

# Local Food Project Highbury College

By Megan Saunders,
Project Coordinator
Megan.saunders@highbury.ac.uk



#### A little about me...

- Community nutrition background
- Underlying policy problems
- MSc Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture



- Real Food Store, Exeter
- Coordinator of Highbury College Local Food Project
- Working towards a tastier future for all in the South East!



#### What is Sustainability?

Broad concept

No one correct definition

• Think about food across 5 thematic areas:

health and wellbeing,

environmental sustainability,

local economic prosperity,

 resilient communities (skills and access to assets),

fairness in the food chain



### What is 'Local Food'?



- No one definition
- Can mean different things to different people
- 5 miles, 30 miles, 100 miles?!
- Organic or industrial?
- Fresh or processed?









#### The Project

- EU funded through INTERREG
- Jan 2013 June 2015
- DEAL Project (Développement économique par l'alimentation locale or Economic Development through Local Food)
- Match funded by Highbury College, Portsmouth
- 11 project
   partners between
   Southern England
   and Northern France





#### **Aims and Objectives**

## "Support sustainable economic development through thriving local food economies."

- Understand the context and the challenges on both sides of the Channel
- Identify good practice
- Develop joint and transferable methods for research and diagnosis of current supply and demand
- Implement awareness raising actions and training to key local stakeholders
- Work with the supply chain, helping to prepare producers and other suppliers to meet the growing demand

# How is Highbury supporting this project?

- Leader of outcomes related to training
  - Students
  - Community and families
  - Policy makers
  - Producers, artisans and food businesses
  - Food Service Industry







#### Why Training?

- Awareness
- Knowledge

- Skill
- Behaviour change



#### Food Mapping feedback so far...

- Need for a good local bakery for cafes to source from
- Local poultry is a huge problem
- Issues with consistency of local produce
- Logistic issues with local suppliers often a barrier
- Need for more information on local suppliers
- Not always a desire to source produce locally
- Others recognise increase in customer demand
- Convenience to order from smallest number of suppliers possible

#### What's happened?













#### **Catering Student Visits**





"I've never been this close to a cow before!" – Level 3 Catering student



#### Sustainable Food Cities Partnership

- National network launched August 2013
- Cross-sector partnerships; public sector, businesses, community groups, 3<sup>rd</sup> sector, academia
- Creating an action plan; sustainable supply chains, public sector food, community food, food knowledge and skills
- Getting food higher up the agenda. Sharing the messages that food drives positive social, environmental and economic change
- 2014 support on procurement. Sustainable Fish City campaign.

better food and farming

#### The partnership in your area

- Portsmouth launch July 2013
- City-wide although considering surrounding work and opportunities
- + 30 cross-sector attendees
- x3 working groups about food and health:
  - Education and Training,
  - Marketing and Communication,
  - Economy and Enterprise
- September working group sessions

#### **Actions Identified**

- Increased and better access to local food
- Increased promotion and support for local, independent businesses
- Include sustainable food focus in curriculum
- Support growing groups to recruit new members
- Provide every child with an opportunity to have a countryside experience
- Support organisations to work together on over-arching city-wide food and health aims

#### How can you get involved?

- Horticultural Society
- Tuppenny Barn Organics
- Hampshire Farmer's Market
- Emsworth Produce Market
- Farm shops at Southbourne and Stansted House
- Independent food stores/butchers/fishmongers/bakers/green grocers
- Emsworth Cookery School
- Let's Get Cooking school clubs
- Restaurants and cafes supporting local and seasonal menus



#### Further Reading

- www.sustainablefoodcities.org
- www.foodplymouth.org
- www.schoolfoodplan.com
- Brighton and Hove Food Partnership Food Strategy
- A Steak in the Economy, 2013
- Good Food For London report, 2013
- Food Matters Building Local Food Systems:
   A Handbook
- Campaign to Protect Rural England, Mapping Local Food Webs Toolkit



# Codd

- 1- buy it with thought
- 2-cook it with care
- 3-use less wheat & meat
- 4-buy local foods
- 5- serve just enough
- 6-use what is left

don't waste its

U.S. FOOD ADMINISTRATION



## Thank you for listening!



Any questions?

