

## Glasgow Food Summit – Towards a good food plan for Glasgow

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2019, Glasgow City Chambers

### SUMMARY REPORT



## **ABOUT THE CONFERENCE**

The Food Summit was organised jointly by Glasgow Food Policy Partnership and the Glasgow Centre of Population Health with the help of the Glasgow City Council. The event highlighted the importance of a city-wide, holistic approach to improving our food system for improving health, for reducing food insecurity, for building community resilience and for mitigating our collective impact on the environment. The event wanted to celebrate the great work that is already established in Glasgow, as well as, provide opportunities for shared learning, discussion, networking and to find out about local food businesses/projects.

The main aim of the summit was to start the process of developing a city-wide food strategy for Glasgow. We wanted to tap into the expertise, knowledge and experience of the delegates to help shape and build support for the future strategy' as well as, inspire people about the importance of developing a more sustainable food system, and encourage them to consider what more they can do to achieve this.

## **AUDIENCE**

The conference was fully booked with 152 delegates attending and included a multidisciplinary audience of decision and policy makers, health improvement and public health professionals, community food workers, researchers, food businesses and caterers and those interested in food poverty, sustainable food and/or health.

## **PROGRAMME**

The event was opened by Cllr Baillie Elaine Ballantyne with key note presentations from the world-renowned Food Policy Expert Professor Corinna Hawkes and Andrea Magarini Pellini, Co-ordinator of Milan Food Policy and Chair of Eurocities Food Working Group. Pete Richie, the Executive Director of Nourish Scotland provided a closing for the conference with insights from the day.

The day continued with some parallel sessions each session focusing on one of the key areas of sustainable food. Link to the summit presentations is available [here](#).

Delegates got to choose 1 parallel session to attend in the morning (1-3) and 1 in the afternoon (4-6):

- 1. Good food at home and reducing food insecurity**
- 2. Good food for the economy**
- 3. Good food in the community**
- 4. Good food for children and young people**
- 5. Growing Good Food**
- 6. Good food for the environment**

The sessions consisted of 3 short updates from local, inspiring projects already taking place followed by discussions in small groups about the theme of the sessions aiming to answer the following questions:

- 1. What struck you from the presentations that will be important for consideration when developing a Glasgow Food Strategy?**
- 2. If the Food Strategy was successful with regards to the theme of this session what would that look like in the short and long term?**

After group discussions we asked the audience to fill out feedback forms answering these questions aiming to gather views of all those attending about what issues they felt would be important to be part of the future strategy. These comments will be taken into account when the planning for the strategy starts.

The day also included a 'Speed Networking' session designed to encourage information sharing and improve networks. Exhibitors for the day included: Glasgow Community Food Network, Soil Association, Nourish Scotland, Great British Food Hubs, Glasgow Allotments Forum and Roving Chef Scotland. Some short films of community projects were also shown in the exhibition area.

## **FEEDBACK SUMMARY**

After going through all the individual and group feedback from the parallel sessions and more general feedback from throughout the day, we have identified the main topics/points the summit audience is hoping will be considered when developing the future strategy. Feedback has been divided into comments relating to overall strategy and specific topics below.

### **General Feedback**

A lot of the feedback from individual sessions is over-arching and has been included below along with the more general comments about the strategy planning process.

- **Food as Human Right** has been identified as an important factor when developing a city-wide strategy
- **Dignity** should be taken into consideration when developing the city-plan
- **Accessibility** of healthy, sustainable food is a vital issue
- **Financial Support** needed for community/growing projects and enterprises
- **Food Waste Reduction** should be made a priority across the city
- **Strategy** needs to be **all inclusive**
- **Emergency Feeding** to become part of Food Hubs
- **Joint Working** between local authority, community, funders and business is essential
- **Important role of schools** in food & waste education, growing & community engagement
- **Learning from other cities** – utilise the information already available
- **Accessing available land** should be made easier for the community
- **Education needed** in health, food growing, food waste, community funding/entrepreneurship
- Need for more sustainable, **longer term funding** for projects/initiatives
- Importance of **procurement rules** in sustainability

### **Feedback from Session 1 - Good food at home and reducing food insecurity**

The points below identify the recurring themes (votes) of feedback:

- The need for a **joined up system** ensuring people know what benefits they are entitled to and how to access them – better networks, co-ordinated approach, knowledge about services, earlier interventions
- **Need for signposting** for those in need (referrals to specialists, financial support)
- **Best Start Foods** – need for simple information, resources for promotion, involve community projects, need to increase uptake, link to breastfeeding initiatives
- **Role of community hubs** in cookery skills/health/waste/growing/financial advice
- **Need for increased education** for general public, those on low incomes, and those providing advice (community and schools)
- **Support also made available for those without children**
- **Learn from 'Menu for Change'** project findings
- **Focus on Human Right** to access healthy food
- **Strategy Inclusive to all** - consider all groups of people
- **Importance to reduce stigma across issues** (food insecurity, poor diet, obesity)
- **Reduce number of food banks in the city** – integrate with community hubs
- **Connected solutions** – sustainability, improved health outcomes, security
- **Listen to those in need**
- **Need to improve access** -deal with 'food deserts'
- **Continued funding for already existing projects**

## **Feedback from Session 2 - Good food for the economy**

The points below identify the recurring themes (votes) of feedback:

- **Need for new procurement processes** at council/NHS level and joint working
- **Funding needed** to increase local food production/allow business start ups
- **Better connection between community and business** (growing, circular economy, food waste)
- **Highlight benefits to local food economy** (evidence base)
- **Need for more local food production**
- **More food markets** (reduced rates for local growers/producers)

## **Feedback from Session 3 - Good food in the community**

The points below identify the recurring themes (votes) of feedback:

- **Need to utilise and link up existing good work/projects**
- **Access and availability of land for communities** (asset transfers)
- **Community led** - communities at the heart of policies (bottom up approach)
- **Linking up services/networks** - co-ordinated effort
- **Share good practice**
- **Need for flexibility**
- **Need for more sustainable projects**
- **Better access to food in deprived areas** (community food & supermarkets)
- **Need for longer term funding**
- **Feedback from communities important**
- **Own the strategy** – find the right partners; don't rush it
- **Importance of growing spaces in city planning**
- **More engagement with schools**
- **Role of food connecting people**

## **Feedback from Session 4 - Good food for children and young people**

The points below identify the recurring themes (votes) of feedback:

- **Expand the Holiday Food Programme** across the city
- **Food policies to financial insecurity** – more chances to apply for free school meals
- **Importance of education** – food part of the school day/throughout the curriculum
- **Changes needed in schools**
- **Get young people involved in menu planning**
- **Replicate good practice** – learn from Our Lady of the Rosary primary school
- **Use of school resources** - kitchens for community, grounds for growing

## **Feedback from Session 5 - Growing Good Food**

The points below identify the recurring themes (votes) of feedback:

- **New Strategies must link up with other policies** – eg. Food Growing Strategy
- **Move away from short-term policy planning**
- **Sustainable, more continuous funding needed**
- **Easier access to land** – eg. asset transfers, reduced rates
- **Introduce food growing to all schools**
- **Support for communities** – how to develop new projects/enterprises/secure funding
- **Develop local participation through community trusts/benefit organisations**

## **Feedback from Session 6 - Good Food for the Environment**

The points below identify the recurring themes (votes) of feedback:

- **Reduction of food waste a priority** – both commercial and household waste
- **Make more support available for local businesses/start-ups**
- **Importance of education and schools**
- **Need to change procurement rules** – more local produce, link to food waste policy
- **Need to collaborate with industry** – production, supermarkets, packaging
- **New incentives** for food production, food waste reduction, environmentally healthy food

## **CONFERENCE SUMMARY**

In his closing comments Pete Richie identified learning from the day and some steps for Glasgow going forward:

- People make Glasgow's food
- Food is everybody's business; everyone has a role to play
- Food Policies include all the policies that influence the food system/households
- Policies are reflected in budgets, regulations and use of assets
- Glasgow's Food Plan has to be about change to deliver better outcomes
- The future strategy/plan should be owned by people as well as the council and organisations
- We need to listen, communicate and connect
- It is important to build on our strengths and assets
- We need long term vision and can use food to help us get there
- The plan should be bold; plan for what is actually needed
- Talk with national government and agencies, cities around the world, businesses
- We need to get baseline metrics for key issues we want to measure
- Set flexible, doable, short and long term goals
- Agree on practical actions/timescale/budget needed
- Set up formal annual reporting mechanism
- Publish regular updates
- Make sure to involve people

## **NEXT STEPS**

Glasgow Food Policy Partnership (GFPP), Glasgow Centre for Population Health and Glasgow Community Food Network (along with other GFPP members) will be working closely with the Glasgow City Council to decide the next steps towards making Glasgow Sustainable Food City. We will be researching other food policies from around the UK and the world about the best practice. We will also be liaising with the [Sustainable Food Cities Network](#) which Glasgow Food Policy Partnership and the City of Glasgow are part of. There will be various consultation events regarding the content of the policy and we will do our best to include as many of your comments as possible in the city-wide food strategy. We will keep you updated via newsletters and updates on the website. If you would like to get your views known, you can contact us via the GFPP contact sheet on our website: <http://goodfoodforall.co.uk/>

## **FULL REPORT**

Full report with appendixes including programme and more detailed feedback is available [here](#).