

Lincolnshire Food Partnership

For fairer healthier greener food

Welcome to the November 2020 edition of the Lincolnshire Food Partnership Newsletter.

We've been somewhat silent in September and October, but not because we have nothing to tell you. Rather, it is because we have been so busy as you will see in this issue of the Newsletter. In August we made the decision to go County-wide and rebrand ourselves as the Lincolnshire Food Partnership. We report on the greater scope that this gives us in the first article, below.

We've also been busy helping to develop a membership supermarket for the County and we report on progress with this. A range of funding has been secured for this venture and we are hoping, too, to secure some additional resource from the Towns Fund.

Covid 19 inevitably has been a continuing priority and we outline in this issue the work that we have been undertaking with Bishop Grosseteste University in helping to



distribute Central Government Funding to help this in food poverty at this time.

Outside of our own work, a number of other great initiatives are developing. The 'Peas Please' initiative is looking for veg advocates in the County - details are below.

Another specific project – in Stamford and Grantham – has been addressing food and exercise issues for children, made that bit more difficult by the pandemic. The Move and Food project tackles both of these issues simultaneously.

Finally, we report on a great initiative at Lincoln City Football Club that is taking novel forms of food production into primary schools through the 'Rethink Food' initiative.

In other news, the LFP [mapped](#) the organisations around Lincoln that stepped up to provide food support to children during the half term holidays, including foodbanks, local cafes and takeaways. We also signed Marcus Rashford's petition to ask Government to act on the recommendations of the National Food Strategy, to increase food provision to children. Thankfully, this has now been successful.

There's more local food news on our [blog](#), including conversations with [Alan Wilson](#) from Lincoln Community Larder and [Simon Hoare](#) from Lincoln Foodbank, and ideas for [eating well on a budget](#) from our Food Partner, Veg Out.

Please do contact us if you would like to share your news stories about any aspect of local food – whether it is a growing project, local produce-making and sale, cooking communities or tackling food waste. We would be pleased to showcase your work, no matter how small, in this newsletter.

Our email address is: lincolnfoodpartnership@gmail.com

If you are happy to continue to receive this newsletter and therefore be considered a member of the Lincoln Food Partnership community of interest, you need to do nothing.

If on the other hand you wish to unsubscribe from this newsletter, just email us. Many thanks for your interest

Nigel Curry, Co-chair Lincoln Food Partnership



October 26, 2020

Where can children eat for free in Lincoln?

“ A big thank you to businesses, foodbanks and volunteers around Lincoln who provided food support to children and families this half term. If you would like to ask government to extend provision in time for the Christmas holiday, Marcus Rashford's petition (which is based on recommendations from the [National Food Strategy](#)) is [here](#).

The LFP Goes County-wide

In August, the Board of the LFP resolved to go County-wide. A catalyst was discussions with the Lincolnshire County Council about distributing the Government's Covid 19 emergency food support funding across the County (see below).

This naturally put us in contact with more than 40 food banks and community larders across the County that we could help co-ordinate. There were other reasons too – our work with the County Healthy Weight Group goes beyond the City and involvement with the Local Enterprise Partnership is County-wide too.



Most of our Board members (for example the Lincolnshire Coop) represent the County or different parts of it, and our national body – Sustainable Food Places – gave us active encouragement. The County agriculture and horticulture sector is organised at this level, too, and our input the County Social Economy Strategy has reinforced this scale of thinking.

We intend to serve the County's needs in the best way possible in all matters relating to fairer, healthier and greener food. We would be pleased to hear from you if we can help in any way.

A membership supermarket for the County?

Coronavirus has pushed many people into food poverty. In the August newsletter, for example, we noted that food bank use in the County had risen by 450% between May 2019 and May 2020.

In Lincoln, a partnership approach has been developed to try and tackle this issue with a proposal to open a 'membership' supermarket. In short, people who qualify for

food bank use can access such a supermarket to increase their choice in food support.

The programme is led by the Acts Trust which runs the Lincoln Food Bank, with support from Lincoln Community Larder, Lincoln Mosque and the Mint Lane 'waste food' Café – with the LFP coordinating.

Potential sites for the supermarket are being identified and a number of sources of funding already have been secured.

We are seeking to stock the supermarket at as low cost as possible to allow access to affordable food and we have made great progress talking to County food processors and distributors who have been very positive in their responses to food donations.



If you have any ideas about sourcing food for the supermarket – farm surpluses that would otherwise be ploughed back or composted, processed food that might not be suitable for full retail, retail food that has not been sold, do let us know.

If you can help, please contact Amy Colley: amy@lincolnfoodbank.org.uk

Lincoln Towns Fund: carbon reduction and tackling food poverty

Lincoln is one of 101 Towns identified through the Government Town Deal programme to be invited to submit a Town Investment Plan to secure funding of up to £25m. The objective of the Fund is to drive the sustainable economic regeneration of towns to deliver long term economic and productivity growth.

Two projects are being considered within this Plan that bring food to the fore. The first is the Feeding Tariff, which, if successful, will install solar panels on City centre

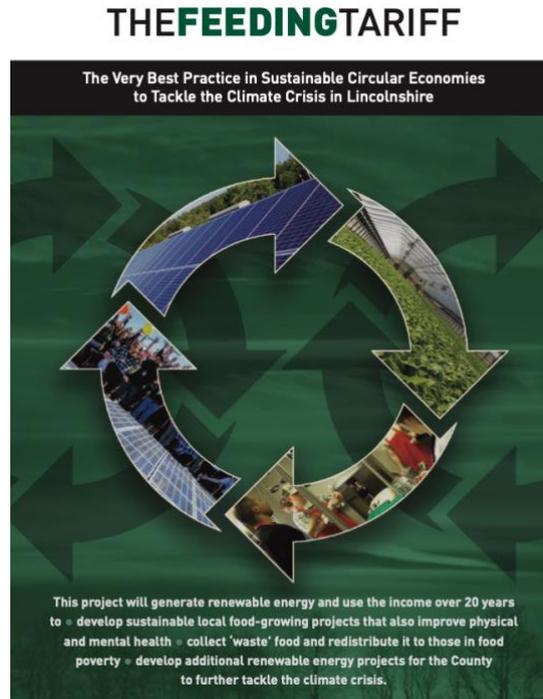
buildings and use the income from them to fund the revenue costs of a range of food projects for 20 or more years.

The second will provide some funding for the membership supermarket, that will make a direct contribution to improving the health (and effectiveness) of the City's workforce.

Whilst the funding is not yet guaranteed, if it does go ahead, these projects offer the potential to put food poverty and carbon reduction firmly on the City's regeneration agenda.

The Town investment plan can be viewed here:

<https://www.lincoln.gov.uk/downloads/file/1018/lincoln-investment-plan-october-2020>



Lincolnshire Emergency Assistance Scheme

The LFP is working with Bishop Grosseteste University to distribute Covid 19 emergency support funding for food and essential services during the pandemic.



Groups in Lincolnshire who support people in food need can apply for grants of up to £5,000 to support their work. The aim is to ensure that vulnerable people within Lincolnshire have improved access to food, and the money may be spent in a

variety of ways to achieve this.

Further information is available here: www.bishopg.ac.uk/foodgrants and applications can be completed here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TJRKBT2>.

A virtual event is to be held at 11am Friday 4th December to discuss this grant fund with you and answer any questions you may have and you can register for this event

at: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lincolnshire-emergency-assistance-scheme-food-grants-information-event-tickets-126248305079>

Grant funding is available in two phases:

Phase 1: 14th October 2020 – 9th December 2020

Phase 2: 10th December 2020 – 10th February 2021

Groups and organisations who successfully apply in Phase 1 are not excluded from making an application for funding in Phase 2.



For more information, contact foodgrants@bishopg.ac.uk.

Become a Veg Advocate!

The Peas Please national initiative aims to get more people eating vegetables, and more organisations to 'up their vegetable game'. It wants Lincolnshire Advocates to champion their vegetable experiences in the County and offer advice.

Local Advocates will engage with food charities to improve dietary inequality, using site visits, vouchers, promotions, research and evaluation. Expenses, reward cards, and certificates are the reward.

If you would like to be an Advocate, you will need up to 10 days available over four years and a commitment to more vegetable eating. There is a short application process.

There is an online Lincolnshire workshop on 17th November 4-6pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/veg-advocate-workshop-lincoln-tickets-126779533999>



The poster is here: <https://lincolnfoodpartnership.org/2020/11/02/veg-advocates/>

For more information, contact Laura at the Lincolnshire Food Partnership: laurastratfordgardens@gmail.com

Move and Food

Inspire+ is a local sports & education charity. It provides healthy exercise and nutritious food for schoolchildren during the school holidays under the 'Move and Food' programme. It has been doing this out of the Bluecoat School in Stamford and with home-based programmes in Grantham.

inspire+

As a Coronavirus response, daily activity challenges are set, and hot meals are provided or delivered, to increase physical activity levels, combat loneliness and improve mental health.

Inspire+'s CEO and Founder Vincent Brittain says that the Coronavirus pandemic has thrown these needs into sharper focus and this has helped secure funding from a number of sources, including Active Lincolnshire, to get this programme off the ground. The hot nutritious meals have been kindly provided by Totemic.



Now that the programme is up and running, there is no reason why it can't continue well beyond the pandemic. Inspire+ can be contacted through www.inspireplus.org.uk.

Rethinking Food at the Lincoln City Football Club

The Lincoln City Foundation is partnering up with Rethink Food to launch a fantastic initiative for local primary schools called the Rethink Food Futures Programme. This introduces children to an alternative method of food production.

The core of this is the Tower Garden which enables schools, organisations, and businesses to grow food year-round. It can increase yields by as much as 30% and triples the speed of growth, while using only 10% of the water and space.



The grow lights on the tower garden, pictured, allow plants to grow indoors all year long. There's less hassle and clean up because it doesn't use soil. You can wheel the tower garden from the classroom to the playground, or the kitchen to the dining room.

If you want to know more about this initiative, there is a virtual event where you can find out more:

<https://www.lincolncityfoundation.com/rethink-food>

Tell a Friend...

If you know of other people or organisations who would like to be involved in the Lincoln Food Partnership, please help to spread the word. Why not start by forwarding this newsletter to them?

If this has been forwarded to you, you can sign up to receive our newsletter directly to your inbox next month [here](#)

Thank you!

Keep an eye out for our next newsletter in December

GDPR Statement

We will hold your details securely and confidentially and only use them for the purposes for which you have supplied them and will delete them when no longer required. We will not share your details with any third parties except with your consent or as required by law.

You can ask us for a copy of your details at any time. Please let us know if any of them change or if you no longer want us to hold them.

Our registered address is 12 Mint Lane, LN1 1UD. **Our mailing address is** lincolnfoodpartnership@gmail.com

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