Middlesbrough Food Partnership

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Where is Middlesbrough
Middlesbrough – The Town

• Town of 139,500 people in the north east of England, serves a total population of 667,500 in the Tees Valley Combined Authority area.
• Covers an area of about 6 x 4 miles.
• Developed from the 1830s as a port and later as an industrial centre – iron, steel, ship and bridge building, petrochemicals.
• Decline in major industries has led to significant disadvantage – half of residents now live in the 10% most disadvantaged communities in England.
• Has resulted in a range of economic and social issue, including health inequalities.
Middlesbrough Environment City

- Independent charity and company limited by guarantee – with its own Board of Directors.
- Work closely with Middlesbrough Council and community partners on promoting healthy and sustainable living using the ten principles of One Planet Living.
- Not just food – cycling, walking, energy efficiency, physical activity, addressing long term health conditions through sustainable living.
- Employ 30 staff with an annual turnover of £1m.
- Currently chair and provide support for the Middlesbrough Food Partnership.
Middlesbrough Food Partnership - Governance

• Unconstituted group – with a Terms of Reference.
• Wide and open membership – includes Middlesbrough Council (Public Health, Procurement, OPL), Middlesbrough College, Teesside University, Askham Bryan College.
• MEC provides chair and administration for the Partnership funded by Middlesbrough Council Public Health.
• Sits within wider structures within the town – including One Planet Living Action Group, Financial Inclusion Group and Fairtrade Group.
Middlesbrough Food Partnership - Functions

• Develops and oversees implementation of the Middlesbrough Food Action Plan.

• Current Action Plan themes: Health and Nutrition; Local and Sustainable Food; Reducing Food waste; Fairness in the Food chain & Tackling Food Poverty; Education & Skills; and A Strong Local Food Economy & Catering.

• Role in influencing policy (eg procurement, Fairtrade).

• Some delivery is through existing resources, including influencing changes to delivery of existing initiatives.

• Also partners apply externally for funding for specific initiatives (the Partnership as a whole does not apply for funding).

• Research is small part of the Partnership’s work – with Teesside University through student projects.

• Overall focus is on meeting the needs of the town with food as a vehicle.
Partnership Summary

MIDDLESBROUGH FOOD PARTNERSHIP
MEC Coordination (funded by MC Public Health)

- Ethical Trade
- Food Poverty
- Food Growing
- Fairtrade Group
- Affordable Warmth Group
- Allotment Forum

Annual programme of work delivered by partners and coordinated by the Partnership, for example:
- Community food growing
- Training in food growing
- Community healthy eating projects
- Community allotments
- Healthy eating with businesses/catering outlets
- Local and sustainable food in catering
- Fairtrade
- Developing local supply chains
- Events including the Town Meal.

- MC One Planet Living Action Group
- Financial Inclusion Group

Agreed Programme

LA/Partners' Strategies and Plans e.g. Waste, Public Health, Procurement

Public Health Partnership & Health and WB Board

Student Projects

Teesside University