

National Food Strategy, Public Health and ideas for action

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Credit: pexels-arthouse-studio



sustain
the alliance for better food and farming



Sustain is an alliance of over 100 organisations and communities working together for a better food and farming system.

Sustainable Food Places is a partnership programme led by the Soil Association, Food Matters and Sustain. Our Network brings together over 60 pioneering food partnerships that are driving innovation and best practice on all aspects of healthy and sustainable food.



National Food Strategy

How the recommendations in the NFS link to SFP key issues and what's missing

Government response

Opportunities to influence the White Paper



6 key issues of Sustainable Food Places



Food
Governance
and Strategy



Good Food
Movement



Healthy Food
for All



Sustainable
Food Economy



Catering and
Procurement



Food for the
Planet

Food Governance and Strategy

Recommendation 14 - *Set clear targets and bring in legislation for long-term change.*

“Local Authorities should be required to put in place a food strategy, developed with reference to the goals and metrics set out above, and in partnership with the communities they serve. (Over 50 places are already doing this, with impressive results).”



Good Food Movement

Recommendation 11 - Invest £1 billion in innovation to create a better food system.

“This money should go on a wide range of ideas and initiatives: everything from methane-reducing additives for sheep and cattle, to new agro-ecological techniques, to local initiatives to improve health outcomes in deprived communities.”



Healthy Food for All

Recommendation 1 - *Introduce a sugar and salt reformulation tax. Use some of the revenue to help get fresh fruit and vegetables to low income families.*

Recommendation 4 - *Extend eligibility for Free School Meals.*

Recommendation 5 - *Fund the Holiday Activities and Food programme for the next three years.*

Recommendation 6 - *Expand the Healthy Start scheme.*

Recommendation 7 - *Trial a 'Community Eatwell' programme, supporting those on low incomes to improve their diets (including GP prescriptions).*



Sustainable Food Economy

Recommendation 2 - *Introduce mandatory reporting for large food companies.*

Recommendation 11 - *Invest £1 billion in innovation to create a better food system.*



Catering and Procurement

Recommendation 3 - *Launch a new 'Eat and Learn' initiative for schools.*

Recommendation 13 - *Strengthen government procurement rules to ensure that taxpayer money is spent on healthy and sustainable food.*



Food for the Planet

Recommendation 8 - *Guarantee the budget for agricultural payments until at least 2029 to help farmers transition to more sustainable land use.*

Recommendation 9 - *Create a rural land use framework based on the Three Compartment Model.*



Other recommendations

Recommendation 10 - *Define minimum standards for trade, and a mechanism for protecting them.*

Recommendation 12 - *Create a National Food System Data programme*



Legislative framework for creating a healthier, more sustainable food system

Bill	Provision	For	Duties (except where stated)
Good Food Bill	Health targets	Government	Define long-term health targets and put into secondary legislation
	Action plans and independent reports	Government	Prepare and publish a Good Food Action Plan every five years, which sets out interim food system targets and measures to meet them
		Government	Consult the FSA while developing its Good Food Action Plans
		FSA	Provide a regular Independent progress report to Parliament on the Government's progress against the Good Food Action Plan
		FSA	Consult with the OEP, the CCC and the OHP in drawing up its advice and reports
		OEP, CCC and OHP	Advise the FSA on emerging issues within the remit of each body that are relevant to the scope of the FSA
		Other duties	FSA
	Government		Establish and periodically update a healthy and sustainable Reference Diet, to be used by all public bodies in food-related policy making and procurement
	All public sector organisations		Spend any public money on food in line with specific procurement standards, consistent with the Reference Diet
	Local authorities in England		Develop food strategies, developed with reference to national targets and in partnership with the communities they serve
	Large food businesses		Expand obligation to promote consumer interest to include our collective interest in tackling climate change, nature recovery and health
Finance Bill	Levy	Government	Powers to apply a tax to sugar and salt

What's missing?

- Does not address root causes of food insecurity
- Does not adequately address impact of food on the planet



Government response

“...we are committed to carefully considering the review and its recommendations, and to responding in full with a white paper in the next six months, setting out our ambition and priorities for the food system. These include supporting our exceptional British food and drink producers, and protecting and enhancing the nation’s health and the natural environment for generations to come.”



Opportunities to influence

- White Paper team: FoodStrategyWhitePaper@defra.gov.uk
- Write to your MP
- Public procurement e-action
- Sign up to SFP comms
https://www.sustainablefoodplaces.org/get_involved/
- Follow @FoodPlacesUK





www.foodfortheplanet.org.uk

1 degree of global warming has already occurred, and we are set to pass the 'safe' limit of 1.5 degrees within 2 decades

Relevance for Public Health

- Health inequalities
- A healthy diet is a planet friendly diet
- Access to land for food growing is a planning issue
- Food waste reduction benefits consumers and supply chain



Why local action?

Local action is part of the solution

Local action can support a transition to food and farming systems that deliver healthy and sustainable diets, while supporting the livelihoods of farmers and everyone employed in the food chain

Action on food can help achieve Net Zero in local areas

$\frac{3}{4}$ of all Councils declared a climate emergency

1/3 included food in climate action plan

Food included 'adequately' (13)



UK food system emissions flows

Most emissions are generated at the farm level

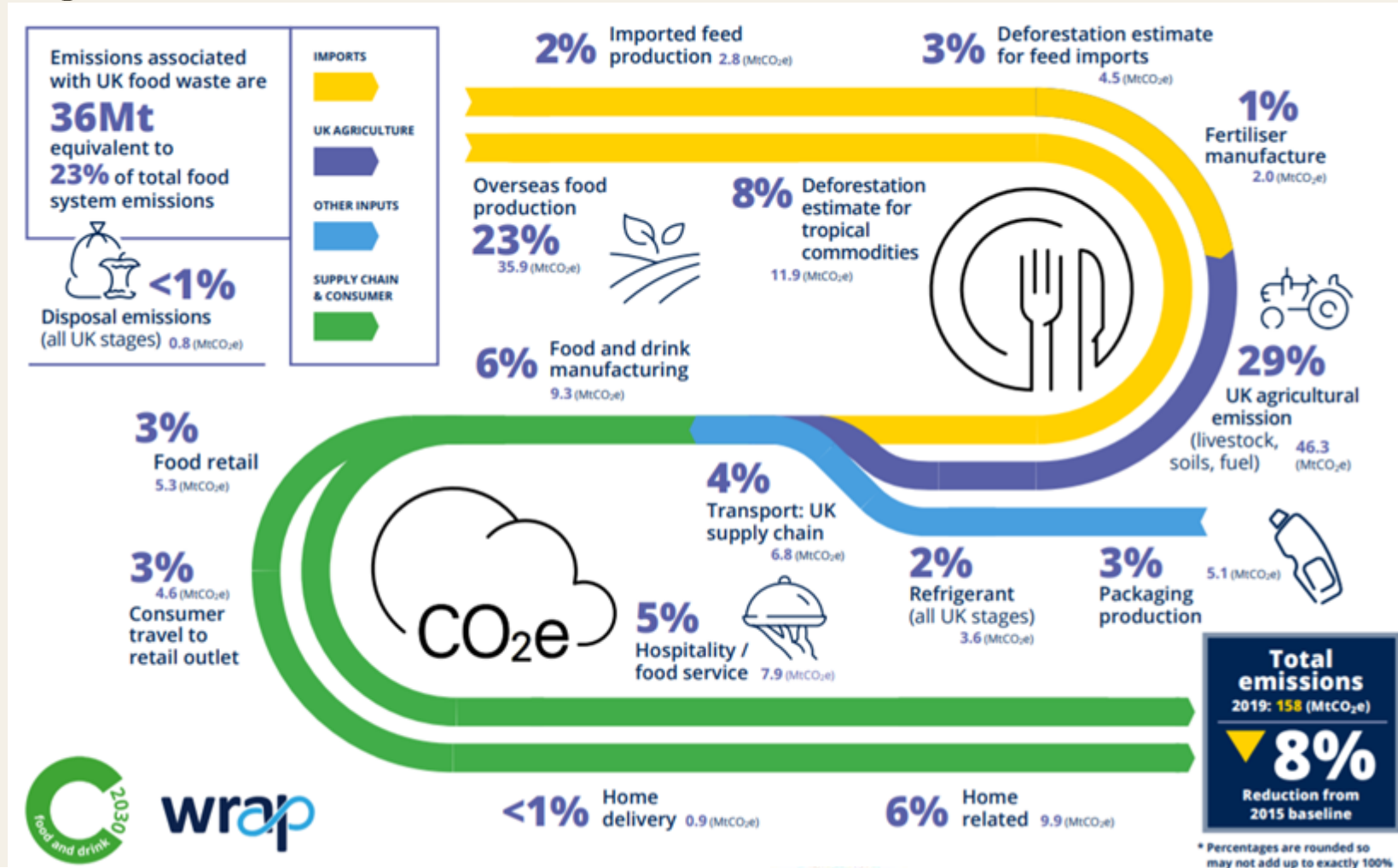
Farm level emissions generate 29% of emissions of the food system

Overseas food production generates 23%





Transport generates only 4%

Packaging generates only 3%

Emissions associated with food waste equivalent to 23% of total



Council's keys in the fight against climate change through food

-  Food for schools, care homes, staff, etc.
-  Land ownership and management
-  Food waste collection and management
-  Support to food businesses



Every Mouthful Counts toolkit for Local Authorities

This toolkit helps councils identify where big emissions savings can be made through food.



Credit: Pixabay, QuinceCreative

Every Mouthful Counts toolkit helps Councils to:

- Identify where big emissions savings can be made through food
- Estimate emissions saved
- Identify co-benefits
- Browse resources and case studies



Are you a **restaurant or cafe**?

Are you committed to serving climate-friendly food?

Sign the Planet Pledge



Are you a **caterer**?

Are you committed to serving climate-friendly food?

Sign the Planet Pledge



Planet Pledge helps caterers and restaurants to:

- Communicate their commitment to the planet
- It requires two mandatory commitments to serve less and better meat and at least four other commitments to ensure that food is freshly prepared, healthy and ethically sourced.





Get Involved

The steps to run a local Food for the Planet campaign

Step 1 – Register your interest in www.foodfortheplanet.org.uk

Step 2 – Gather support and identify priorities

Step 3 – Make a public announcement and celebrate

Step 4 – Keep going!

Share, Share, Share! sfc-subscribe@lists.riseup.net @FoodPlacesUK @UKSustain