

Appendix 1 - Torbay Council Food Action Plan 2025 – 2026

The Council's Food Action Plan 2025 – 2026 has been developed to support the Council to deliver the ambitions within the Torbay Food Strategy. Recognising that the food system is complex this Plan has been written in an iterative manner, it highlights some of the priority actions required to deliver the Torbay Food Strategy in the first year, however it is not an exhaustive plan to deliver the Torbay Food Strategy as this is a partnership document owned by the Torbay Food Network. It is anticipated that the Plan will be updated annually to reflect changes within the system and, emerging issues. Progress will be monitored through an annual report.

The activity contained within this action plan complements the work that partners within the Torbay Food Network are progressing. It demonstrates the Council's commitment to the Torbay Food Network and to its membership of Sustainable Food Places.

The findings from the recently published Broken Plate report and the key themes of Sustainable Food Places underpin this action plan and have shaped its development. Activities within this action plan are grouped within those following thematic areas:

- **Food Governance and Strategy** - Taking a strategic and collaborative approach to good food governance and action.
- **Good Food Movement** - Building 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 diverse, prosperous and diverse sustainable food economy.
- **Catering and Procurement** - Transforming catering and procurement and revitalizing local and sustainable food supply chains.
- **Food for the Planet** - Tackling the climate and nature emergency through sustainable food and farming and an end to food waste.

Activity included within this action plan is underpinned by a commitment to inclusion which is shaped by Sustainable Food Places, Race, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (REDI) initiative.

Food Governance and Strategy

Taking a strategic, joined up and collaborative approach to governance and food systems change is important.

This section of the action plans focuses on the interactions that the Council have between individuals and organisations across every sector. It explores how the Council will work with its partners at every level, from voluntary and community sector organisations, to businesses, public and council leaders. Throughout this section there is an emphasis on the Torbay Food Network recognising that a strong cross-sector food partnership is key to achieving change within the food system.

Action Number	Outcome	Action	Thematic Area	Lead	Deadline	Success measure
1.	The Torbay Food Network is active and creating positive change and provide an opportunity for test and learn.	Work with partners to support and grow the Torbay Food Network.	Food Governance and Strategy	Public Health	September 2025	A range of partners join the Torbay Food Network.
2.	The Torbay Food Network is active and creating positive change and provide an	Work with partners to refresh the Torbay Food Network's terms of reference and embed a governance	Food Governance and Strategy	Public Health	September 2025	The terms of reference have been reviewed and learning is embedded into

	opportunity for test and learn.	model to support a test and learn approach.				the governance process.
3.	The learning and achievements of the Food Network are celebrated and shared.	Draft and publish an annual report which highlights the progress that the Torbay Food Network has made.	Food Governance and Strategy	Public Health	March 2026	Publication of annual report

Good Food Movement

To drive a shift towards healthier and more sustainable food requires increasing public awareness of food issues and participation in food-related activity by both individuals and institutions.

This section of the action plan explores how we can achieve this through communications and events that can inspire people about the role, importance and joy of good food as part of a local good food movement.

4.	Local residents have the opportunity to grow fresh food locally.	As part of strategic management of Council greenspace, map and allocate community plots where a neighbourhood growing programme model can be tested and further established at speed.	Good Food Movement	Public Health	October 2025	Residents have the opportunity to grow fresh food locally.
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5.	Residents have access to white goods	Raise awareness of white good provision and cooking utensils.	Good Food Movement	Public Health	March 2026	White goods provided
6.	We encourage people to breastfeed and share its benefits.	Promote breast feeding friendly places in the Bay.	Good Food Movement	Public Health	Ongoing	Breastfeeding rates increase.
7.	We understand where it is possible for communities to grow.	Map potential community growing spaces to inform a Torbay wide approach to community growing.	Good Food Movement	Public Health	September 2025	Community growing plots are identified.
8.	Local residents have the opportunity to grow fresh food locally.	Develop Wild Fox Play area in Foxhole to act as a learning site for the growing community in Foxhole, enabling the local community to take up the local neighbourhood plot opportunities.	Good Food Movement	Play Torbay, Public Health, Torbay Communities SWISCo	September 2025	Residents have the opportunity to grow fresh food locally.

9.	We understand food resources across the Bay	Explore current available data to identify where food resources are located using iTree.	Good Food Movement	Climate Team	September 2025	We have a list of food resources within the Bay.
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Healthy Food for All

Everyone should be able to have access to healthy affordable food.

This section of the action plan explores how we can increase access to healthy affordable food in Torbay. Key to achieving is ensuring that people who are at risk of going hungry can access nutritious food while also working to address the underlying causes of food poverty. This includes raising awareness of what constitutes a healthy diet and giving people the skills, resources and support needed to feed themselves well as well as providing a holistic wrap around support offer.

10.	Support is available for people experiencing food insecurity	We continue to support the Torbay Food Alliance and provide a sustainable food support for those experiencing financial difficulty.	Healthy Food For All	Public Health	Ongoing	Emergency food provision is in place.
11.	We promote healthier food environments	Review planning policy to further support limiting the location of fast-food outlets and hot food takeaways in certain locations	Healthy Food For All	Spatial Planning	April 2026	Local planning guidance is maximising its potential to support establishing

		though the Local Plan update and refresh of the Healthy Torbay Supplementary Planning Document.				healthier food environments
12.	We support families to access free school meals.	Explore how the Council can maximise the uptake of free-school meals.	Healthy food for all	Children's Services	March 2026	Increase in the number of families receiving free school meals in Torbay
13.	We encourage the advertising of healthy food.	Explore how the Council can encourage healthy food consumption through the application of an unhealthy food policy on Council owned assets.	Healthy food for all	Public Health	December 2025	We have a functional policy in place

Catering and Procurement and Sustainable Economy

Creating a diverse, prosperous and diverse sustainable food economy and transforming catering and procurement and revitalizing local and sustainable food supply chains.

This section of the action plan explores how we can promote healthy food through working in partnership with local businesses to promote a sustainable local economy. It also explores how we can promote healthy food through our procurement and catering practices through doing so it is possible not only to improve the eating habits of many thousands of people but also to create the large-scale demand for healthy, sustainable and local food needed to underpin a fundamental shift in the food production and supply system.

14.	We use our purchasing power to promote sustainability.	Embed food sustainability within relevant procurement documents.	Catering and procurement	Procurement Team	March 2026	We have a functional policy in place.
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Food for the Planet

Tackling the climate and nature emergency through sustainable food and farming is key.

This section of the action plan explores how we reduce food waste and support people to eat a diet that supports the planet. Key to achieving is transforming what, how and where food is produced and consumed to help minimise any negative impacts on the climate and biodiversity.

15.	Children are supported to enjoy eating vegetables	Deliver the Veg Power's 'Growing to Love' programme in partnership with schools.	Food for the Planet	Public Health	Summe 2025	Engagement from schools and children.
16.	Awareness of the importance of reducing food waste and sustainability increased across the Bay.	Engage with residents, young people and schools to raise awareness of the importance of food waste reduction and recycling.	Food for the Planet	SWISCO	Ongoing	Communication campaign delivered. Engagement sessions are delivered.
17.	Food waste is reduced across the Bay.	Provide food waste collection across the Bay for residents in line with government legislative changes.	Food for the Planet	SWISCO	April 2026	Food waste is reduced long term.