



**food
matters**
creating sustainable, equitable food systems

 **Soil Association**
healthy soil, healthy people, healthy planet

 **sustain**
the alliance for
better food and farming



*Transforming food in
towns and cities
across the UK*





Why?

Diet-related disease means our children may become the first generation to live shorter lives than their parents

Over 30% of children in the UK are **obese**

From field to landfill site, food and farming is responsible for over 25% of **greenhouse gas emissions**

A rapid **decline in cooking skills** means we have the highest consumption of ready meals in Europe

Most farmers earn less than the minimum wage and food workers get the **lowest pay in all sectors**

Food price inflation and falling wages means the number of people suffering **food poverty has risen above 4 million**



*80% of people in the
UK live in urban
conurbations*





The Sustainable Food Cities approach is about recognising the pivotal role that food can play in driving positive social, economic and environmental change.





Food at the heart....





The Sustainable Food Cities approach....

- Informed by work in Brighton, Bristol, Plymouth, London
- Recognises good practice over last 15-20 years across UK
- Joins up, adds value and makes food visible in our cities





The Sustainable Food Cities approach....

- **Partnership**
- **Plan**
- **Policy**





The Sustainable Food Cities approach...

- Bring together a city-wide cross-sector **partnership** of public agencies (health, environment, economy), businesses, NGOs, voluntary & community organisations & academic bodies.
- Develop an action **plan** based on a joint vision and common goals on how to make healthy and sustainable food a defining characteristic of their city
- Work to embed the principles of sustainable food in **policy** across the city to ensure the long term sustainability of food work





Six key issue areas

- Promoting healthy & sustainable food to the public
- Building community food knowledge, skills & resources
- Tackling food poverty & access to affordable healthy food
- Supporting a thriving & diverse sustainable food economy
- Transforming catering and food procurement
- Reducing waste & the ecological footprint of food





The Sustainable Food Cities programme

- **Network**
- **SFC officers in 6 cities:** Bournemouth & Poole; Newcastle; Liverpool; Cardiff; Belfast; Stockport
- **Annual themes/campaigns**
- **SFC award**
- **Evaluation**





32 members of the SFC network

**Bath & NE Somerset, Belfast, Birmingham,
Bournemouth & Poole, Bradford, Brighton &
Hove, Bristol, Cambridge, Carlisle, Cardiff,
County Durham, Edinburgh, Greenwich, Greater
Manchester, Herefordshire, Hull, Oxford,
Islington, Lancashire, Lancaster, Lambeth,
Leicester, Leeds, Liverpool, London, Kirklees,
Newcastle, Peterborough, Sandwell, Stockport,
Swansea, Plymouth**

& working with at least 5 others





Annual themes/campaigns

- **Year 1: Procurement**
- **Sustainable Fish Cities**
- **Years 2,3: to be decided**
- **Potentially food poverty, food growing/production**





SFC Award

- **Aims to drive change forward**
- **To reward best practice**
- **To create a competitive environment between cities**
- **Currently launching a pilot with a handful of places to collaboratively develop a workable approach**
- **Bronze, silver, gold levels**
- **Launching more formally in autumn**





What is happening?

- **B&H Planning Advisory Note**
- **Portsmouth City Farm**
- **Fast food takeaways: Cardiff & Vale Hospital- Subway**
- **Sustainable Fish Cities campaign: 14 cities over ½ million meals now serving sustainable fish**



We are here to help



www.sustainablefoodcities.org