



<b>Title</b>	<b>Sustainable Food Places Proposal</b>	
<b>Item Number</b>	<b>6</b>	
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>29 September 2021</b>	
<b>To consider and comment on the following issues:</b>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That Carmarthenshire PSB agree to work with other stakeholders, including the Carmarthenshire Food Network, to develop an application for Carmarthenshire to become a recognised SFP.</li> <li>2. For the PSB Support Team to work with colleagues and stakeholders to develop a Carmarthenshire application to become a member of the SFP movement by the March 2022 application window, outlining how we fulfil the SFP requirements.</li> </ol>		
<b>For Discussion</b>	<b>Decision required?</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Proposed by</b>		
<b>Gwyneth Ayers, PSB Support Team</b>		

# Sustainable Food Place – proposals for Carmarthenshire application

## Background

Following our recent work as a PSB on public sector food procurement, funded through the Welsh Government Foundational Economy Challenge Fund, it was agreed that the Carmarthenshire PSB would develop a shared, strategic approach to food strategy and policy (recommendation from CLES anchor organisations report).

As a result, following discussions with local stakeholders, including the newly established Carmarthenshire Food Network, we would like to propose that the PSB works with other partners and fora to apply for Carmarthenshire to be recognised as a Sustainable Food Place (SFP).

## What is a Sustainable Food Place (SFP)?

[www.sustainablefoodplaces.org](http://www.sustainablefoodplaces.org)

Sustainable Food Places (previously Sustainable Food Cities) is one of the fastest-growing social movements today. The Network brings together pioneering food partnerships from towns, cities, boroughs, districts and counties across the UK that are driving innovation and best practice on all aspects of healthy and sustainable food.

Sustainable Food Places is a partnership programme led by the Soil Association, Food Matters and Sustain: the alliance for better food and farming. It is funded by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and The National Lottery Community Fund.

From obesity and diet-related ill-health to food poverty and waste, climate change and biodiversity loss to declining prosperity and social dislocation, SFP believe food is not only at the heart of some of our greatest problems but is also a vital part of the solution.

Due to the complexity and interconnectedness of these issues, SFP promote a systems approach that involves and connects key actors at all levels and across all parts of the food system. This approach is encapsulated in the six 'key issues' of our framework for action:

- **Food Governance and Strategy:** Taking a strategic and collaborative approach to good food governance and action
- **Good Food Movement:** Building public awareness, active food citizenship and a local good food movement
- **Healthy Food for All:** Tackling food poverty, diet related ill-health and access to affordable healthy food
- **Sustainable Food Economy:** Creating a vibrant, prosperous and diverse sustainable food economy
- **Catering and Procurement:** Transforming catering and procurement and revitalizing local supply chains
- **Food for the Planet:** Tackling the climate and nature emergency through sustainable food and farming and an end to food waste.

SFP believe that food partnerships can drive a fundamental shift in local food culture and the local food system and become the hub of a rapidly growing good food movement of active and engaged citizens.

SFP provide grants, advice and support to enable local food partnerships to drive changes to local policy and practice and to undertake campaigns, practical projects and public engagement initiatives.

As members of the Sustainable Food Places Network, partnerships are committed to sharing their learning and expertise as part of a community of evolving good practice. SFP have also created a national award scheme, based around the framework for action, that benchmarks, motivates and recognises achievement.

In order to become a member, you must be able to evidence that you have the following in place:

- An established cross-sector food partnership with clear terms of reference
- Evidence that your partnership has met regularly for at least 6 months, including minutes of meetings
- A named lead person who is willing to be contacted by other members
- A Food System Overview
- A Food Partnership Work Plan covering the next 6 months.

Food Sense Wales is supporting the development of SFP in Wales and there are currently three counties who are already members (Cardiff, Vale of Glamorgan and Monmouthshire) and a further four areas working towards becoming members (Torfaen, Blaenau Gwent, Rhondda Cynon Taf and North Powys). If Carmarthenshire agrees to work towards becoming members of SFP, we would form a part of this cohort, helping to develop a Wales specific approach and linking to key food system priorities in Wales.

### **Carmarthenshire Food Network**

In June 2021, the Carmarthenshire Food Network was formally launched. The Network, which is facilitated by CAVS, brings together like minded individuals and groups (from the community, public and private sectors) who are working towards ensuring the residents of Carmarthenshire are able to access good, clean and fair food with the skills and knowledge to empower healthier lifestyles towards alleviating food poverty across the county. In a short space of time, the Network has brought together a wide range of stakeholders and a series of cluster groups focusing on matters such as food banks; food share; hot food distribution; food growing; and community support have been established.

### **Recommendations**

1. That Carmarthenshire PSB agree to work with other stakeholders, including the Carmarthenshire Food Network, to develop an application for Carmarthenshire to become a recognised SFP.
2. For the PSB Support Team to work with colleagues and stakeholders to develop a Carmarthenshire application to become a member of the SFP movement by the March 2022 application window, outlining how we fulfil the SFP requirements.