



CIVIL FOOD RESILIENCE CASE STUDY 5: DYFED POWYS

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Dyfed Powys | Gwydnwch Bwyd Sifil
Civil Food Resilience

The Dyfed Powys Food Resilience Project started the work to develop a pioneering comprehensive food resilience strategy for the Dyfed Powys area. This covers the four local authorities of Powys, Ceredigion, Carmarthenshire and

Pembrokeshire and was funded by the Welsh Government. The project involved mapping critical food infrastructure, assets, and vulnerabilities and identification of 8 delivery areas. The project undertook partnered research and developed a suite of place-based interventions to build food resilience.

Approach

Miller Research and the Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT) provided consultancy support to Bwyd Food Powys to identify critical infrastructure and community assets around food resilience. This includes targeted interviews and participatory research. The findings will inform the Local Resilience Forum of the Dyfed Powys area. The Partnership developed a Stakeholder template to identify, map and communicate with food system actors. This was to ensure that a wide and inclusive approach was taken to building participation, and that stakeholders could take part in shaping a plan and understanding their own role in local food resilience.

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Goal: Active civil food resilience in Dyfed Powys communities (long-term). Strengthened local food supply chains and markets (long-term).

This initiative included funding to support small-scale producers to strengthen local food infrastructure and trial resilience solutions (e.g., equipment purchases, storage). The Welsh Senedd recognises that horticultural production is an essential component to food resilience.

The project held a Food Security Summit in March 2026 to share findings and begin the development phase of an actionable plan for food resilience.

The Dyfed Powys Civil Food Resilience project was led by Bwyd Powys Food (hosted by Cultivate) but was a collaboration of food partnerships across Ceredigion, Carmarthenshire, Pembrokeshire and Powys. As a very short project (6 months) it focused on the current level of food resilience and provided recommendations on the next steps to take to improve this.

Baselining Research: Guiding Framing

Key areas of investigation:

- To identify existing food system assets and gaps (physical infrastructure, skills, networks, workforce) within Dyfed Powys to assess the current state of food resilience in Dyfed Powys.
- Scope/Scale will include Local/Regional considerations - Dyfed Powys (within the context of global and UK trends).
- A systems perspective, addressing supply and demand-side aspects as well as community and governance of the food system.
- Consideration of adaptation and mitigation strategies.

Key Questions to be Answered / Data Needed:

- What is required for the functional resilience of a sustainable food system in Dyfed Powys?
- Baseline data across current food system provision, e.g., industry, equipment, production, transport, storage, processing, and packaging provision.
- Baseline demand: what are healthy diet requirements? Can Dyfed Powys feed itself?

Analysis of four food crises scenarios:

- acute food shocks (e.g., power outages, cyber attack, communication disruption),
- chronic food shocks (e.g., war or political instability), and
- intermittent (e.g., failed harvests due to climate change) and
- Community response and public sector capability to deal with food crises in each scenario

Outputs:

- Baseline food system asset mapping (public, private, and community assets across the food supply chain).
- Vision of a resilient food system for Dyfed Powys (what 'good' looks like in context).

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- Assessment of vulnerabilities and opportunities in the region (identification of weak points and leverage points for change).
- Good practice identified (what has worked locally/elsewhere).
- Evidence pool/data, trends and analysis, and recommendations.
- Public-facing reports as communications and a Food Resilience Summit
- An evidence base for future funding/investment.
- Prioritisation of risks based on Welsh Government and Local Resilience Forum (LRF) Guidance.

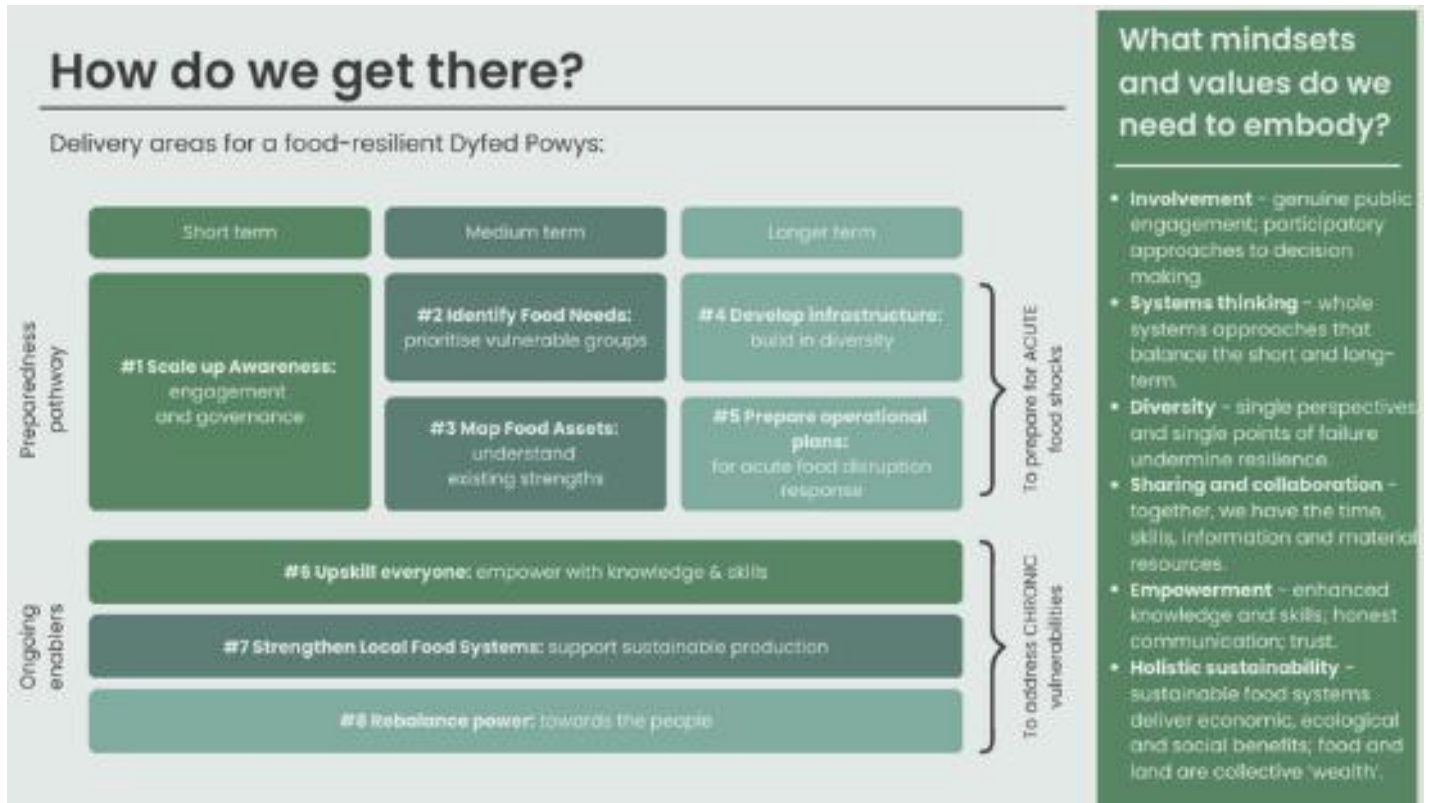


Image 1: Framework to inform baselining research

Challenges

Stakeholder Engagement:

Building resilience needs to be done across the whole system but working with the different stakeholders requires different approaches and takes significant time (e.g. building community resilience at a grassroots level needs relationship building with people on the ground and takes time to build trust and impact.)

Private Sector Engagement:

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Engaging with the private sector is proving very challenging in terms of finding the right contacts and getting any response from them. This includes processors, distributors, retailers, etc. Contacts within the Food Standards Agency are also difficult to identify.

Public Sector Support:

Building resilience in the public sector requires a 'push' from higher up as resource pressures are very high in the public sector.

Opportunities

The convening power of the Public Service Boards in bringing public bodies together in Wales has been valuable and hopefully it will enable engagement across the sector.

By 'unblocking' access to the private sector working in food services and industry, deeper-level food resilience could be achieved. Through the research being conducted in Dyfed Powys and communications/framing that appeals to businesses, the Private sector may better understand where vulnerabilities exist and their potential impact on operations. As such, they may see the value in engaging in preparatory planning for business resilience, and collaboration across sectors for wider public benefit.

The Food Summit provided an opportunity to bring together stakeholders in Private and Public sectors, and to build a narrative and further communications materials around food system resilience and roles.

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