



# NESFA

NORTH EAST  
**SUSTAINABLE FOOD ALLIANCE**

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middlesbrough  
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FOOD  
DURHAM



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# Overview

Sustainable and productive local food economy in the North-East

Joined-up partnership approach to working across the region

- a. engaging partners
- b. key principles
- c. working collaboratively on common ground for mutual benefit

Economic case for investment in local sustainable food enterprises

Define and facilitate definition of sustainable food



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# Objectives and outcomes

## 1. Work in new way, across partnership boundaries, representing larger region

- Create a toolkit on how to work at a regional level.

## 2. Grow our sustainable food economy in the North East

- Build upon FADNEs existing training opportunities to incorporate more sustainability, and a general adoption of what sustainability is.
- To influence local food and drink businesses to become more sustainable.

## 3. Regional procurement working group (procurement of more local food)

- Introduce regional working groups with catering and procurement representatives from across the North East.



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# What have we been up to?

## 1. Work in new way, across partnership boundaries, representing larger region

- Working at a regional level is a new approach to the SFP network
- Documenting new way of working
- Mapping relevant regional organisations, policies and strategies
- Working with FADNE - LEPs and local food businesses



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# What have we been up to?

## 2. To grow our sustainable food economy in the North East

- Issued two surveys - understanding of sustainability and what is most important to:
  - local food businesses
  - General public/ customers
- Influence/ guide training & support for businesses
  - gaps in knowledge
  - most important to customers
- Overall aim for more unified understanding/ definition of sustainable food



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# What have we been up to?

## 3. New regional procurement working group

- Out of scope for this project timeline?
- DPUK and Dixon Foundation fund
  - facilitated meetings with anchor institution catering and procurement leads
  - 20+ people attended first meeting
  - Notable interest in DPS and support for a NESFA application to Dixon for funding
- NESFA applied and were successful with stage 1 funding. This will add notable resource to this aspect of the project.



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