

Sustainable Food Places Covid-19 Digest 15

Food supply/Food for vulnerable people/Local action/Funding

28 May 2020

This digest is produced by Sustainable Food Places with support from [Food Power](#).

SFP endeavours to support official government and public health advice on the Covid-19 coronavirus pandemic.

We will keep on checking the latest advice or rules, but we must all recognise that this is rapidly changing and that we may not always be fully up to date. Please keep on checking, sharing your ideas and good practice, and let's all help each other keep safe and well fed. When sharing information via [the SFC riseup list](#) (follow the link if you are not already signed up), it is really helpful if you **state the topic** in the email title (e.g food supply including markets and diverse outlets, food for vulnerable people, local action, funding).

Share your experiences and take action

On this week's [Coordinator Catch-up](#), run by Food Power and Sustainable Food Places:

- An update on the Agriculture Bill and farming sector, from Vicki Hird at Sustain
- Local partnership in action: Food Durham; Markets & supporting producers in Northumberland, from Peter Samson of Food Durham
- Food for Good Coalition in Edinburgh, from Simon Kenton-Lake of Nourish

Calls to Action:

- Join one of the Food Power Gatherings on Thurs 11 June at [10.00-11.45am](#) or [2.00 -3.45pm](#) to share your experiences of Covid-19 and ideas for the recovery contact simon@sustainweb.org for more information and how to register
- Complete and share [Sustain's survey on front-line experiences of Covid-19](#)
- Use our [template letter for local food partnerships to engage your MPs on trade](#)
- [Covid-19 Mutual Aid Survey](#)

Government announcements

- 26 May The Government has [produced guidance](#) for business to help ensure workplaces in England can operate and open safely
- 25 May The Prime Minister laid out [retail reopening](#) in England from 1 June
- 24 May [£50m Reopening High Streets Safely Fund](#) was launched to help councils in England introduce a range of safety measures in a move to get people back to work and customers back to the shops. The money will be [allocated to councils](#) on a per capita basis and will be ready to spend from 1 June 2020. [Markets will be recognised](#) as a potential beneficiary of the fund.

- 23 May A new [London Transition Board](#) has been created to coordinate London's response to lifting lockdown
- 20 May the Mayor of London wrote to the Department for Education calling on the Government to extend substitute free school meal provision and the National School Breakfast Programme over the school holidays. He also urged the Government to extend eligibility to families currently applying for Universal Credit or other income support programmes as well as all children affected by No Recourse to Public Funds conditions
- 14 May EFRA committee published [survey results](#) on food supply during Covid-19. Transcripts of oral evidence can be found [here](#)

Food supply and diverse outlets

- UK Hospitality has launched its [#Fair4Hospitality](#) campaign to support businesses and workers affected by the impact on the sector, accompanied by a series of recommendations to Government for a safe and supported 'COVID Secure restart'. UK Hospitality continues to update advice and guidance on its [Covid-19 Support Services](#) webpage.
- Sustainable Food Trust podcast with Triodos: [Impact of Covid-19 on Triodos' farming and food producing clients](#), and the role of the public and private sectors in supporting an honest economic system.

Securing food for vulnerable people

- Sustain upcoming webinar May 28 1-2pm: '[Covid-19 and the right to food across the four UK nations](#)', featuring speakers representing Food Sense Wales, the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission and Human Rights Watch
- Centre for Food Policy upcoming webinar 28 May 5.15-6.45: [Food Thinkers - delivering an emergency food service in London](#)
- 22 May Food Foundation published their [fourth YouGov poll](#), which found that food insecurity and debt are the new reality under lockdown, with five million adults experiencing food insecurity, four million adults borrowing money and ethnic minorities most at risk.
- Independent Food Aid Network, has published an [article](#) on the emergency food aid response during Covid-19
- Sustain webinar recording: [School caterers put meals on wheels](#)

School Food

- The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health has published [guidance on food safety](#) for community cooking and food banks
- The School Food Plan Alliance has published a [school food checklist](#) in anticipation of some pupils returning from 1 June to help school leaders and their catering teams continue to deliver healthy, nutritious school meals whilst adhering to other advice regarding social distancing, food safety specific to Covid-19 and enhanced cleaning regimes in schools
- Food Foundation webinar recording: Return to School - [Catering for Children in Crisis](#), [slides](#)

Local Action

We recognise the importance of sharing how places have overcome barriers and created the guidance and support but please note we can't verify the guidance produced locally in terms of its safety and you should always refer to the official national guidance.

BRIGHTON & HOVE

- Inside the Food Hub: [Hove Park School in Hangleton](#)

CARDIFF

- Working in collaboration with food emergency response networks, [Food Cardiff and Edible Cardiff are encouraging residents to grow their own vegetables](#). By using existing capacity and network and pooling resources, Food Cardiff ensured that a grow your own element was included in the emergency response, avoided duplication of efforts and was part of the bigger movement.

ESSEX

- [Maldon District Council](#) has created a leaflet of food provision in Maldon. The leaflet demonstrates a real collaborative and community wide effort, with funding received from Essex County Council for hot meal provision at the Prince of Wales Pub, to the coordination, make up and distribution of emergency food parcels from the Maldon and District CVS, Maldon Churches Together and the Salvation Army with generous donations and support from local supermarkets
- Maldon District Council and partners are interested to hear what holiday support residents want and need and are asking families to fill out a [short survey](#) to detail this.

GLASGOW

- [Sustainable Food Places case study](#): Glasgow local food partnership is leveraging support from other local organisations to facilitate emergency food provision and other key services, while gathering learnings to inform their Glasgow City Food Plan to make it better fit for the future.

LEEDS

- Foodwise has created the [#vegrocks competition](#) and is inviting youngsters to turn their favourite vegetables into characters to display in their windows, like the NHS rainbows, and share on social media using the hashtag #vegrocks. Through the generous sponsorship from local councillors, FoodWise will be awarding 50 vegboxes to contest winners.

LONDON

- Lambeth and Southwark
 - School Food Matters has now delivered over 5,000 [healthy breakfast boxes](#) to vulnerable families in Southwark and Lambeth over the past 3 weeks in partnership with Guy's & St Thomas' Charity. In partnership with the charity [Chefs in Schools](#), a pilot to provide nutritious lunches will also be offered to children from schools that are unable to support them through their existing catering team.
- Tower Hamlets
 - [May update on food in Tower Hamlets](#), including food aid, buying food, community support, how to help and funding.

Funding

[Grants online](#) have a list of regional grants, this is your best port of call!

The charity [Turn2Us](#) has published a webpage for individuals looking for support and crisis grants.

UK

[National Lottery community Fund grants](#) from £300 to £10,000

[£25m Resilience and Recovery Loan Fund](#) - new fund for social enterprises and charities who are experiencing disruption to their normal business model as a result of Covid-19

[Power to Change C-19 Emergency Trading Income Support Scheme](#) - £12 million emergency support package to provide both immediate and medium-term help for community businesses facing a loss of income

[GroceryAid fund](#) -to support workers in the food supply chain deal with the impact of Covid-19, including mental health support, bereavement financial assistance and crisis grants

[WRAP Covid-19 Emergency Surplus Food Grant](#) - Phases 2, for micro-to-small operations & 3 now open - **deadline 4 June**

[Barclay's Grant](#): for those working within the community to support those most vulnerable

[Prince's Trust Grant](#): Young people whose businesses have been affected by Covid-19

[BBC Children in Need](#): Booster grants of up to £5000 for organisations working with children and young people affected by Covid-19 and large grants of up to £80,000 designed for established organisations already delivering work in communities

[Aviva Community Fund](#): Next round open until 28 July for small charities adapting or continuing vital services

SCOTLAND

[£30m Scottish Coronavirus Food Fund](#)

WALES

[Third Sector Resilience Fund](#)

[Voluntary Services Emergency Fund](#)

ENGLAND

[Defra Food Charities Grand Fund](#) of up to £100,000, please apply as soon as possible

Please [check previous the SFP coronavirus funding page](#) for more funding opportunities

Find all previous digests and weekly
Coordinator webinars [here](#)

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