

Public Sector update Durham County Council

Altogether better



Healthy and sustainable food policy

- Tim Wright, Public Health Portfolio Lead
- Jamie Thomas, Strategic Category Manager

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Outline

In the next seven minutes we want to:

- Outline why have a policy?
- What it contains
- What next?

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Why a policy?

- Evidence eg NICE (2010, 2012)
- Policy context eg: Sustainable Local Food Strategy (2014-20), CVD & Healthy Weight Frameworks (2014)
- Internal discussion after vending machine procurement exercise

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Contents

- Helping our staff to eat healthy and sustainable food.
- Ensuring catering is focused on sustainable and healthy food.
- Communicating the message.
- ***Embed good food into practice.***

(Sustain, 2014)

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What next?

1. DCC sign off
2. Good news story
3. Build on current communications plan
4. Monitor (PIs, staff feedback)
5. Share practice

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Public Sector Food Procurement Sub-Group Update

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Procurement sub-group

- Formed in 2013,
- Forum for communication and co-operation across public sector bodies serving food in County Durham, on *procurement* issues,
- Includes **Durham County Council**, the **NHS** (CDDFT), **Durham University**, **NEPO**, plus **DCA** and **Taylor Shaw**, the Council's primary school meals provider,
- Members serve over 10,000,000 meals a year.

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Items on the Group's agenda this year have included:

- The “**Food Hub**” and how we can support it.
- **Catering Concessions** – and the opportunity they present for smaller local catering firms.
- **Food Waste** – A major theme for us at meetings this year:
 - CDDFT have launched a new sustainability policy for their organisation in which food waste is a priority area.
 - Durham University have recently consolidated their food waste arrangements into a single contract which is in the process of being rolled out, linked to key waste reduction targets.
 - The Council is looking to put in place a consolidated food waste contract not just for our sites but for our public sector clients including Police, Fire, and Town & Parish Councils. Major opportunity to look at the most sustainable approach.

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Durham County Council

- Currently looking to refresh our catering operations across Culture & Sport venues, including:
- Leisure centres (12), town centre libraries (12), town halls (2), Gala Theatre, Consett Empire Theatre, and the portfolio of public parks with a catering facility (Wharton, Hardwick, Riverside).
- There is likely to be a tendering exercise involving the facilities at some (or all) of these venues in the next 12 months.
- We have made a commitment to provide a balanced offer, fully in step with Public Health and our new policy – as well as our Sustainable Buying Standard for food and catering services, and current initiatives including Sugar Smart.

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