

Sustainable Food Places Covid-19 Digest 8

Food supply/Food for vulnerable people/Local action/Funding 20 April 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).

Government announcements

- 20 April Defra have launched [Pick for Britain](#) to bring together those looking for work on UK farms
- 18 April [Scotland to receive a further £155m](#) for council workers at the forefront of local efforts in keeping people safe and for keeping key public services open
- 17 April Food Standards Agency publish [guidance for consumers on coronavirus and food](#)
- Aquaculture:
 - 16 April Defra has [updated guidance](#) on state aid rules for UK's agricultural and fisheries sector to clarify that funding under Defra schemes do not count towards *de minimis* state aid allowance
 - 15 April The Scottish Government has announced aquaculture businesses who may be negatively affected by Covid-19 may apply to [receive hardship payments](#) of up to £27,000
 - 14 April The Welsh government has announced [a new grant](#) of a maximum of £10,000 to support fishing businesses through Covid-19
- 9 April [Information for farmers, landowners and rural businesses](#)
- 9 April Welsh Government announced two new funds; the [Third Sector Resilience Fund](#) of up to £75,000 as well as a bridging loan for the equivalent of two month's furloughed wages, and the [Voluntary Services Emergency Fund](#) of between £10,000-100,000 to help charities, community groups and social enterprises affected by Covid-19
- 7 April Department of Education [announced extra funding](#) and support for schools in England to cover exceptional costs associated with Covid-19 between March - July 2020
- 3 April The Food Standards Agency has [written to the EFRA](#) select committee to detail their response to Covid-19 to maintain food safety standards and protect its staff

Food supply and diverse outlets

Producers

- Community Supported Agriculture: **Webinar recording** - [starting a Veg Box scheme during a pandemic](#)
- Land Workers Alliance have issued a survey for [new or aspiring growers](#) to help LWA secure funds from funders and lenders to support growers
- Eat Farm Now: Free [learning resources](#) including videos, blogs and activities presented by farmers on their farms
- Soil Association [Resources for Farmers and Growers](#)
- Oxford Real Farming Conference: Vicki Hird - [Has Covid-19 stopped all work on a new farming future?](#)
- Savills survey: [Coronavirus - impact on farm labour and supply chains](#)
- Nature Friendly Farming Network: Feeding the Nation - [How Nature Friendly Farmers and Responding to Covid-19](#)
- Farmers weekly: [Special chartered flights from Bucharest have started landing in Stansted to bring Eastern European workers to help pick fruit](#)
- Sustainable Food Trust Podcast: [In conversation with Will Harris](#) talking about regenerative farming but also how Covid-19 has affected the farm
- Sustainable Food Trust: [Small farms, big solutions: The Ecological Land Cooperative helping new farmers](#)

Suppliers

- **Action** - [Ask your council to keep food markets open](#)
- NAMBA are calling on markets to [complete this survey](#) to help secure government financial assistance to quantify financial loss, risks and impacts
- A [compilation of the local response](#) across the UK to supporting food supply chains and diverse outlets
- Sustainable Food Trust: [How to find local and sustainable food](#)
- Leon restaurants have launched [Feed Britain](#) to provide veg boxes and food deliveries across the UK
- Waste Knot: [Managing surplus produce & food redistribution](#) amidst Covid-19

Community Gardens and Allotments

- The Orchard Project, who are doing live events and have many resources on their website, for example, homeschooling [Lesson Plans](#) and [Activities, Guides & Advice](#) for home gardeners, including [planting fruit trees in containers](#).
- [Garden Organic](#) has seen a huge rise in demand in organic growing and a surge in membership and are offering daily growing tips on [Twitter](#)
- Social Farms and Gardens: Insurance advice for [community gardens](#)
- [Hackney Herbal](#) are hosting Zoom online workshops for food growing

Food System

- The World Transformed Webinar recording: [Coronavirus - towards a National Food Service](#) and the [notes here](#)
- Green Alliance Podcast: [UK food supply, Covid-19 and the environment](#), with Tim Lang

- International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems (IPES): [Covid-19 and the crisis in food systems: symptoms, causes, and potential solutions](#)
- Hubbub: [Greenprint for a sustainable UK after Covid-19](#)
- Webinar 28 April 10-11.30: Carolyn Steel - [Can food rebuild our communities?](#)

Securing food for vulnerable people

- 19 April Radio 4 Food Programme: [Love in the time of corona: stories of community support through food](#), featuring Sustains' Kath Dalmeny
- Updated list of [Mutual Aid Groups](#) across the country
- National Food Service has a [web page of useful information](#), including data protection for [Mutual Aid Groups](#), [Safeguarding Zoom training](#), [risk assessment tables](#), [Emergency Food Prep Zoom training](#)
- The Conversation: [Coronavirus - inspiring community attempts to stem increased hunger need government help](#)
- Nourish Scotland: [Local food is for life, not just for covid](#)

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.

BARNSELEY

- Barnsley Council has collaborated with [FareShare Yorkshire](#), food banks and [Community Shop](#) to provide local support

COVENTRY

- Feeding Coventry now operating outside with a one-way system to align with social distancing rules

GLASGOW

- [Locavore](#) has partnered with Freedom bakery, Glasgow Coffee and Mossgiel Fruit and Veg to offer their products in an online shop

GREATER MANCHESTER

- Manchester chefs and restaurant owners are [collaborating to provide food for both NHS workers and the vulnerable](#). Chefs involved in the effort include: Mary-Ellen McTague, [The Creameries](#), [Rich Sharples](#), [Elite Bistros](#), Rich Carver and [The Honest Crust](#) Team, Sam from [Where the Light Gets In](#), Anna Sogaard from [Erst](#), Rachel Stockley from [Baratxuri](#), Ross Parker from [Beehive foods](#) and many others.

[Aubrey Allen](#) have been donating meat and [Cloudwater Brewery](#) have offered their space for storage and assisted with delivery and food sourcing.

LIVERPOOL

- [Liverpool independent delivered services](#) is doing home delivery from independent suppliers

LONDON

- [Live Local](#) - London local independent food businesses still operating
- [Brixton Pound](#) has joined forces with Platform Cafe in Loughborough Junction to supply pre-prepared meals and grocery deliveries
- [Union of Hackney Gardens](#) are sorting seeds for people which are then dropped outside people's doors to be collected and are offering short [gardening video tips](#) on social media
- Organiclea Community Growers have just [opened an online shop](#) for veg plant boxes, including green waste compost, for delivery around East London

PEAK DISTRICT

- [Sauced Here](#) was created as a version of an online supermarket with products sourced from local producers and suppliers. All delivery costs have been scrapped amidst Covid-19 to support local supply chains and help more people access food.

PRESTON

- Preston Larder emergency cooked meal provision became operational on 23rd March and the Larder cafe staff and volunteers continue to cook nutritious meals and get them out to people in crisis. They have teamed up with Age Concern, Preston Minster, social services and housing associations. They are receiving lots of donations from wholesalers.
- Preston Larder Kids in the Kitchen Holiday Hunger programme was adapted for the Easter holidays and was delivered online with a daily video recipe and ingredients delivered every 2-3 days. All run by volunteers and with mostly donated food. An example of the videos can be found [here](#)

READING

- [Food for Families](#) are allowing small numbers of registered volunteers back to onto their growing sites to increase growing opportunities and are hoping to set up a seed growing kit delivery project

SHEFFIELD

- [Sheffield Food Hall Project](#) have set up an Isolation Food Pack Helpline and are providing pre-prepared meals for the community. They are also redistributing food donations and have crowdsourced more than £4,000.

- [FoodWorks](#) is offering a food box and [prepared meals](#) which can be collected. It now operates everyday and is providing food for approx 600 families per week. Local support groups are offering a delivery service
- [Edlington Community Organisation](#) is offering free emergency food and low cost pantry food

STAFFORD

- [House of Bread](#) is cooking meals and providing food bags seven days a week

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

[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

SCOTLAND

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

WALES

[Third Sector Resilience Fund](#)

[Voluntary Services Emergency Fund](#)

ENGLAND - REGIONAL

London

[Southwark Community Grant Covid-19](#)

[London Community Response Fund](#) Wave 2 now open

Midlands

[Lancaster Emergency Response Fund](#)

Please check previous digests for more funding opportunities

Find all previous digests [here](#)

Sustainable Food Places is supported by:

