West Northants Sustainable Food Place

Food Charter

2021
Good food is vital to the quality of people’s lives in West Northamptonshire. By promoting healthy and sustainable food as part of a thriving food economy, the West Northamptonshire Sustainable Food Charter aims to improve health and wellbeing for all and to create a more connected, resilient and sustainable town.

West Northamptonshire Sustainable Food Place (WNSFP) is a multi-organisational movement to improve the food we eat in our local area. This food charter is the expression of our vision for better food locally.

Signatories to the Charter - which includes public, private and community partners - will commit to its aims of the Charter and so help create a vibrant, fair and diverse food culture. We will work together to promote the pleasure and importance of good food and to increase both the demand and supply of delicious and affordable, fresh, seasonal, local and organic food throughout West Northamptonshire.
**WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE SUSTAINABLE FOOD PLACE**

The West Northamptonshire Food Charter’s aims:

**A thriving local economy**

1. A network of diverse local, independent food shops and enterprises in all stages of food production which will provide awareness of the value of food, education about food, offer training, jobs and livelihoods related to good food.

2. Healthy, ethical and sustainable food is made available from local producers and suppliers and used by major employers wherever possible, keeping value within the local economy.

**Health and wellbeing for all**

3. Increasing awareness of the importance of a nutritious, balanced diet for physical and mental health whilst enabling access to healthy, sustainable, affordable food.

4. All food workers receive a fair wage, and work under fair, safe conditions.

**Resilient, close-knit communities**

5. Food is used as a medium to build and sustain community cohesion and partnerships.

6. Culinary traditions of all cultures are promoted and celebrated through engaging projects and public events.

7. Local initiatives help reconnect people with food, to bring communities together and to encourage people to take pride in their neighbourhoods.
Lifelong learning and skills

8. People of all ages, especially young people have the opportunity to learn about good food - how to grow, buy, prepare, cook, preserve, eat and enjoy it.

9. Organisations such as schools, hospitals, caterers and other businesses are inspired and enabled to create a positive, sustainable food culture.

Affordable and accessible good food for those in need and those in the greatest need

10. Locally, everyone is able to access affordable or adequate food to sustain themselves and their families, including those in the highest degree of poverty, but not excluding those just above benefit level, including the working poor.

A reduced ecological footprint

11. Our local food system minimises resource use and waste, protects the environment through environmentally sustainable farming practices, organic principles, supporting biodiversity and farm animal welfare - and diets are low impact, with meat and dairy consumption reduced.

12. Access to growing space in the town is increased, with improved knowledge and skills for local people of all ages to produce local food, derived from influence on local planning systems.
13. Locally resource use and waste is minimised through improved management of surplus food and waste.
You can make a difference

10 tips to help you eat more sustainably

1. Move towards a plant based diet
2. Cut food waste
3. Pass on plastic
4. Eat what is in season
5. Grow/cook your own food
6. Donate food to foodbanks or Food Aid services locally
7. Reduce consumption of processed food
8. Buy local
9. Compost
10. Eat less meat, mainly produced organically and with high animal welfare standards
Is a signatory and supporter of
West Northants Sustainable Food Place Charter
Whose goal is to help create a vibrant, fair, healthy and diverse food culture in the area, developing a thriving local, food economy.

Signed: ________________________________

Date: ________________________________

To learn more about this charter or to get involved please email: office@northamptonhopecentre.org.uk
All organisations and individuals are welcome to sign up to the charter – to add your support, please sign, print & display the enclosed Charter or contact us at:

office@northamptonhopecentre.org.uk

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For more information please visit:
www.goodfoodwnorthants.org