

Creating a Healthy Food City Forum

Virtual Forum, Teams Meeting

Thursday 10th March 2022
10:00-12:00



| Agenda Item | Actions |
|---|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All: Please send any additional feedback on strategy, action plan workshops or consultation plans to foodsystemPH@birmingham.gov.uk • All: support and highlight consultation opportunities for the Birmingham Food System Strategy. • All: Send examples of Birmingham Food Champions to Florence Pardoe Florence.Pardoe@FoodFoundation.org.uk • All: Submit recipes for Cook the Commonwealth here (further communications to be sent in due course). Please let Rosie (rosemary.jenkins@birmingham.gov.uk) know if you know of any further groups to approach about recipes. • Food team: be in touch with Sarah Monk re. accessible food |
| <p>1. Welcome, apologies and introductions</p> <p>Dr Justin Varney</p> | <p>[Video: 00:00:00 – 00:05:25]</p> <p>Attendees: Justin Varney, Sarah Pullen, Bradley Yakoob, Emma Frew, Avneet Matharu, Heather Law, Shaleen Meelu, Florence Pardoe, Sarah Monk, Amit Dattani, Juliet Faulkner, Yumna Hussein, Tessa Lindfield, Hardik Singh, Rosie Jenkins, Chloe Browne, Mark Driver, Martin White, Sameera Hussain, Cllr Paulette Hamilton, Anthony Holder</p> <p>Apologies: Cllr Mary Locke, Richard Schneider, Jackie Blissett, Monder Ram, Rhys Boyer, Heather Law.</p> <p>Justin Varney was initially chairing the meeting. Tessa Lindfield will be taking over as chair for the remainder of the meeting as Justin was attending a Ukraine response meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Hamilton Paulette Hamilton gave her best wishes to the forum following her election as MP for Erdington. The forum together offered their congratulations to Paulette Hamilton MP! The CHFC Forum acknowledged the considerable leadership and contribution of MP Paulette Hamilton to the Food System agenda in Birmingham and look forward to continuing to work closely with Paulette Hamilton MP at national government.</p> |

Creating a Healthy Food City Forum

Virtual Forum, Teams Meeting

Thursday 10th March 2022

10:00-12:00



| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 2. Partner Updates | <p>[Video: 00:05:25 – 00:15:27]</p> <p>Partner updates began with an update from Martin White (lead of the Mandala Consortium).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The project brings together teams from the Universities of Cambridge, Birmingham, Warwick, Exeter and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. It is funded through the UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) and Strategic Priorities Fund (SPF). The consortium is in the interest of human health and health of the planet. There is a focus on urban areas, with Birmingham being chosen as an area to focus on due to being a great microcosm of the UK. The research aims to transform the urban food system by working with key stakeholders.• Stakeholder interviews have begun.• From spring to early summer, workshops will be taking place sector by sector to understand barriers and come up with solutions (second set of workshops). 5 or 6 interventions will then be developed from these to implement in Birmingham.• Food System Strategy was noted as a great source of information for the research strategy.• Justin Varney noted this as an exciting opportunity for both a research and policy base.• Bradley Yakoob provided the following link to the Mandala Consortium (https://www.mandala-consortium.org/) <p>We then had an update from Mark Driver (Public Sector Lead, Minor, Weir and Willis)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minor, Weir and Willis (MWW) are one of the UK's largest family-owned supplier of fresh fruit, vegetables and salads in the UK.• They support companies such as odd box and FareShare.• Mark expressed wanting to engage with the citizens of Birmingham, to ensure that everyone has access to their 5 a day whether this is through growing or buying. Mention of using the Commonwealth Games to highlight the importance of this.• Justin Varney stated the importance of having businesses as part of the conversation. |
|---------------------------|--|

Creating a Healthy Food City Forum

Virtual Forum, Teams Meeting

Thursday 10th March 2022

10:00-12:00



| | |
|---|---|
| | |
| 3. International Partnerships Update | <p>[Video: 00:15:27 – 00:29:15]</p> <p>International Partnerships update were firstly provided by Shaleen Meelu (Special Advisor, City Food Policy, The Food Foundation).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shaleen began with talking about the Food Cities 2022 Initiative and Partnership. This builds upon the BINDI partnerships to expand with more cities in light of the Commonwealth Games. Working in partnership with the Indian Government, 11 cities were identified along with 2 secondary cities in Bangladesh. Mongla and Noapara were highlighted in a paper on 'the impact of lockdown on secondary cities food security'. Mongla also featured in a recent article in the Guardian as the 'Trailblazing Town welcoming refugees'.• Johannesburg have submitted an action plan which focuses on food insecurity. This is to be worked on with Birmingham City Council.• The Food Foundation are in dialogue with the Prince's Foundation on securing commitment from a Jamaican city. A delegation will be visiting the UK from Jamaica next quarter, meeting in Birmingham at Dumfries House.• Shaleen visited Milan and Bergamo in February for the Food Trails project. Some delegates are undergoing a food tour of the Jewellery Quarter and Ladywood area for the Food Trails visit to Birmingham (10th – 11th March).• Other cities involved in the partnership include Nairobi, Kenya and Durban, South Africa. We are hoping to organise a 2-day workshop to consider the 'healthier, affordable economy' following the Cali visit. <p>Florence Pardoe (City Food Policy Officer, Food Foundation) then gave us an update about the Delice Network.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 30 cities are part of the Delice Network. The Food Foundation have been invited to attend the Delice gathering in Columbia in May, with a female chef (Nitisha Patel) to represent Birmingham. Nitisha Patel's most recent venture is Dhalings Vegan Kitchen (https://dhalings.co.uk/).• This is a real opportunity to platform Birmingham as a gastronomic food destination.• Justin Varney talked about taking the opportunity to learn from more deprived cities, who are building their food economy as part of their regeneration. |

Creating a Healthy Food City Forum

Virtual Forum, Teams Meeting

Thursday 10th March 2022

10:00-12:00



| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| | <p>Other points raised include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• BCC has launched the Cook the Commonwealth opportunity, which is linked in with the work being carried out by The Diverse Nutrition Association to create cultural eating guides. Submit recipes here!• There was talk of the potential of the forum creating a newsletter to highlight the work that is being carried out.• Juliet Faulkner raised the Hearts and Minds event for the Commonwealth Games, wants to incorporate food into this so would appreciate advice and contacts.• Martin White raised innovation in a low-income context. The author of 'Frugal Innovation' Jaideep Prabhu could be a helpful source of information.• Justin Varney mentioned the need for a sub-group of the forum for the East Birmingham Project. |
| 4. COTP Update | <p>[Video: 00:29:15 – 00:34:16]</p> <p>Sarah Pullen (Food System Lead, Public Health, Birmingham City Council) provided an update with the COTP, introducing Chloe Browne (Public Health Graduate Officer, Food System Team, Birmingham City Council) who will be helping the food team with wrapping up the COTP programme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Healthy Planning Toolkit is ready to be put into planning processes. An action plan has been developed to achieve this. The baton is being handed over to another team.• With regards to the Spiral Curriculum, Emma Frew from the University of Birmingham is supporting its evaluation.• The East Birmingham Food System Exploration is in procurement. It aims to use community researchers to investigate the food economy/system in and around schools. Builds upon the approaches of the Food Foundation and The Mandala Consortium.• Juliet Faulkner- importance of harnessing the youth voice, empowering young people to capture the food system in their area.• There is a severe lack of indicators and tools to measure the food system. The aim is to have 4 tools developed by young people by the summer which will lead into the broader food system strategy. This is also going through procurement. |

Creating a Healthy Food City Forum

Virtual Forum, Teams Meeting

Thursday 10th March 2022

10:00-12:00

Creating a
healthy
food city



Birmingham



- | | |
|--|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project will be wrapped up by the summer but integrated into wider council work. |
|--|--|

Creating a Healthy Food City Forum

Virtual Forum, Teams Meeting

Thursday 10th March 2022

10:00-12:00



5. Reflection on Action Plan Workshops

[Video: 00:34:16 – 01:23:22]

Sarah Pullen shared a presentation on the latest draft of the Food System Strategy

- The Strategy is going to cabinet next week and will then go to public consultation. There will then be an official version that everyone will be allowed to share.
- There was an opportunity to give feedback through access to Menti and the Teams chat (Menti responses attached to email). Making change and supporting deprived areas was highlighted (this will be achieved through using the FADMaP Tool).
- Action groups will be in place. Each workstream will have an action group to taken them forward, the forum will coordinate those workstreams.
- Importance of using the evidence base to learn from other approaches.
- It was asked to the forum which workstreams could they contribute to? Food security and resilience and food waste had large interest, did get coverage for all areas. Mention of ECLT workshops and discussions with other council departments.

Sarah then discussed the reflection on action plan workshops.

- A 9th workstream has been added (food security and resilience) and two additional settings (industry networks and third sector & not-for-profits).
- Beginnings of an action plan are being formed. Common themes were discussed e.g. enabling the city-wide approach.
- Amit Dattani (The Active Wellbeing Society)- there lots of community cafés already across the city. Just about to set up communal dining sessions - cooking surplus food together with citizens, sitting down and eating together, composting food waste on site and using that compost grow food in the pockets of green space we have around our cafes.
- Shaleen Meelu- Was there any interest in data across council stakeholders? As we expect food insecurity to rise the idea that we are able to track and keep an eye on vulnerable groups etc - this info will be useful for organisations. Sarah responded with data indicators are sadly lacking at the moment. Martin is looking at this, obtaining data from industry and a panel.

Creating a Healthy Food City Forum

Virtual Forum, Teams Meeting

Thursday 10th March 2022

10:00-12:00



| | |
|---|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bradley Yakoob- BCC are working with and learning from Dorset council to build a Birmingham Food Security Needs Assessment that we can implement in our city and build on moving forward. We will feedback more in future sessions. Looking at capturing severity not just prevalence of food insecurity.• Amit Dattani- working on pulling data with the Food Justice Network, numbers of collections of emergency food parcels.• Martin White- Said that this is terrific work (Dorset). Rachel Loopstra, one of the Mandala co-investigators, will lead our work on food insecurity (could be put in touch)• Mark Driver- raised food waste, Amit talked about the struggle of logistics for managing food waste. Middle logistics e.g. having refrigerated vans etc. Suggestion of left-over commonwealth games food for holiday programmes. Wider conversation of city council holiday funds.• Sarah Pullen- Feeding Britain are sending round ideas of investigating how many places are offering healthy start vouchers. Mark Driver is speaking to Co-op with regards to healthy start vouchers.• Sarah Monk suggested a move to a card rather than vouchers to make it more discreet and takeaway some of the stigma.• Rosie Jenkins let us know that she is linked in with the Children and Young People's Team here in the Public Health department and they are doing fantastic work on increasing uptake.• Shaleen Meelu let us know that there's a group that Sustain/SFP started which discusses issues around uptake. E.g. 20% of calls about Healthy Start to the Government line are not answered.• Key reflections were complexity of food, breadth of work needed and smart city strategy.• What learnings can we take forward from the action plan? Student projects, graduate projects to take forward. Important to track that action in one workstream is not having unintended consequences within another workstream |
| 6. Birmingham Food Strategy Update and Consultation Planning | <p>[Video: 01:23:22– 01:45:00]</p> <p>This was delivered by Sarah Pullen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consultation planning- the public consultation will be the from 11th April 2022 until 19th August 2022 (18 weeks). Emphasise it being a citywide approach to overcome apathy and dissolution. Expect to be able to continue to use the Be Heard platform despite some |

Creating a Healthy Food City Forum

Virtual Forum, Teams Meeting

Thursday 10th March 2022

10:00-12:00



| | |
|---|--|
| | <p>council software changes. What we can promote will be limited through period of political sensitivity (before elections it is important that the council isn't seen to be taking sides).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Key stakeholders for consultation- public, MPs, town parish councils etc. Please provide other groups that should be consulted. HSBC, BT, Goldman Sachs- opportunity for funding.• Mark Driver- encouraging a more diverse uptake in agriculture courses. Amit Dattani will provide some further information with this.• What other methods should we be using? Hardik Singh offered that the Youth City Board could do a survey and that he could work with someone from public health to discuss and write the questions.• The food system team are also working on a plain English version of the strategy (currently topic specialist). Potentially an animated version of the key messages. Most people need a broader strategy, not all the detail. Florence Pardoe provided the following link, using art to communicate https://wickedleeks.riverford.co.uk/news/environment-ethics-diversity-climate-change-farming/use-art-and-literature-explain-food-and |
| 7. Birmingham Food Movement Planning | <p>[Video: 01:45:00 – 01:49:44]</p> <p>This was delivered by Sarah Pullen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sarah highlighted the importance of a coordinated approach. The Birmingham Food Movement provides an umbrella brand for food actions to go under. |

Creating a Healthy Food City Forum

Virtual Forum, Teams Meeting

Thursday 10th March 2022

10:00-12:00



| | |
|---|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Florence Pardoe- The Food Foundation are carrying out a series, call out for names/projects that are worth being celebrated in this series. Example piece about Hillstone Primary school https://foodfoundation.org.uk/news/what-if-food-was-key-pillar-learning-all-schools.With time the Birmingham Food Movement will result in an escalation of energy, with a move to being more about Birmingham food culture. |
| 8. Chair Closing Remarks and AOB | <p>Video [01:49:44- 01:55:34]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Tessa Lindfield- continue to rely on each other to push the strategy forward. A real opportunity to sense check it. Please share thoughts and ideas after the meeting.AOB- Sarah Monk (head of team of community dieticians in Birmingham) would like to access resources to signpost patients to where they can access meals. Food justice network map was suggested from Amit Dattani. Rhys Boyer is supporting the Food System Team with an affordable food map and there are some students that can add context to those areas on the map. |
| 9. Date/time of next meeting | 11th May 2022, 13:00-15:00 |