority to identify areas where policy may be introduced or changed to better enable people to find, grow and share healthy food produced in sustainable ways within their communities.

## PRIORITY 2 ADDRESSING FOOD POVERTY AND IMPROVING ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE HEALTHY FOOD

### Action Points

1. A food poverty alliance will be formed, made up of those interested in tackling food insecurity in Doncaster.
2. We will explore the possibility of supporting local residents to access healthier foods through the use of charitable initiatives.
3. We will support progressive food security initiatives aimed at building personal and community resilience.
4. We'll explore ways that the local authority and business community can better support third sector organisations working to alleviate food insecurity.

## PRIORITY 3 WORKING TO IMPROVE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH

### Action Points

1. Support organisations involved in improving health to deliver programmes with a food theme.

2. Support the provision of healthy cooking classes and courses for local residents.
3. We will promote the adoption of healthier foods by local restaurants and takeaways, including promoting diet-specific menus.
4. The physical and mental health benefits of being involved in food growing will be explored.

#### **PRIORITY 4                    BUILDING COMMUNITY FOOD KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, RESOURCES AND PROJECTS**

##### **Action Points**

1. We will promote a culture of lifelong learning, by ensuring that all residents benefit from the opportunities food presents. Learning opportunities would recognise and include the whole range from formal qualifications, to sharing of information.
2. We will work on gathering intelligence about our food system, building a map/network and supporting the connection of people and information.
3. Residents will be encouraged to learn where their food comes from.
4. Our organisations will promote the sharing of skills, offering residents the chance to grow their own food, develop cooking skills and build food knowledge.
5. We will work to explore potential partnerships with organisations outside the food system, but with potential synergies (e.g. manufacturers).

#### **PRIORITY 5                    PROMOTING A VIBRANT AND DIVERSE SUSTAINABLE FOOD ECONOMY**

##### **Action Points**

1. Support local business groups, and initiatives such as 'Handmade in Doncaster'. As well as this, we will explore food business mentoring and incentives for local residents to become involved in food enterprise.
2. Promotion of a Doncaster food brand and reputation.
3. Supporting the positioning of Doncaster's markets as an economic and cultural hub for the town centre.
4. Support our distinct communities to build local food initiatives.
5. Giving our support to the establishment of an Open Food Network hub in Doncaster.
6. A voluntary charter for businesses to encourage the use of local suppliers.

#### **PRIORITY 6                    TRANSFORMING CATERING AND FOOD PROCUREMENT**

##### **Action Points**

1. We will work for a local procurement target to be adopted by local public sector organisations, where they have not already done so.
2. Encourage organisations to share best practice on local procurement.
3. Exploring the feasibility of a local supplier kitemark for food businesses using local suppliers.

**PRIORITY 7****REDUCING WASTE AND THE ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT OF THE FOOD SYSTEM****Action Points**

1. Working with our local waste partnership to provide education around reducing food waste.
2. Holding events aimed at making use of leftovers and teaching people how food waste can be repurposed.
3. We will develop a local waste food charter for businesses and individuals, to ensure that more edible food destined to become food waste is rescued and used.
4. We will explore the idea of encouraging Doncaster's involvement in the Courtauld Commitment 2015.

**PRIORITY 8****BUILDING SOCIAL AND CULTURAL CAPITAL USING FOOD AS AN ORGANISING THEME****Action Points**

1. Work to ensure that our diverse communities have access to culturally-appropriate foods.
2. Promote the growing of diverse ranges of food in Doncaster.
3. Use food as a way to bring communities together.
4. Using food as a means to develop Doncaster's social capital.