

# Sustainable Food Cities COVID-19 Digest 2

## Food supply/Food for vulnerable people/Local action/Funding 31st March 2020

SFC 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 riseup list, 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).

### Overview

30th March - [Small Business Grant Fund \(SBGF\) and Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant Fund \(RHLGF\) guidance](#) informing local authorities about the operation and delivery of the 2 funding schemes (England)

26th March - [Welsh Government announced a package of support worth 1.4bn for small business to help them during the crisis](#)

26th March - [How to help safely during Covid-19](#)

### Food supply and diverse outlets

- [Open Food Network](#) have been helping local food hubs sell online, they are hosting a webinar every Wednesday at 16.30 ([zoom.us/s/226764941](https://zoom.us/s/226764941)) to discuss:

- advice on how to run a food enterprise safely during the COVID-19 outbreak

- experiences of running or setting up an online food enterprise, to ask questions and offer & receive support [pic.twitter.com/zEqbqoZCOM](https://pic.twitter.com/zEqbqoZCOM)

They also have a very handy [video and step by step guide here](#) on how to set up your online shop and a [toolkit with useful resources](#)

- [Nationwide Caterers Association](#) have issued [guidelines](#) about how to diversify food business amidst lockdown
- [Big Barn](#) has introduced a 'Local Delivery ONLY' feature to allow any shop on Big Barn to set their delivery area meaning that only customers in that area can order. They are encouraging shops and farmers to set up on the Big Barn website as an easy way to sell produce to the local community
- [Food and Drink North East](#) is creating a Local Heroes initiative; an online food market to promote, sell and deliver local food to homes and people across the region. Each order will include a 10-15% 'community premium' to ensure low-income, socially isolated and front line staff have access to free food boxes
- [The Real Bread Campaign](#) is collecting advice, guidance and other information from reliable sources for the benefit of Real Bread business owners, their staff members, their customers and other people in their local communities.

## Securing food for vulnerable people

29th March - The government organised for the [first food parcels to be delivered to the 1.5 million clinically vulnerable people](#) but there are concerns that these food parcels are not nutritionally adequate. [Sustain expresses concerns that it fails to help many people most in need](#). Or read a more [in-depth piece on how the scheme operates, with various contact details and links](#).

The Food Foundation are conducting research about the contents, if you received one, or know someone who has, please email [Pandora.haydon@foodfoundation.org.uk](mailto:Pandora.haydon@foodfoundation.org.uk) asap.

27th March - [The Food Foundation warn that millions will need food aid within days without adequate government intervention](#)

## 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.**

### BRADFORD

- [Feeding Bradford](#) working closely with council emergency planning as they are seen as a key part of council strategy re. Food banks and crisis meal providers for destitute homeless
- They are setting up some food collection points for organisations and working with new neighbourhood hubs to see how food can be distributed through new centers – new work that council are calling to Feeding Bradford to assist with
- School feeding led by Bradford Council – plan is that school kitchens remain open to feed children probably as takeouts

### BRIGHTON

- [A website](#) and facebook group aptly entitled 'Brighton quarantine delivery' have been built to list all independent food businesses doing delivery

### BRISTOL

- Bristol union have [set up a website](#) for the community to donate to the local food businesses to cook meals for frontline workers
- [Map](#) of food delivery services in Bristol

### CAMBRIDGE

- [Cambridge Sustainable Food](#) have published [advice](#) for safely handling and delivering food

- [Cambridge Sustainable Food](#) have created a spreadsheet documenting notice and actions happening around the city eg. CAB closing to drop ins, football club cancelling community events including senior lunches to make sure they know where the hunger gaps are. They are also approaching local businesses and universities for redistribution services, food donations and resources

#### CORNWALL

- [Tamar Valley Food Hubs](#) have stepped up to deliver food boxes to the local community

#### DEVON

- Devon Council is keeping all latest information about covid19 on [their website](#) and have published a map with all the [local support groups](#)
- Exeter City Council and Wellbeing Exeter have set up a [community support page](#) to link volunteers with those in need of some support

#### FLINTSHIRE

- [Feeding Flintshire](#) is a new online directory helping residents during the coronavirus crisis.

#### GREATER MANCHESTER

- Sow the City is [hosting a webinar](#) on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April on Food Poverty Mapping in Manchester, looking into food deserts, the health consequences and how the community can help with mapping.
- [Food Sync](#) have suggested creating an online credit system for families in receipt of school meals
- Manchester Food Partnership have drafted a [Food Response Model](#) to ensure Greater Manchester has access to food

#### HACKNEY

- Made in Hackney have made this helpful guidance video '[Want to set up a COVID-19 Feeding Programme?](#)' of things to consider in terms of setting up a meals delivery service
- MIH's [new initiative](#) to provide free meals to vulnerable groups in Hackney

#### HAMPSHIRE

- Hampshire Fare have [set up a website](#) with delivery services in the region, including box schemes, local restaurant delivery, farm shops

#### LONDON

- Sustain, along with the London Food Board and other market representatives have written a letter to the London Mayor calling for a prioritisation of support for Food Markets to ensure they can stay open and to ensure the Metropolitan Police are aware they are allowed to be trading
- After the initial closure of Ridley Road Market, [Bags of Taste](#) in Hackney have set up a Twitter account @RidleyUpdates to show people that it is open and encourage the public to use and have written to the Mayor of Hackney
- [List of London Mutual Aid Groups](#)

## MALDON

- Taxi companies have agreed to deliver takeaways alongside community agents and volunteers
- The Salvation Army is helping to source food donations from supermarkets, local businesses, school caterers and suppliers. Food is stored at the Salvation Army and given to vulnerable residents through collection or drop off

## OXFORD

- Food Food Oxford have published a very useful blog covering [how Oxfordshire is responding to the crisis and how you can help](#)
- Good Food Oxford have updated the [Oxford Food Access Database and Map](#) to cover all of Oxfordshire
- A list of community action groups can be found [here](#) and an [Oxford Mutual Aid Group](#) has been set up
- Oxford City Council and Oxford Hub have created new [Locality Response Centres](#), each centre will have its own budget to respond to the crisis locally as needed. Find out how you can volunteer [here](#)

## PRESTON

- [Preston Larder](#) are providing free meal delivery services with the support of volunteers with no funding (they have set up a crowdfunder). They are currently delivering around 100 meals a day with requests increasing. They are working with the local housing association, Disability Equality, homeless centres, Age Concern to help with the running of the operation but have had no support from the council.

## SCOTLAND

- [Nourish Scotland](#) have published [guidance for community response best practice](#), a blog about [making the food supply chain work for everyone](#) and the [end of the food bank](#)

## SHROPSHIRE

- The [Shropshire Food Poverty Alliance](#) is helping to coordinate the local response and surveying members on the local response.

## STROUD

- Following the closure of Stroud's Farmer's Market, the local community and [Stroudco](#) have rallied together to help local traders to continue to trade and helping traders to set up online

## WALES

- [Food Sense Wales](#) are organising an online summit on how the Covid19 crisis is affecting fruit and vegetable growing in Wales on the 2nd April 4-5pm. More information can be found [here](#), email [pitth2@cf.ac.uk](mailto:pitth2@cf.ac.uk) to receive the zoom link
- Food Sense has published a [briefing for Local Authorities](#) providing urgent steps they can take to ensure all households are provided with food

## WINCHESTER

- Winchester Food Partnership is working alongside FirstBite and WCC Health and Wellbeing to come up with a plan to support those in food insecurity. Food banks are at full capacity so they have set up [this spreadsheet](#) calling for assistance, including calling on producers and wholesalers to donate or sell at cost price. They are looking at setting up a distribution hub to accept bulk deliveries and looking for a warehouse space

## Funding

31st March [CAF Coronavirus Emergency Fund](#)

30th March [National Emergencies Trust launches Covid-19 appeal](#)

26th March [Grants Online publish new webpage to host all local grants available](#)

25th March [London Funders announce to new fund to help community and voluntary organisations](#)

21st March [Coronavirus support funders in the South West](#)

21st March [Coronavirus response funding globally](#)

## [Covid19 Digest 1 on Food Markets 30th March](#)

Sustainable Food Cities is supported by: