



Brighton & Hove Food Partnership

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A hub for information, inspiration and connection around food.

Established in 2003 we help people learn to cook, to eat a healthy diet, to grow their own food and to waste less food.

- Work with individuals
- Work with groups
- Work at a strategy and policy level

These are interconnected



Brighton and Hove Food Strategy Action Plan 2018-2023 Summary Version



200 far-reaching actions involving almost 100 partners including 26 separate city council departments.

First one 2006

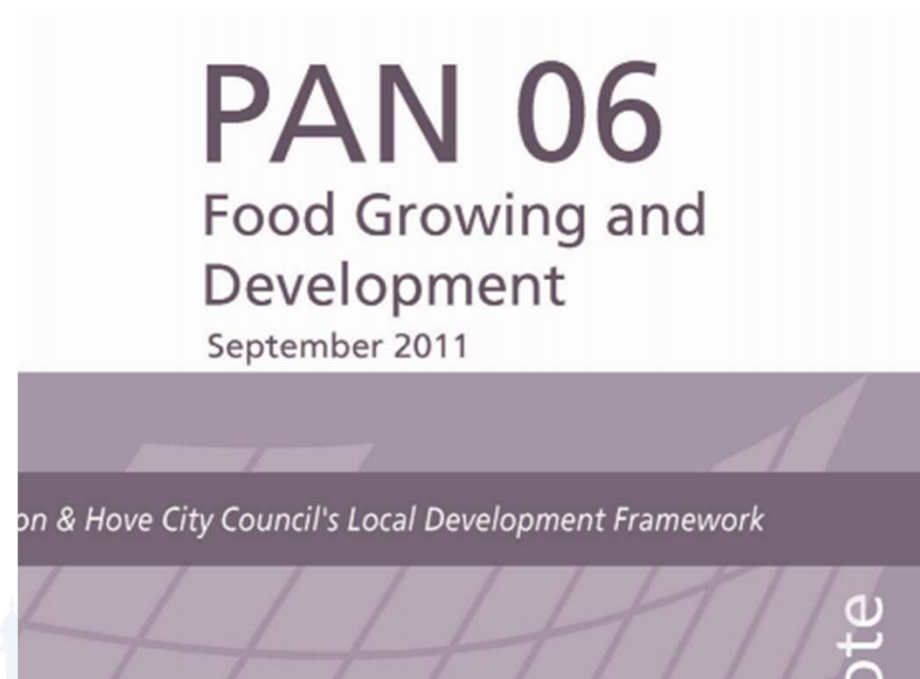
Refreshed 2012

Latest version 2018-2023



The History

- Award winning innovative **Planning Advice Note** – adopted 2011
- A Planning Advice Note is technical guidance – not policy! (Also known as TGN)
- Developed by BHFP with Food Matters & City Council



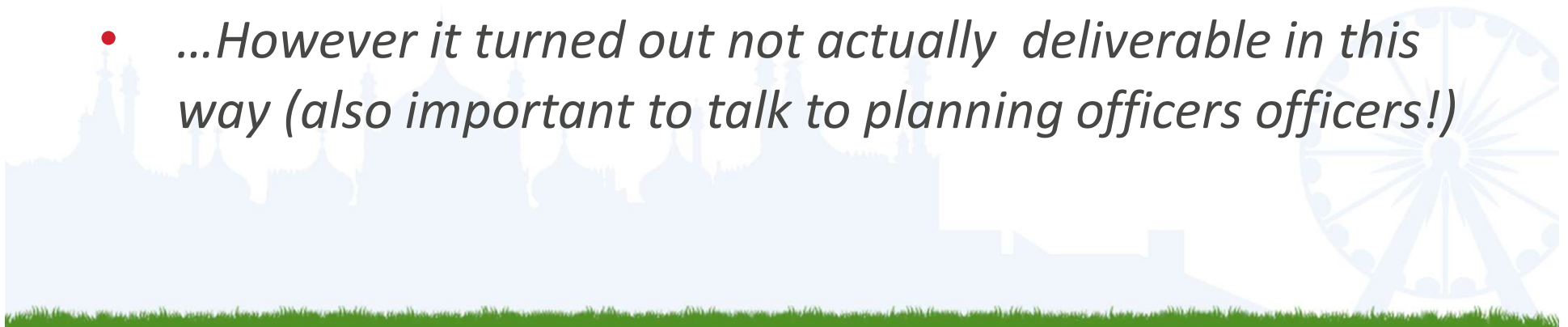
Background to refresh

- PAN needed updating
 - Changes in planning policy
 - Evaluation by University of Brighton student showed some aspects not working
- Public pledge given as part of 'Peas Please' commitment by a City Councillor



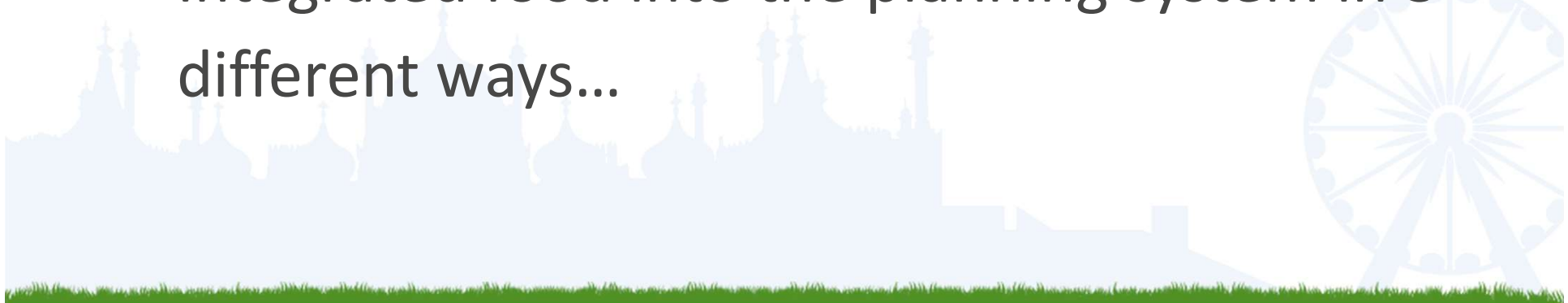
Initial aims of the refresh

- To update the PAN
- To expand to include wider aspects of food system e.g. access to shops etc
- Increase 'weight' by upgrading to a **Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)** - counts as policy rather than technical guidance
- *...However it turned out not actually deliverable in this way (also important to talk to planning officers officers!)*



Food and Planning Project

- Instead, took a different approach. A new **Food and Planning Project** brought together BHFP with BHCC Planning Policy officers
- Project Board to manage and tease out
- Integrated food into the planning system in 3 different ways...



1) Improved technical guidance

- A revised and improved Planning Advice Note on Food Growing adopted in September 2020. It provides technical guidance to encourage inclusion food growing spaces in new development.
- Developed 2018-2020 including consultation with Developers, planning agents and frontline planning officers ('DM' – development management officers).



Urban focus & relevant to our city e.g. salt winds/ no land!



Aims to inspire as well as inform (local, national & international examples)



Photo credit: Brighton Greenways

List of perennial fruits suitable for growing outside in suitable locations

South facing parts of the garden are the sunniest and suitable to grow all 5 ripening.

Apples	Kiwi fruit
Apricots	Medlars
Blackberries	Mulberries
Blackcurrants	Peaches
Blueberries	Pears
Cherries	Plums
Figs	Quinces
Gooseberries	Raspberries
Grapes	Redcurrants

Sussex varieties of fruit

<https://sussexapptrees.co.uk/#pg-226-1>

<http://www.sussexfruittrees.co.uk/fruit-varieties/apples/sussex-cultivars/>

Design options

Six types of edible designs are described

- A: Edible landscaping
- B: Outdoor amenity space
- C: Orchards
- D: Therapeutic gardens
- E: School gardens; and
- F: Meanwhile gardens



Photo credit: Caroline Whiteman

Edible Landscaping Andernach Edible City



2) New Health Impact Assessment Checklist

Developers will be required to complete -

- Food growing
- WIDER food access issues ->

Does the proposal include opportunities to increase access to healthy food?

- Near to local or town centre locations selling fresh food
- Access to drinking water
- Avoiding clusters of hot-food takeaways
- Near to allotments/food-growing space
- Community/communal kitchen space



NB - Builds on existing Sustainability Checklist – effective tool

Growing food

Is there provision for food growing included on the development site?*

Where is it located?*

- ☐ Roof
- ☐ Ground level
- ☐ Other, please specify

- ☐ Raised beds (sqm)
- ☐ Allotment (sqm)
- ☐ Dedicated area on ground level (sqm)
- ☐ Communal growing space (sqm)

- ☐ Fruit trees (specify number of trees)
- ☐ Nut trees (specify number of trees)

☐ Will introduced soil be prepared to BS Top Soil Standard?

☐ Will fruit trees be planted away from busy roads?

☐ What distance (m)?

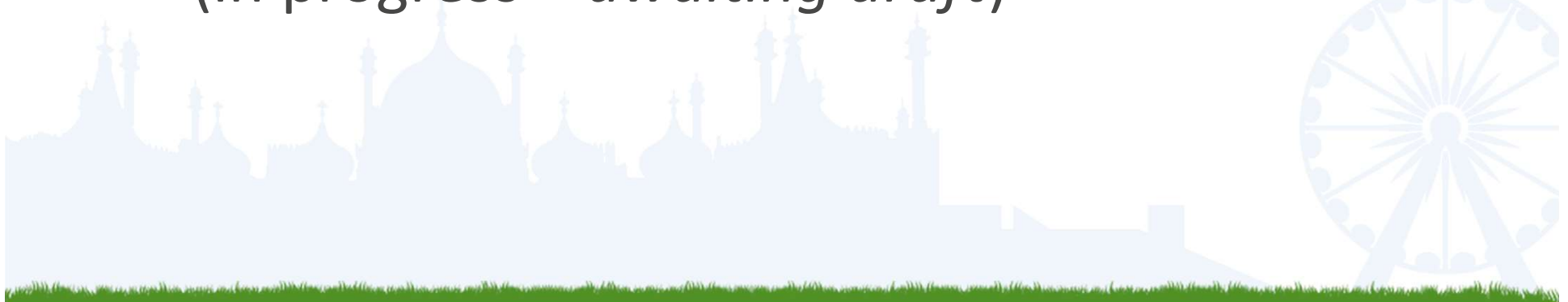
Waste

☐ Will composting facilities will be provided?



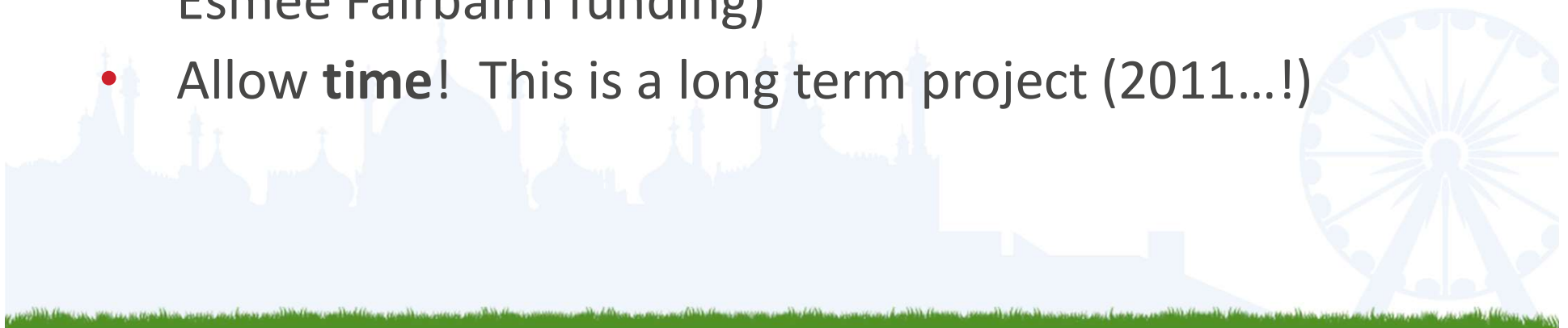
3) Urban Design Framework SPD

- Incorporation of food growing and wider food access into a new Urban Design Framework Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)
- SPD has the extra 'weight' and status
- (in progress – *awaiting draft*)



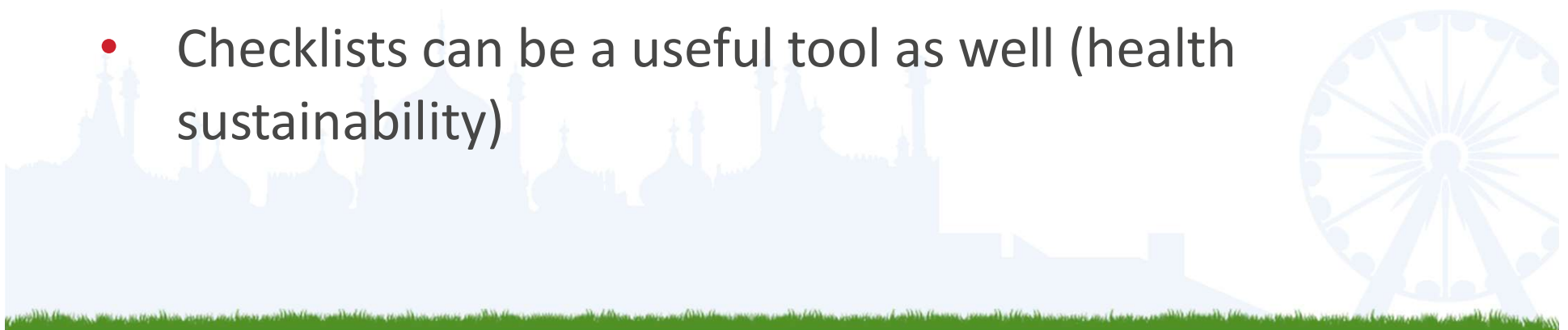
Lessons we learnt – culture

- Learn to **think like a Planner!** The way we think the planning system may be ‘useful’ doesn’t always tally. Listen! Work with planning culture/ resources
- Get **political commitment** – but be flexible on delivery
- Be a **helpful partner** – we organised, cajoled and also resourced Sustain’s involvement as consultants (via Esmée Fairbairn funding)
- Allow **time!** This is a long term project (2011...!)



Lessons we learnt - practical

- Make sure that **local plans** include food policies – this is vital for any subsequent policy development - and best use of time if limited.
- Recognise that the status (PAN/SPD etc) on paper is less important than **how it is used**– ie whether it sits on a shelf or gets used by officers & developers
- Checklists can be a useful tool as well (health sustainability)





Thanks for listening! – Questions?

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