



# Food Durham: Local Food Hub

Building a more efficient & resilient local supply chain

Dr Liz Charles



Esmée  
Fairbairn  
FOUNDATION



## A brief overview of the proposal



- Background: where the idea came from
- How will it work?
- When will it happen?
- How to get involved

# Background: where the idea came from



- Sustainable Local Food Strategy 2014 – 2020
  - Strategic Aim 1: Supporting the Local Economy
    - Theme A: Local Supply Chains
      - Action 1
- How can we grow the market for food produced and grown in Co Durham?
- John Turner's work on sustainable catering at Durham University



## How will it work?

- Esmée Fairburn Foundation funded a Feasibility Study 2015
- Desktop research on other schemes
- Surveyed demand and supply businesses
- Worked with local partners, including Durham University, to investigate options
- Decided on a ‘virtual hub’ model, working with a NE wholesale distributor, JR Hollands



# How will it work?



- Food Durham to employ Food Hub Manager (part-time)
- Durham Food Hub produce will be branded and meet EU (!) marketing standard, plus local provenance (details to be agreed)
- Businesses will order from JR Hollands, who will collect produce and deliver
- Food Hub Manager to work with demand and supply businesses to create new business, monitor standards, help with marketing etc
- Aims to be self-financing after 3 years



## When/Will it happen?

- Feasibility study and first stage application well-received by funder; second stage submitted in May, result by September
- Alternative funders being explored as back up
- A 5-7 month development phase, with trading starting sometime in 2017, if all goes to plan



# How to get involved



- Please contact Food Durham Coordinator to register your interest as a supplier or buyer:

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