



**Dumfries and Galloway
Locality Plan on Food Sharing
2017-2027**

**Annual Report
1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022**

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Development of the Performance Management Framework (PMF)**
- 3. Dumfries and Galloway Locality Plan Outcomes**
 - 3.1 Outcome 1 – People are able to meet their own food needs
 - 3.2 Outcome 2 – Support is available to people who need help with food where, when and how they need it.
 - 3.3 Outcome 3 – Involvement in food sharing helps with other aspects of people’s lives
 - 3.4 Outcome 4 – Our food sharing arrangements are as efficient and effective as possible
 - 3.5 Performance Indicators and Projects that support the four Outcomes
- 4. Next steps**

1. Introduction

This Annual Report contains a collection of evidence from a range of sources for our fifth Annual Report on the Locality Plan on Food Sharing from 1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022.

Our current Locality Plan looks at an issue that affects geographical areas in different ways and requires different solutions across our region.

A significant amount has changed for our society and citizens over the last 3 years and particularly following the onset of Covid-19 in early 2020. The impacts of Covid on our most vulnerable, businesses, our young people and communities has been significant and severely impacted on:

- Loss of jobs
- Increased financial hardship facing families
- Opportunities for our young people
- Mental health and wellbeing
- Digital, food and fuel poverty

On top of that the UK began to experience the 'Cost of Living Crisis' causing a real fall in disposable incomes since late 2021.

Despite these challenges, we are satisfied that we are making good progress in all four Outcomes. Communities continue to be the first responders to food insecurity and there are clear benefits of putting communities at the heart of action to tackle the issue.

This report sets out some of the work which has taken place during the reporting period and is backed up with a short film which highlights some of the outstanding contribution made by our local communities during this very difficult time which you can access here <https://youtu.be/E4k1RVbyamE>

2. Development of the Performance Management Framework (PMF)

- 2.1 The Scottish Government Guidance on Locality Plans and the Performance Management arrangements, including the Annual Reports is light touch and there is a real commitment to local flexibility.
- 2.2 CPPs are now into their fifth year of Locality Plans with established arrangements for the Annual Reports with access to the information and support available to provide evidence for these Reports.
- 2.3 Officers developed a Performance Management Framework which would evidence progress through qualitative (case studies and personal testimonies) information, supported by quantitative (indicators and projects) data.
- 2.4 The assessment of progress is based on a standard analysis, previously used for the Single Outcome Agreement and other strategic level Performance Reports.

3.1 Outcome 1: People are able to meet their own food needs – Good Progress (Key groups – food share providers, families on low incomes, individuals on low incomes, supermarkets)

Fruit and Vegetable Consumption

The Scottish Health Survey (SHS) provides information on the health, and factors relating to health, of adults and children in Scotland.

There is wide recognition that excessive consumption of foods high in fat, sugar and salt and low consumption of fibre, fruit and vegetables and other healthy foods has wide-ranging consequences for the health of the nation.

Key findings from the report in 2021 show that:

- Around one in five of all adults consumed five or more portions of **fruit and vegetables** a day (22%). This was similar to levels since 2003 (21% in 2003).
- One in five children (20%) aged 2 to 15 met the five-a-day recommendation for consumption of fruit and vegetables. This was significantly higher than in the years 2008 to 2019.
- Almost half of all adults (48%) met the Scottish Dietary goal to reduce **total fat** intake to no more than 35% of food energy. Around one in five adults (22%) met the Scottish Dietary Goal for **free sugars** intake to not exceed 5% of total energy.

People in our region averaged 3.2 portions per day which is the same as last year. The Scottish average has reduced and is now also 3.2.

Evidence within the report also suggests that there have been varying impacts on diet and physical activity following the pandemic, which have been both positive and less beneficial.

Other reports have highlighted the impact of food insecurity and the widening of existing inequalities with an 89% increase in demand for emergency food parcels being required in the UK in April 2020 compared with the same period in 2019, with foodbank demand more than doubling during the same period.

Across all adults in 2021, a lack of money or other resources in the previous 12 months resulted in:

- 9% worried about running out of food
- 6% ate less
- 3% ran out of food

In 2021, younger adults were more likely to be worried that they would run out of food.

- 14% 16–44
- 8% 45–64
- 1% 65+

In 2019/2021 combined, the highest levels of food insecurity were among single parents and single adults under the age of 65.

Free School Meals

Dumfries and Galloway Council made changes in accordance with Scottish Government legislation in relation to school meals. These changes took place on 8 April 2021 that saw variations to several food groups throughout the school day. We know that providing free school meals to all children has wide ranging benefits, including:

- access to healthy and nutritious food
- increase attention and concentration
- gains in cognitive function and learning
- Improve educational outcomes

Primary School Meals Healthy Living Survey Data Primary Free School Meal (FSM) Statistics:

All primary 1 – 5 children are currently entitled to receive a Universal Free School Meal (UFSM). Information received from the 2022 Healthy Living Survey data reported an 82% uptake relating to Dumfries and Galloway primary FSM. The table below shows the uptake figures for FSM from the Healthy Living Survey Data:

2022 Statistics	D&G Free Meals % Uptake	Scotland Average % Uptake
Primary 1 – 5	82%	68.4%
Primary 6 – 7	82%	66.2%
Primary Total P1 – P7	82%	68.3%

Primary Paid Free Statistics

The table below shows a year-on-year uptake for paid and FSM uptake in primary schools for the last 5 years.

Dumfries and Galloway	Year	% Pupils who take a meal (paid and free)	Scotland Average %
Primary Uptake	2017	73.4%	65.0%

Primary Uptake	2018	70.2%	61.9%
Primary Uptake	2019	70.0%	60.4%
Primary Uptake	2020	67.2%	58.6%
Primary Uptake	2021	72.2%	59.5%

Secondary School Meals Healthy Living Survey Data 3.13 Secondary FSM Statistics:

The information received regarding the census data shows a decline in Dumfries and Galloway Secondary FSM uptake from 66% in 2020 with current data highlighting 59.9%.

The table below shows the uptake figures for FSM from the Healthy Living Survey Data:

2022 Statistics	D&G Free Meals % Uptake	Scotland Average % Uptake
Secondary	59.9%	59.5%

Secondary Paid and FSM Statistics:

The 2022 Healthy Living Survey Data figures highlights a 6% decrease in Secondary school meal uptake (paid and free).

The 2021 census data figures highlight a decrease in (paid and free) school meals uptake to that of 2020 by 5.5% to 47%.

The table below shows a year-on-year uptake for paid and FSM in secondary school for the last 5 years, please note that due to Covid there was no census data collated in 2021.

Dumfries and Galloway	Year	% Pupils who take a meal (paid and free)	Scotland Average %
Secondary Uptake	2017	55.7%	43.3%
Secondary Uptake	2018	52.0%	43.9%
Secondary Uptake	2019	56.8%	45.2%
Secondary Uptake	2020	52.5.2%	44.6%
Secondary Uptake	2021	47%	35.9%

8 April 2021 saw changes to the Nutrition Bill Legislation for both primary and secondary schools which have been fully implemented by the catering service.

These significant changes on the return in April 2021 along with a change of menu have brought with it further challenges, with the eleven main points of change being:

1. Increased fibre content in bread and bread products.
2. Increased fruit and vegetables.
3. Reduction in red and red processed meat.
4. Reduction in free sugar through sweetened baked products, yoghurts, and breakfast cereals.
5. Decrease in total and saturated fat.
6. Limitation of pastry products.
7. Sugar-free soft drinks in secondary schools only.
8. Secondary school analysed lunches.
9. Daily analysis in addition to weekly analysis for energy.
10. Change in the Nutrient Standards.
11. Increased energy standards in the menu analysis for secondary pupils and decrease for primary pupils.

The restart of schools and nursery settings in August 2021 also proved to be difficult for the school meals service, particularly in the primary and secondary sectors. The catering service has been faced with their own unique challenges relating to the school meals service and returning the uptake of meals to their pre-Covid levels.

Nationally, primary school meals have remained stable based on 2020 Census data with this year stats showing a Scottish average uptake of 59.5% for free and paid meals, nationally secondary schools are showing a concerning downward trend in both free and paid meals. Secondary Free School Meals (FSM) have seen a reduction from 71% to 59% with free and paid uptake slipping from 44.6% to 35.9%. Dumfries and Galloway secondary school meal uptake is in line with the national trend in the reduction of free and paid meals.

The addition of the direct payment option fitted with recommendations of The Scottish Child Poverty Action Group who made representation to all Council's to consider the introduction of direct payments to families in receipt of Free School Meals. As part of the development of our new partnership strategy to Tackle Poverty and Inequalities, a cash first approach was acknowledged as the best way to support people.

Our Council received funding of £543,000 from the Scottish Government to support Holiday Food Provision for Primary and Secondary. This did not fully cover the cost of delivering the Holiday Food Programme. This Government funding covered Monday-Friday only and did not include weekends. It also funded at a lower rate that what we pay families as we pay an enhanced rate to support our families.

When the current model was implemented, there was no end date agreed as we did not know at that point how long the pandemic would last. Alongside this the Scottish Government now give a Child Cash Payment to all families of £150 per child to support families during the School Holidays. In light of the new Scottish Government Child Payment and Scotland now in the recovery phase of the pandemic, we intend to carry out a review of our Holiday Food Programme.

3.2 Outcome 2: Support is available to people who need help with food where, when and how they need it – good progress

(Key groups – food share providers, families on low incomes, individuals on low incomes, Revenues and Benefits Team, FIAT Team, DWP)

Households in the United Kingdom have experienced a significant fall in living standards since late 2021. As of January 2023, 92% of UK households reported that their cost of living had increased compared with a year earlier. In the same month, 67% of households had experienced monthly increases in their cost of living, down from a peak of 91% in the Summer of 2022. The households in question mainly attributed this increase to higher food, electricity, and fuel costs. The crisis is even more acute for the poorest UK households, which typically spend a higher proportion of their income on food and housing costs. Based on forecasts from the Autumn Budget of 2022, real household disposable income in the UK will fall by 4.3% in the 2022/23 financial year, the biggest fall in living standards since the mid-1950s, when this type of data was first produced.

Dumfries and Galloway Community Food Providers

Community Based food providers are a vital supporting mechanism in our fight against poverty and food insecurity within Dumfries and Galloway.

Below is a list of Food Providers located throughout our region including contact details.

Food Provider	Location	Area Covered	Opening Times	Contact Details	Details for Donations
<i>Apex Scotland</i>	77-79 Friars Vennel, Dumfries, DG1 2RF	Nithsdale and Stewartry	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 10am to 4pm	Crystal Soltys or Fiona Dalgleish Call: 01387 256310	Drop off any time within the opening times
<i>Apex Scotland</i>	2 Back Rampart, High Street, Stranraer DG9 7LW	Wigtownshire	Monday to Friday, 10am to 4pm	Alison Graham or Aynsley Balfour Call: 01776 700973	Drop off any time within the opening times
<i>Dalbeattie Foodbank</i>	71 high street Dalbeattie	Stewartry	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 6-7pm and Friday	Emergency calls 07444 3328 59 email: donnamck.dci@gmail.com	Drop off any time within the opening times

Food Provider	Location	Area Covered	Opening Times	Contact Details	Details for Donations
			3.30-5.30pm		
<i>Kate's Kitchen</i>	The Old Bank, 52 High Street, Annan, DG12 6AN	Annandale and Eskdale	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9am to 5pm	Call: 01461 206444 email: info@kateskitchen.org	Drop off any time within the opening times
<i>Kirkconnel and Kelloholm Development Trust</i>	KKDT Office, Hillview, Kirkland Drive, Kelloholm DG4 6ST	Kirkconnell and Kelloholm	Every day 11am onwards	Tel: 01659 66911 email: michelle@kkdt.org.uk	Drop off any time within the opening times
<i>Lochside Community Association</i>	Rankine Avenue, Dumfries, DG2 9NS	Dumfries and all surrounding areas	Every day 11am onwards	Call: 01387 250 582 email: Karen.Wylie@lochsideca.org	Drop off any time within the opening times
<i>Machars Churches Basics Food Bank</i>	11a Albert Street, Newton Stewart DG8 6EF	Machars - Newton Stewart, Wigtown Kirkinner, Sorbie, Port William, Whithorn, Isle of Whithorn, Creetown, Kirkcowan	Tuesday and Thursday, 9am to 12noon	Call: 07884370419 email: marlaneg690@btinternet.com	Call to arrange drop-off
<i>Rhins Basics Bank</i>		Stranraer and all surrounding villages	Flexible hours	Call: 07715 677 204	The Royal Bank of Scotland, 15 Bridge Street, Stranraer, DG9 7JA Halifax / Bank of Scotland, 64-66 George Street, Stranraer, DG9 7JN
<i>River of Life Church</i>	Dumfries Station, Lovers Walk,	Dumfries	Every day 6.30pm to 7.30pm	Call: 01387 264646 email: food@riveroflife.org.uk	Drop off any time within the opening times

Food Provider	Location	Area Covered	Opening Times	Contact Details	Details for Donations
	Dumfries DG1 1LU				
<i>Stepping Stones Food Bank</i>	198 King Street, Castle Douglas, DG7 1DB	Castle Douglas and surrounding areas	Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10am to 12noon	Call: 07730788335 email: steppingstones@castledouglas.info	Drop off any time within the opening times
<i>Summerhill Community Centre</i>	Ballochmyl e Terrace, Summerhill, Dumfries, DG2 9EF	Dumfries and all surrounding areas	11am to 8pm	Call: 01387 247 344 Mob: 0774 392 4609 email: https://www.summerhillcentre.com/contact	Drop off any time within the opening times
<i>The Fed Up Community Cafe</i>	12 Bridge Street Stranraer DG9 7HY	Stranraer & The Rhins	Monday to Friday, 9.30am to 2.30pm	Call: 01776 706159 email: info@fedup.org.uk fedup.org.uk	Drop off any time within the opening times

The benefits of community food provision is wider than just food. Getting involved can increase access to healthy meals, help individuals to develop life skills such as growing of fresh food, budgeting, meal planning, cooking and social skills and support members of the community to connect and start new friendships.

Below are a few examples of how the local groups across Dumfries and Galloway are achieving those goals.

Fed Up Café – Stranraer

The Fed Up Café in Stranraer was set up in 2018 to offer free food, drink and support services to local people who need it.



They work to reduce social isolation, loneliness and poverty, while at the same time offering support and training to help people get back on track in getting a job or getting the help and support they need. Although this alone will not fix all the problems out there, it will go a long way to help.

Of the 11,000 (approx.) people living in Stranraer and the Rhins, poverty is a problem that effects 24% of people, with 18% of that 11,000 being children and this is increasing each year.

To help combat this, we offer a place people can go where they are not judged and are treated as an equals when they come through the doors. This can then help people combat social isolation or get the confidence to get out there and get a job and to know that they are not alone.

Our approach helps to reduce food waste, by taking donations from local food businesses who would normally throw this food away.

We offer 6-week cookery courses which enables people to learn basic cookery skills and gives individual the confidence to cook tasty meals at home.

We help train people in hospitality including cheffing and front of house. We want to give people life skill training to help gain control of their own home whether it is understanding home safety, or being able to cook a nutritious meal on a limited budget.

We want people to come and ask for advice on anything. We would then give that advice or point them in the right direction to get the help and support they need.

Introduction of Local Pantries

Pantries soften the blow of high living costs and create the conditions for communities to grow and thrive, by bringing people together around food. Pantries are strengthening communities, fostering friendships, loosening the grip of poverty and contributing to healthier, happier lives. Pantries operate as membership food clubs and neighbourhood hubs, often serving as springboards to other community initiatives, opportunities and ideas.

Summerhill Community Food Hub - Dumfries

Summerhill Community Association have developed a Community Food Sharing Hub which has many different strands that engage with the wider community on many different levels through food.



We have developed our own food hunger action plan whereby our Community Pantry is just one of the many food projects to provide that helping hand to people in the wider community.

The Pantry has three strands:

- Weekly Membership for cooking classes and weekly shopping
- Food Pantry drop in
- Community Food Boxes

Each strand helps to reduce food shopping bills; access fresh and healthy food; reduce debt and enables tight household budgets to stretch a little further. There are also many social benefits through our Community Pantry too.

Why a Pantry? Because we know some people are struggling financially and we know people should have access to healthy food and to be able to choose food shopping in a dignified manner.

We also use food as a tool to engage with people, develop new skills, provide additional support and signpost people onto relevant services.

Our wide range of food activity also has a big ripple effect upon our volunteers learning or teaching new cooking skills. These training sessions and peer mentoring opportunities allow us all to put the knowledge gained from group sessions and online training into practice in a more appropriate workplace setting.

Reducing food poverty and accessing food / household essentials and clothing in a dignified way is a really important piece of our daily work at Summerhill. Up to March 2021 we provided over 25000 meals through community food sharing boxes that were a lifeline for some of our most vulnerable in the communities.

Kate's Kitchen – Annan

Kate's Kitchen offers a safe, friendly place, a hot meal and a listening ear.

We are a staff and volunteer-run drop-in facility that operates as a café two days per week in Annan. Kate's Kitchen is not your regular run-of-the-mill cafe. We dish up a lot more than just good food, good company and 'a nice cuppa.' We operate on the premise that – 'All are welcome,' although our service is aimed at those on a low income and those that are homeless, and vulnerable. The food is delicious, wholesome and free, but donations are welcome to help with running costs.



In addition to the hot meals we serve weekly, we also offer non-judgemental support in a warm, welcoming environment to anyone in Annan who needs a helping hand and a friendly smile. The project also provides support to clients from Dumfries and the neighbouring towns and villages of Annandale and Eskdale.

Kate's Kitchen is a lifeline to the community and can best be described as a 'safe haven' for weary travellers on their journey through life.

Services include:

- Free Hot Food Provision
- One-To-One Support
- Food Parcels
- In-house Training
- Life Skills
- Gardening Project
- Creative Groups (Crafts)
- Signposting
- Room Use/Hot Desking/Computer Suite
- Volunteer Opportunities

Scottish Welfare Fund

The Scottish Welfare Fund can help with things like food or heating costs if people find themselves in a crisis or need help to carry on living outside of care.

Crisis Grant awards are limited to three awards per customer in any rolling 12-month period any further awards are only available in exceptional circumstances. There has been an increase in the number of customers making repeated applications for Crisis support, citing increased food and fuel costs. A number of these customers are reaching or have already reached the three-award limit. Support continues to be provided at the maximum level available and unsuccessful customers are directed to any supports available.

Community Care Grant awards are currently made based on priority with awards made for all goods which are deemed 'medium' priority. During the reporting period there was an agreed commitment to the continuation of awards at medium priority to meet ongoing demand.

Hot Meal Delivery Test of Change

As we know there are a number of well documented challenges in delivering care and support to people across Dumfries and Galloway.

Dumfries and Galloway Council, in partnership with the Health and Social Care Partnership and Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway set out to undertake a test of change to provide a meal delivery service across the region to people who have been assessed by Social Work Services as requiring care and support.

This project implemented a hot meal delivery service to support people to live independently at home or in a homely setting for longer. The service has been for people who a) have been identified by Social Work Services as having a critical need for care and b) require support with meal preparation as part of their care plan.

Based on our test of change, and the data gathered the cost of provision for a 2 course hot meal, delivered (including mileage payments) has not exceeded £9.00. This being the maximum amount based on our experience within the Annandale & Eskdale area, with multiple meals being delivered over an expansive area.

Provision whilst mainly in the Nithsdale area and Annandale & Eskdale area all areas have had participation in the test, the rural nature of our region has been challenging.

The hot meal provision has become part of a wider project being considered by Health and Social Care Partnership Governance and Performance Group.

Current proposal set out below are for the provision of a blended model of care and support at home that seeks to promote and deliver a more collaborative approach to the meals component of a care package involving multiple parties, including third sector to provide nutritional support to people within Dumfries and Galloway region.

This model is proposed as a test of change currently with core objectives of this collaborative approach are to enable the partnership to achieve better outcomes for people, increasing resilience and wellbeing with an improved nutritional status, potentially reducing future demand on care and support services.

Objective 1: Establish a region wide network of hot meal/food provision and nutrition support.

Objective 2: Reduce the volume of meal visits via formal care at home.

Objective 3: Reduce the number of unnecessary bed days related to delayed hospital discharges by “recycling” that care and support resource.

Objective 4: Produce region specific data by screening for malnutrition risk using the Patients Association Nutrition Checklist toolkit.

Objective 5: Enable development of creative blended options for care and support where there is a need for nutritional support.

3.3 Outcome 3: Involvement in food sharing helps with other aspects of people's lives – Good Progress

(Key groups – food share providers, families on low incomes, individuals on low incomes, lifelong learning and Employability and Skills Service)

Volunteering is a great way for individuals to develop their skills to help others whilst learning. It provides opportunities to bring a change in the people around you, and in the process, it also changes you. What makes a good volunteer is their passion and enthusiasm to bring some kind of positive change through their work.

Above all, volunteering is a way of giving back to the community while also developing essential social skills and gaining valuable experiences.

Personal Testimony - Summerhill Community Centre Volunteer

I just want to say thank you for all your help.

The past 2 months have been terrible, and I would have struggled without the food pantry each week.

Getting another chance to work and a good volunteer reference has also got me in a good place. I will never forget how my life has changed and I can now support others to move on, think positive and never give up.

I cooked a dinner yesterday at my new home, where I now have a cat, a boyfriend and a smile.

You are all just stars!



Through working with local providers, we identified several training opportunities which would support volunteers to build their skills and abilities. Participation in this training ensured that many of the Community Food Providers have capacity within their organisations to continue to provide support in the safest way possible and enhance the skills and abilities of their volunteers.

The table below details a range of courses and the number of volunteers who participated.

Course	Volunteers Trained
REHIS Elementary Food Hygiene	28
Health & Safety	11
Health & Wellbeing	11
GDPR	11
Emergency First Aid	10
Equality and Diversity Training	8
Poverty Awareness	7
Stroke Awareness	4
Dementia Awareness	3
Fire Warden	3
Malnutrition	3
Manual Handling of Objects	2
Intermediate Food Hygiene	2
Total	103

Feedback form Participants

Health and Safety

“The trainer made the course enjoyable and explained everything really well.”

“A good, relaxed, informative session. It will be useful going forward.”

REHIS Elementary Food Hygiene

“Very enjoyable – the trainer is very knowledgeable but also very down to earth and practical. She addressed my many queries, so it is all easily applicable to my situation.”

Fire Warden

“I learned about the different fire extinguishers to apply them to the centre to maintain a safe area in case of fire.”

Stroke Awareness

“Interesting identifying strokes and causes and what to do before and aftercare”.

GDPR

“I learned about and what GDPR is. I will be more conscious about people’s confidentiality now.”

3.4 Outcome 4: Food sharing arrangements are as efficient and effective as possible Good Progress

(Key groups – food share providers, families on low incomes, individuals on low incomes)

Dumfries and Galloway Sustainable Food Partnership

Dumfries and Galloway Sustainable Food Partnership is working together for a fair, healthy and sustainable food system.

Members of the SFP represent different sectors across the food system. By working collaboratively they bring a joined up approach to food policy, ensuring that everyone has equal access to affordable and healthy food that is good for the environment, and good for the people who produce, cook and serve it.

The D&G Sustainable Food Partnership continues to bring together stakeholders and partners from across the entire region, covering Stranraer to Langholm, Sanquhar to Whithorn. Members of the SFP represent different sectors across the food system.

Dumfries and Galloway Local Food Gatherings have been held in different locations across the region. They were open to anyone who wanted to discuss food systems in the region – with the target audience being farmers and producers, food businesses, community food projects, health workers, food educators, policy officers and food citizens.

Each event followed the same format:

- 20 minutes was given in the morning for networking over hot drinks.
- an overview of the aims of the day, the goals of the Sustainable Food Partnership and progress over the last year.
- 3 speakers gave 15 minute input in the morning to describe their work, particularly in relation to the Food Partnership goals.
- An hour was given to a networking lunch
- Discussion groups in the afternoon considered 4 questions:
 - What matters most to you around food?
 - What are the big things we need to change?
 - What can people, communities, workers and citizens do?
 - What are your key asks for the Sustainable Food Partnership

In numbers:

Event	Total	Producers	Community	Health	Local Authority	Business
Dumfries	27	2	14	4	3	4

Castle Douglas	25	6	11	3	2	3
Gatehouse of Fleet	24	11	9	1	2	1
Stranraer	22	4	12	2	2	2

Key Themes from Discussions

There was consensus across all the events that what matters most to people is that their food is nutritious and tasty, and good quality. People were also clear that food should be affordable and accessible to people on low incomes, but also represent a fair price to the producer.

It was clear that people also wanted their food to be produced in a way that is good for the environment, without chemicals.

Beyond this, there was a clear expectation for good food education.

The Big Changes identified included better food distribution for locally produced food – noting short supply chains, lack of processing facilities such as abattoirs, and other necessary infrastructure.

Food production featured heavily here – there were repeated asks for more vegetable production and local growing, better access to land, subsidies and other support for small scale and diverse producers.

Food waste was flagged as a key issue, along with packaging.

Education again underpinned much of the discussion around this question. The need for better food education in schools, colleges, university and in communities was repeated time and again.

In terms of local and community action, a very wide range of practical suggestions were offered which will be shared with the Community Food Network. Generally, these included more sharing and celebrations, cooperation and peer learning. Again, education in all its forms, which can be delivered by and for communities.

Attendees at the Gatherings were clear about what they wanted the Sustainable Food Partnership to do. Again, education topped the list. This included mentoring, and also placements, trainees and apprenticeships in all things sustainable and good food.

There were clear asks to find ways to improve both local food production and infrastructure. Access to land and support for small scale producers was mentioned in particular, along with projects to support short supply chains – including big capital infrastructure projects.

People thought the Sustainable Food Partnership should have increased visibility, for example at more events which will promote opportunities for networking and collaboration. Another angle to collaboration was to ensure joined up working between community, public and private sectors.

An information portal and comprehensive mapping for all things sustainable food was suggested.

Procurement came up several times – the Sustainable Food Partnership should do whatever it can to ensure better and more local food on school plates.

And finally, but mentioned frequently in different ways – attendees asked the Sustainable Food Partnership to ensure high level policy work that can affect real food systems change.

Going Forward

Initial points to draw from the above include:

Policy and Strategy Start work to deliver a food plan that takes a systems approach with the 4 pillars of sustainability at its core (environment, social, economic, cultural).

Education - Facilitate improvement across all forms, including qualifications, peer mentoring and support, placements and trainees. Continue and expand work of the Food Education Working Group.

Food Production - Encourage and enable increased vegetable production and diverse forms of production that prioritise soil health, ecosystems and ecology.

Supply Chains - Support and enable more short and local supply chains.

Outreach - Facilitate more opportunities for networking, be visible at events, encourage involvement, mapping and information.

Communities Support - communities around food action: celebrate, share, cooperate, learn, and support work that tackles food access and inequalities.

FareShare

The Tackling Poverty and Inequalities Policy Development Funding Funded FareShare Memberships for Community Groups at the cost of £39,000 from April 2021 – March 2022.



FareShare is the UK's national network of charitable food redistributors. They take surplus food from across the food industry and get it to local frontline community groups.

Dumfries and Galloway Council again allocated Tackling Poverty and Inequalities Policy Development Funding in April 2021 to cover the Membership & Delivery Fees for each of our 15 Memberships in recognition of the significant contribution which this Project makes to combating food insecurity.

£39,000 of Policy Development Funding was allocated to 15 community groups across the region, enabling them to access an annual Fareshare subscription and get access to food on a weekly basis.

Minimum amounts guaranteed for our region were 91.8 Tonnes of Food to be delivered and 218,565 Meal Portions.

The total amount of food delivered by Fareshare to the 15 member organisations supported in 2021/22 is as follows:

- 169 tonnes of food delivered into Dumfries and Galloway.
- 402,389 meal portions
- £603,583 value of meal portions
- 162 tonnes of CO2 saved

This volume of food delivered far exceeds the minimum amount which is guaranteed per year by Fareshare and is continuing to have an incredibly positive an impact on food poverty within Dumfries and Galloway.

Fareshare and all of the organisations supported reduce food waste on a huge scale and an added benefit of this project is the additional bonus of helping to save on Co2. Through all of the food products and supplies which have been received in, an extra 162 tonnes of Co2 has been saved which will greatly contribute to our Dumfries and Galloway Council's Carbon's Emissions Target.

This Project continues to make a significant difference to all of the Community Food Providers supported and each and every client whose lives are enhanced through the provision of these essential supplies.

In addition, during March 2022, we successfully secured an additional four new Memberships for the following organisations:

- The River of Life Church, Dumfries
- The Oasis Youth Centre, Dumfries
- Castle Douglas Stepping Stones Project, Castle Douglas
- Dalbeattie Community Initiative, Dalbeattie

There is increased demand for support from other food sharing organisations which we hope can be considered moving forward.

Community Food Providers Networks

The activities of Community Food Providers across the region continue to move forward in a more co-ordinated way.

Through the further development of the regional and local food networks we continue to support the transition of local groups from providing emergency food aid as the primary response and to develop more dignified models which promote choice, participation and community development and support pathways out of crisis.

These locality partnerships are building in strength and are creating joint opportunities for food based projects, providing support to those most vulnerable within our communities.

Food providers staff and volunteers continue to participate in training, webinars, research topics and built contacts and relationships with other local authority areas to identify and share good practice.

Particular areas of interest are:

- Consistent recording of volunteers' journeys and sharing learning and practice
- Mapping of new food providers and sharing locations
- Facilitate regular engagement between third sector providers, especially in the Community Food Providers Network
- Capturing the good practice and transferrable practice from food related projects

3.5 Performance measures that support the four Locality Plan Outcomes

There is a number of performance indicators and projects that contribute to more than one of the Outcomes.

Code P2C4M06E&D_PI01

Short Name School Meals Uptake – Primary Schools

Time Period	Value	Forecast	Activated	Target	Note	Short Tre...	Status	Annual Target
2020/21	0%		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		62%			62%
2021/22	72.2%		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		62%			62%
2022/23			<input type="checkbox"/>		62%			62%

It should be noted that no recorded or available data available form the Scottish Government due to Covid for 2020/21.

Code P2C4M06E&D_PI02

Short Name School Meals Uptake – Secondary Schools

Time Period	Value	Forecast	Activated	Target	Note	Short Tre...	Status	Annual Target
2020/21	0%		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		44%			44%
2021/22	47%		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		44%			44%
2022/23			<input type="checkbox"/>		44%			44%

Code P2C4M06E&D_PI03

Short Name Number of Nursery Meals provided through 1140hrs settings in Local Authority and Private Nurseries that participate

CRISIS

Time Period	Value	Forecast	Activated	Target	Note	Short Tre...	Status	Annual Target
2021/22	292,147		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		8,000			8,000
2022/23	197,228		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		300,000			300,000

GRANT PROCESSING TIME - KF2NS_PI03

Time Period	Value	Forecast	Activated	Target	Note	Short Tre...	Status	Web Pub...	Total applications rec...	Total applications pro...	Annual Target
H1 2021/22	1days		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1days				<input type="checkbox"/>	3,054.56	3,040	1c
H2 2021/22	1days		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1days				<input type="checkbox"/>	3,974.02	3,834	1c
2021/22	1days		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1days				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	7,028.58	6,874	1c

Add

Howat, Jayne Show Revision ▾ 11 October 2022

1. Change in performance – performance against target, trend and benchmark data -
 2021 performance is on target, with in period processing time of 1 working day to process an application for a Crisis Grant. In period we received 6,997 applications for a grant. We awarded £465,354 to 4,774 people/families in need.

2. Reasons for changing performance - The volume of applications and contacts from customers remains high. Staff are also supporting the delivery of Self-Isolation Support Grants.

3. Action/s we are taking to improve performance – Additional staffing resource is being deployed from other areas of the service as and when the need arises, along with part time workers, working additional hours

P2C3M3NS_PI01

Number of Looked After Children and Care Leavers gaining free access to leisure and sport activities

Time Period	Value	Forecast	Activated	Target	Note	Short Tre...	Status	Web Pub...	Annual Target
2021/22	1,573		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		480			<input type="checkbox"/>	480
2022/23	1,847		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		1,550			<input type="checkbox"/>	1,550

P2C3M10NS_PI01

Partner all schools across Dumfries and Galloway with local libraries to give every child a library membership

Time Period	Value	Forecast	Activated	Target	Note	Short Tre...	Status	Annual Target
2020/21	0%		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		88%			88%
2021/22	100%		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		93%			93%

4. Next steps

The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 Part 2 [CE(S) A 2015] requires each Community Planning Partnership (CPP) to prepare and publish a Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) and Locality Plan(s).

It was previously agreed that there would be a review at the mid-point of both the LOIP and Locality Plan (2017-2027) which is during 2022.

As agreed, and reported previously to CPEG and the CPPB, the mid-term review of the LOIP and Locality Plan is now well underway with various options now emerging.