



I would like to request the following information on your local authority's knowledge of and involvement with Local Food Partnerships:

A local food partnership ('LFP') is a cross-sector collaboration between local authorities, third sector organizations, businesses, and academics that works to transform local food systems by improving public health, fostering community connection, building diverse local food economies, and addressing sustainability issues. Examples of local food partnerships include '[Bradford Sustainable Food Partnership](#)' and '[Food4Fife](#)'.

1. Does your local authority have any involvement with a local food partnership?
    - a. If yes, what is the name of the local food partnership?
    - b. If yes, what is the nature of the involvement? E.g. does your local authority facilitate meetings, donate money or provide staff time to work on the local food partnership?
    - c. If no, are you looking to establish a local food partnership or cross-sector food strategy?
  2. If your LA supports an LFP financially, what was the value of the financial support provided by the local authority in each of the last three financial years:
    - a. 2022/23
    - b. 2021/22
    - c. 2020/21
  3. How many members of staff are working to support your local food partnership? Please provide:
    - a. The number of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) staff working to support your local food partnership.
- a. Wigan Borough does not have a formalised "Local Food Partnership" however it does have an informal network of local community food providers and other stakeholder services such as the Citizen's Advice Bureau, Welfare Advice team, Debt Management and Public Health representatives which comes together regularly. Within Wigan Borough many of the food providers are local community food pantries, ran by local community or faith organisations.
- b. Meetings are currently facilitated by local authority staff, but agenda setting is agreed by the group.
- c. Key findings from these meetings feed into the Local Authority's Strategic Financial Wellbeing group.
- As stated there is no Local Food Partnership. The local authority has a number of funding streams open to the Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise sector and many of the borough's community food providers have successfully applied for these to support their work.
- Officers from the Local Authority Communities Team support community food providers as part of their role and support from other LA teams such as welfare advice and Public Health is provided as needed.

4. Do young people benefit from the activities of your local food partnership? For example, are they supported by projects run by the food partnership. 'Young people' is defined here as those under 25.

- a. Yes/no
- b. If yes, how many young people are involved?
- c. What is the nature of their involvement?

The Holiday Activities and Food Fund has provided food and activities for children and young people in the school holiday periods. There has been a collaborative approach with community food pantries in the borough to work with activity providers to widen the offer to eligible families.

5. Are young people involved in the strategic development of the food partnership, for example through consultation, co-development or engagement activities that focus on youth voices?

- a. Yes/no
- b. If yes, how many young people are involved?
- c. What is the nature of their involvement?

As stated there is no formal Local Food Partnership