

Aberdeenshire Food Strategy

Draft framework

Purpose

The strategy will cover the entire food chain, from field to fork: the production, marketing, processing, sale and purchase of food (for consumption in the home and out of it), and the consumer practices, resources and institutions involved in these processes.

The vision for Aberdeenshire is to -

- To ensure equity of access to good quality low cost food across Aberdeenshire
- To ensure the rural economy support and value a local food sector which creates skilled sustainable employment.
- To ensure people have the opportunity to develop and share skills around growing, cooking and the impact food has on Health & Wellbeing.

Scope

Food Strategy will build on the work underway in developing a range of strategies to cover the following areas of development

Links can be added to all relevant strategies

Food Growing Strategy

Growing food, seeing how it is grown, knowing that we can feed ourselves is important to ensure a sustainable food chain. It is critical to review how we secure the food of the future.

The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act includes a new responsibility for Local Authorities to prepare a Food Growing Strategy. This strategy identifies land across Aberdeenshire that could be considered to be used as allotment sites, or could be used by community for the cultivation of vegetables, fruit, herbs or flowers.

The strategy also has an education element within it which supports school pupils to learning the skills in growing their own food and how this can improve their health & wellbeing.

Health & Wellbeing

Diabetes, cardiac disease and other obesity-related conditions are conditions that could be reduced through people being able to access affordable healthy fresh produce. Obesity is a particular issue for poorer communities and young people. Children from the most deprived areas are three times as likely to be obese as those from the least deprived.

The positive impact of community based cooking and growing projects will have a positive effect for peoples health & wellbeing across Aberdeenshire.

Access to low cost good quality food

We cannot afford to ignore the challenges to food security. This strategy will aim to deliver healthy, affordable food; regardless of where people live or how much they earn

Economic Development

The food sector is a main contributor to our rural economy therefore it is important to support the development of well paid jobs and supporting innovative producers.

Food & Drink strategy

The industry-led Food Tourism Scotland Action Plan, sets out a range of actions to maximise the potential of two of Scotland's most successful sectors – tourism and food and drink.

The plan has been developed by [Scotland Food & Drink](#) and Scottish Tourism Alliance, who have come together to form a clear, strong and ambitious plan to capitalise on the opportunities that food tourism brings.

The plan is to boost food and drink tourism in Scotland will aim to deliver an additional £1 billion to Scotland's economy by 2030.

Reporting

Partnership group could be set up to over see progress which would report through the Tackling Poverty & Inequalities structures to Communities Committee & Community Planning Board.

Annual reviews and progress report would be published.

Action Plan

Outcome	Action	Comments
Develop a food partnership/ network to coordinate and monitor activities/ programmes and identify gaps / areas of improvement.		
Secure additional resources & funding to support the development of community based food outlets such as larders, pantries		The food fund could be used for this action however this is a short term budget stream
Secure additional resources & funding to support community based growing projects which will support the implementation of the growing strategy		The food fund could be used for this action however this is a short term budget stream
Ensuring people have access to affordable, healthy food regardless of income or where people live.		
Support people to develop and share their skills to grow, cook and enjoy food		
Support and continue to develop a thriving food economy through supporting small locally based business, ensuring they have access to a well trained workforce.		

Ensure people and business are supported to reduce food waste through a range of initiatives.		
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