Tameside Metropolitan Borough

Tameside Integrated Care Partnership

TAMESIDE FOOD PARTNERSHIP

Tameside Good Food Plan

Strategic Framework for Action 2024-2028

Supporting Tameside's Ambition to Build Back Fairer, Stronger, Together

J006105

Introduction

Tameside aims to be a place where everyone can access good quality, healthy, affordable food; where we enjoy a healthy diet and where the food in the borough is produced and sourced locally and responsibly; in turn this supports the local economy and helps to sustain the environment.

Food brings communities together, celebrating different food cultures and promoting cohesion through food. The Tameside Good Food Plan highlights how all partners within the Tameside Food Partnership and Tameside Council are working hard to support residents and the environment to become healthier. This plan supports the Healthy Places Strategic Framework which advocates for a whole system approach to health improvement and working in an integrated way to address the most common risk factors for poor health in our borough. The Tameside Food Partnership will provide a focus for community, voluntary, and faith organisations to work with the public sector to realise the overall aim of the Tameside Food Good Food Plan – to improve our health and wellbeing.

The Tameside Good Food Plan identifies six key strategic objectives to be addressed to improve the food system which aim to achieve better outcomes for the people of Tameside and our local environment. The six key strategic objectives align to the Sustainable Food Places Key Issues and have been widely consulted on with partners, stakeholders, community groups and the residents of Tameside.

Despite the increase in low-cost food production and affordability, 15% of Tameside residents are food insecure[1]. Food poverty significantly impacts peoples' health, wellbeing, and mental health. The commercial determinants of health put a spotlight on how the food environment through promotion of foods high in fat, salt, and sugar and accessibility of low-cost and unhealthy food has negatively impacted on both people and the planet. Escaping the junk-food cycle is one way to protect our NHS and local health and social care system.

Evidence shows that actions that targeting individual behaviours are unlikely to be successful in reducing health-related inequalities so, change across the whole system is required to address the economic, social, and commercial determinants of health that make it harder to eat a healthy diet.

The Tameside Good Food Plan aims to identify tangible ways to improve the food system locally using partners, businesses, and the voices of residents to improve access to healthy and affordable food for people in Tameside. Each objective will have an iterative Action Plan which drives forward the actions to work towards a healthy and sustainable food environment across Tameside that supports, people and the environment.

Food

Vision:

Work in partnership with public, private and voluntary sectors and communities in Tameside to create a food environment, system and culture that promotes health, stimulates the local economy, benefits communities and reduces environmental impact.

Our 6 strategic objectives:

To make the supply and consumption of affordable healthy and sustainable food the norm.

To address and reduce food poverty.

Promote community food knowledge, skills and resources.

Develop a vibrant and diverse sustainable food economy.

Increase healthy and sustainable catering and procurement.

Reduce waste and the ecological footprint of the system.

To make the supply and consumption of affordable healthy and sustainable food the norm

We are shaped by the environment around us, and this can influence the decisions we make and the impact this has on us. Having limited access to healthy food can negatively impact on people's health and subsequently, can result in people accessing unhealthy food.

It is well evidenced that a healthy and nutritious diet enables children to have the best start in life. Babies who are breastfed are less likely to develop diabetes, have fewer infections and a lower risk of becoming obese[2]. Starting babies and children off with good and healthy nutrition early, in an environment that supports healthy nutrition can help shape positive outcomes and reduce food-related ill-health as they grow and develop.

The gap between the most and least deprived living with obesity is growing[3] and living a deprived area is a risk factor for unhealthy weight. Diets high in fat, salt and sugar can lead to living with unhealthy weight.

Evidence has found that people in more deprived areas and disadvantaged groups are exposed unhealthy food outlets and increased advertising for unhealthy food and drink than the least deprived and disadvantaged[4]. This can further increase gap between food related health inequalities.

The Tameside Healthy Places Consultation found that:

- 80% of respondents would like to choose food options that were not ultra-processed and over 70% of respondents wanted to choose healthier food options when out and about in Tameside.
- Just under 52% said being tempted by less healthy food options stops them from eating healthier.
- 58% of respondents thought there was too much advertising of unhealthy food.

Food-related ill health is a serious issue in Tameside and rates of unhealthy weight increase with age. 10.9% of reception age children are and 24% of year 6 children are overweight or obese. 69.2% of adults in Tameside are overweight or obese[5].

Tameside's Good Food Plan Objective 1 Key Priorities:

- Develop a communications and campaigns plan to support national, regional and local campaigns on healthy eating which covers all Tameside's Good Food Plan's six strategic objectives.
- Continue to commit and prioritise promotion of Healthy Start to embed healthy food habits in early years.
- Work towards future-proofing Tameside against promotion of High Fat, Salt and Sugar and ultra-processed products on council owned estate.

To address and reduce food poverty

Everyone should be able to afford to eat healthily every day. Essential to this is to ensure those at risk of going hungry or suffering from malnutrition are able to access an adequate and nutritious diet whilst working to address the underlying causes of food poverty. The Food Foundation Broken Plate Report 2023 found that affordability plays a major role in determining the food that people purchase and consume. For many a healthy diet is out of reach and less appealing as it is the more expensive option. The most deprived fifth of the population would need to spend 50% of their disposable income to meet the cost of the Government recommended healthy diet, compared to 11% for the least deprived fifth[6].

A GM resident survey cited 32% of 659 people in Tameside had cut the size of meals or skipped meals[7]. 12,976 food parcels were distributed by Trussell Trust foodbanks in Tameside in 2020-21[8].

24.9%[9] of children in Tameside are living in low-income households. Households with children are most likely to be food insecure and more so for families with children under the age of four[10].

The Tameside Healthy Places Consultation found that:

- Over 60% said they find healthier foods too expensive.
- Over 45% said they are on a budget and need to choose unhealthier food than they would like.

This objective aims to work towards build resilience, improve access to healthy and sustainable food to improve the health and wellbeing of residents.

Tameside's Good Food Plan Objective 2 Key Priorities:

- Promote the effective use of the Tameside Money Advice Referral Tool within organisations and professionals who support people in poverty, to support conversations about financial issues and address the underlying causes through effective referrals for support.
- Explore new ways to increase uptake of Free School Meals in Tameside.
- Ensure information is available to enable residents to access food-related support such as Healthy Start, Free School Meals, Food Hubs, Pantries and Foodbanks.
- Build on the 'Helping Hand' campaign to deliver targeted support to communities identified as most at risk of food poverty, using data and community knowledge to inform delivery.

Promote community food knowledge, skills and resources

This objective aims to inspire, encourage and guide individuals, communities and organisations to work towards making positive food changes to increase food knowledge, skills and resources through information sharing and localised projects in Tameside.

Food knowledge and skills is not something that we are born with, and the knowledge and skills people have about food is largely influenced by their experiences and the people and environment around them. It is important to acknowledge that people often access what is available to them, therefore buying and making unhealthy and unsustainable food is not a choice for many, some may not have the knowledge, skills or confidence to buy and make healthy and sustainable food.

Positive food change can be enabled through grassroots action and innovation. Tameside has many projects that support residents and communities to build knowledge and skills around food and to pass this on to our future generations such as training for professionals and volunteers, community cooking courses, recipe cards, food and energy saving information resources.

The majority of respondents of the Tameside Healthy Places Consultation survey wanted to make healthier and more sustainable food options however, the increase in accessibility of ready meals, unhealthy food outlets and lack of time to learn and develop food knowledge and skills can all contribute to residents lacking the confidence to access and make healthier and more food.

Tameside's Good Food Plan Objective 3 Key Priorities:

- Support residents to understand and be confident in all stages of food consumption from shopping, preparation, cooking, storing and recycling food waste, whilst recognising the challenges lifestyle/behaviour change and how the environment influences people.
- Support Tameside's Care Leavers to be well-equipped with good food knowledge and skills ready to embrace adulthood.
- Promote and encourage community food growing projects.

Develop a vibrant and diverse sustainable food economy

This objective aims to influence a healthier and more sustainable food environment across Tameside that is vibrant, diverse and celebrates food. All aspects of the journey food takes to get from farm to fork is linked to the food economy, through people and places from food production, food retailers, food purchasing by consumers and disposal of food. A sustainable food economy and resilient food supply chains that produces and distributes local food, creates local jobs, lowers the risk of food insecurity and price hikes and encourages a healthier diet with less consumption of animal and processed food is key to reduce healthcare costs and inequality locally and globally[11].

Every £1 spent with a small or medium-sized business 63p remains within the local economy. Every £10 spent with a local independent shop creates an additional £50 back into the local economy because local shop owners put that money back into the economy by using local shops, restaurants, and services[12]. To build a thriving and vibrant food economy we must consider all stages that food goes through.

The Tameside Healthy Places Consultation found that over 60% of respondents found it easy to have fast food, snacks or drinks delivered to their home. As 39% of responses said there were too many takeaways and 38% said junk and fast food is too available and accessible in Tameside. The Hyde Masterplan consultation found that Hyde residents and business owners want to see more local fresh food produce (88%) and street food traders (73%) in their town[13].

The increasing consumption of out-of-home meals is an important contributing factor to rising levels of obesity. One fifth of children eat food out-of-home food outlets at least once a week and these meals can often be higher in fat, salt and sugar and lower levels of nutritional value[14]. Having a food offer that is healthy and sustainable as well as easily accessible and affordable means buying food that supports both the people and the plant becomes easier for all.

Tameside's Good Food Plan Objective 4 Key Priorities:

- Review Tameside's Catering Award, taking learning from other local authorities and looking to implement a refreshed catering award to Tameside businesses.
- Will encourage affordable, healthy and sustainable food options in particular in areas of deprivation and limited access to healthy and sustainable food e.g., through community-led initiatives and working with local food businesses and providers.
- Will support the planning team to explore the restriction the numbers of hot food takeaways selling foods high in fat salt and sugar, particularly in areas of deprivation and areas with high levels of childhood obesity through the development of the new Local Plan.
- Work towards having healthier and more sustainable convenience food offers in Tameside, through reviewing the vending machine food and drink offer across TMBC estate and partners estate.

Increase healthy and sustainable catering and procurement

Healthier and more sustainable procurement practices across Tameside will lay the foundations to make accessing healthier options the default for the health and wellbeing of residents, the economy and the environment.

When people in Tameside attend places like nurseries, schools, colleges, hospital, leisure centres and residential homes the food options they available to them are often predetermined. Healthier and more sustainable options are only on the menu if the setting procured it in the first place.

The ways which businesses, workplaces and institutions procure, provide and serve food can have a significant impact on health. Encouraging places that procure food, do so in a way that considers and delivers healthier and sustainable options supports residents to access food that benefits them as well as the environment around food.

Tameside's Children's Nutrition Team offers courses, training and award schemes to children and young people's settings across the borough to celebrate their achievements in promoting healthy eating, such as the Food4Life in Schools Award and the Nutrition and Oral Health Award for carers under 5's for any early years setting in Tameside who provides snacks and meals. Whilst there is a dedicated team to support children's settings to provide healthy food, there are many other locations where Tameside residents of all ages attend and are provided with food. Encouraging food settings in both the public and private sector, to access and achieve award schemes to work towards to improve their food offer, is one way to improve the food environment locally.

We recognise we need to support children, families and all residents to have healthier options available meaning, good food needs to be on the menu to start with and we want Tameside's food system to work for both the people and the planet.

Tameside's Good Food Plan Objective 5 Key Priorities:

- Review Tameside's Catering Award and take learning from other local authorities catering awards and look to implement refreshed new catering award to Tameside premises, schools and childcare settings that provide food.
- Engage and encourage children and young people's settings to work towards the Children's Nutrition Teams Award/ revised Tameside Catering Schemes.
- Review the membership and recruit experts working in this area to the Tameside Food Partnership to ensure the agenda for change on healthy and sustainable food can be driven forward.

Reduce waste and the ecological footprint of the system

All the food we purchase and consume has had a journey from farmer or producer to our plate. The food system is complex and not only impacts the environment but also the health and wellbeing of residents and economic development. Every aspect of the food system has the potential to cause harm however, system change can bring about meaningful impact e.g., moving to locally sourced and organic production and procurement and reducing plastic packaging as well as the decisions made by consumers about the kind of food we choose to eat, in particular how much meat and dairy we consume, has a major impact across the system.

Millions of tonnes of food is wasted in the UK every year, by both the food industry and people, yet at the same time millions of people are struggling to afford to eat[15]. Food waste occurs at all stages in the supply chain of food from production, manufacturing, retail and household level. 65% of food waste happens at 'consumer stage'[16] and households produce around 7 million tonnes of food is wasted every year[17].

Wasted food not only highlights the ethical implications food waste at a time when some experience food insecurity, but food waste also negatively impacts our environment, when food waste goes to a landfill site, it rots and releases methane which is a powerful greenhouse gas. Empowering residents to participate in reducing food waste and to support appropriate recycling of food waste by providing clear, easily understood communications to households is vital.

The Tameside Healthy Places Consultation found that:

- Around 75% of respondents would like to choose more sustainable and environmentally friendly food.

Tameside's Good Food Plan Objective 6 Key Priorities:

- The Tameside Food Partnership will raise public, business and organisational awareness of ways to reduce food and drink related waste e.g., promotion of national 'Love Food Hate Waste' campaign, reduce single-use plastic water bottles and reusing shopping bags.
- The Tameside Food Partnership will continue to promote the Refill scheme in Tameside and hold a month of action to encourage more locations to become a Refill Station to support the reduction of single-use plastic bottles and hydration on the go.
- Engage with communities in flats to establish the best way to encourage participation in recycling food waste and collect food waste from them.
- Roll out of Food Waste Collections to the remaining 12,000 properties (flats and properties on rural/narrow access rounds) by March 2026.

Governance and Measuring Success:

The Health and Wellbeing Board is a statutory committee that oversees the Healthy Places Framework as part of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Locality Plan. Tameside's Good Food Plan builds on the Healthy Places Framework and will be overseen by the Healthy Places Sub Group and accountable to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

The Tameside Food Partnership takes a joined up strategic and collaborative approach to good, healthy and sustainable food and action to achieve this. The Tameside Food Partnership is a strong cross-sector partnership that is ever evolving to inspire and work towards to be a place that encompasses 'good food', this is backed by the Tameside Good Food Plan and it's action plans.

The Tameside Food Partnership will drive the delivery of each action plan within Tameside's Good Food Plan to inspire and bring about change. Updating the action plans will be the responsibility of the Tameside Food Steering Group, with support from the Tameside Food Partnership who deliver and implement actions as a collective.

Tameside's Good Food Plan Governance Priorities:

- Develop a diverse Tameside Food Partnership membership with members who align to one or more strategic objectives.
- Apply for Sustainable Food Places Bronze Award status in 2025/26.
- Provide regular reports to the Healthy Places Sub Group and the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- To work towards the ambition for the Tameside Food Partnership to be community owned and led.

How will we know when we have been successful?

- Achieved Sustainable Food Places Bronze Award.
- Development and delivery of new catering award for Tameside.
- Reduction in child overweight and obesity prevalence against National Child Measurement Programme data.
- Reduction in adult overweight and obesity prevalence from Public Health Fingertips data.
- Increase in Healthy Start uptake.
- Increased breastfeeding initiation and continuation rate.

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OBJECTIVE 1 ACTION PLAN: PROPOSED **To make the supply and consumption of affordable healthy and sustainable food the norm**					
Action	**Tasks**	**Links to other objectives**	**Timescales**	**Partnership Delivery Mechanism**	**Healthy Places Strategic Framework Alignment**
Develop Tameside Food Partnership Communications Plan to amplify healthy and sustainable eating campaigns to support residents understanding and knowledge on ways to eat healthier and more sustainably.	Develop a communications plan that covers all six strategic objectives where possible. Key campaigns over these objectives include: • Veg Please campaign • Breastfeeding Victories • BiteBack Campaigns • Be Well Tameside • CNT • One Pot At A Time • Kind To Teeth • GULP • Oral health campaigns • NHS.uk Healthier Families • Healthy Start • Refill Scheme • Love Food Hate Waste • National Food Waste Week Look to explore with NHS Greater Manchester the development of information and awareness communications on the 'real cost' of the food system – taking learning from tobacco awareness campaigns.	All	September 2024	Public Health Food Lead, TMBC Communications & Tameside Food Partnership	System Leadership and Partnerships (Education and campaigns & use of evidence)

Influence and support services in Tameside that provide food to residents in their care to ensure food is healthy and nutritious.	Support health and social care services and the wider workforce to use a MECC approach to improve nutrition and hydration for people in Tameside through embedding and delivery of the Nutrition and Hydration Toolkit by Food Active. • Care homes • Education • Homecare providers • Social services • Disability support services	Objective 5		Public Health, Social Care & Commissioned Services	Role Modelling Change (Influencing through commissioning) System Leadership and Partnerships (Education and campaigns, voluntary agreements and incentives & use of evidence)
	Promote the Children's Nutrition Team offer amongst education settings, foster carers and children's settings.	Objective 3 & 5	Ongoing – will be within development of TFP Communications Plan	Children's Nutrition Team, and Public Health Food and Starting Well Lead & Tameside Food Partnership	System Leadership and Partnerships (Education and campaigns & use of evidence)
Proactively enable and support people in Tameside to access information, education and support on heathy eating, healthy weight and healthy cooking	Promote Be Well Tameside to support residents to be equipped with the knowledge to eat well and achieve and maintain a healthy weight.		Ongoing – will be within development of TFP Communications Plan	Be Well Tameside & Tameside Food Partnership	System Leadership and Partnerships (Education and campaigns & use of evidence)
	Promote the Children's Nutrition Team offer amongst parents and carers, to support a family-centred approach to healthy eating, healthy weight and healthy cooking.	Objective 3	Ongoing – will be within development of TFP Communications Plan	Children's Nutrition Team, and Public Health Food and Starting Well Leads & Tameside Food Partnership	
	Public Health and Children's Nutrition Team to utilise NCMP data to target support to schools amongst the top 10% of children with unhealthy weight to ensure whole school approach to food.	Objective 2	March 2025	Children's Nutrition Team, and Public Health Food and Starting Well Lead	

	Explore refresh of Children's Nutrition Team resources and branding. Look to build a social movement around healthy and sustainable school food with Tameside schools		June 2025	Children's Nutrition Team, and Public Health Food and Starting Well Lead	
	Promote NHS.uk Healthier Families content to increase awareness and access of: • Healthier food shops • 10 minute shake up • Sugar calculator		Within development of TFP Communications Plan	Children's Nutrition Team, and Public Health Food and Starting Well Leads & Tameside Food Partnership	
	Provide information and advice that builds on the Helping Hands: One Pot at a Time resource, to enable informed food choices, that benefits the resident's health and finances as well as the environment.	Objective 2, 3 & 6	Ongoing – will be within development of TFP Communications Plan	Tameside Food Partnership, Children's Nutrition Team & Public Health	
	Evaluate the slow cooker project to understand impact this had on healthy eating and behaviour change	Objective 2 & 6	Regularly monitored currently – full evaluation will take place once resources run out and when project ends.	Public Health	System Leadership and Partnerships (Use of evidence)

Embed healthy and sustainable nutrition in pregnancy and early childhood	Ensure representation within the Infant Feeding Management Group to support embedding good nutrition for the best start in life	Objective 2	Ongoing	Public Health Food and Starting Well Leads & Infant Feeding Management Group	Role Modelling Change (Influencing through commissioning and buildings and spaces) System Leadership and Partnerships (Education and campaigns, voluntary agreements and incentives & use of evidence)
	Support the local strategy on breastfeeding to support nutritious and low-cost way to feed babies and infants for parents who are able to.	Objective 2	Ongoing	Public Health Food and Starting Well Leads & Infant Feeding Management Group	
	Support Baby Welcome Scheme through promotion with food businesses across Tameside via Employment and Skills, as well as through food businesses who are awarded L2 food hygiene training and future revised catering award for Tameside to encourage more food businesses to be breastfeeding friendly	Objective 4	Will be ongoing	Public Health Food and Starting Well Leads, Environmental Health & Tameside Food Steering Group Strategic Lead 4.	
	Promote the Healthy Start scheme to embed healthy food behaviours early on in children's lives. Ensure Healthy Start is included as mandatory questions within assessments across key services who engage with families e.g., children's services and early help assessments, social housing. Ensure healthy start is promoted through key services who engage with families e.g., birth registration service, maternity and antenatal service health visiting, family hubs, nurseries, foodbanks. Food pantries, social housing etc.	Objective 2	Ongoing	Public Health, Tameside Food Partnership, Welfare Rights, Foodbanks and Food Pantries and other cross-sector service and professionals	System Leadership and Partnerships (Education and campaigns & use of evidence)

	Ensure healthy start is promoted through key services who engage with families e.g., birth registration service, maternity and antenatal service health visiting, family hubs, nurseries, foodbanks. Food pantries, social housing etc.				
	Deliver Healthy Start Training and Information sessions to any public, private or voluntary sector CYP services in Tameside to increase awareness and promotion.	Objective 2	Annual monitoring.	Public Health Food Lead	
	Increase uptake of the Healthy Start scheme in Tameside to local target of 70% Continue to monitor Healthy Start uptake.	Objective 2	Quarterly monitoring.	Public Health Food Lead	
	To increase access of the Healthy Start scheme across Tameside market traders and food pantries who sell Healthy Start food and milk.	Objective 2 & 4	Annual monitoring.	Public Health Food Lead, Tameside Food Steering Group Strategic Lead 2 and 4.	
	Work towards influencing Tameside services that support children and families, in particular low-income/ vulnerable families, are prepared and empowered to have conversations with families about food and nutrition. Services may include: • HomeStart • Health Visitors • School Nurses • Early Help and Family Hubs	Objective 2	March 2028	Public Health Food and Starting Well Leads &	

Future-proof Tameside against commercial determinants of the health through unhealthy advertising on council-owned advertising estate.	Work towards influencing policy and practice that future-proofs Tameside residents from being exposed to unhealthy food advertising or future advertising on council owned estate.	Objective 2 & 4	Annually By March 2028	Public Health Food Lead & Planning	Role Modelling Change (Building and Spaces), System Leadership and Partnerships (Education and campaigns, voluntary agreements and incentives & use of evidence), Legislative responsibilities and enforcement (planning and community safety)
Push and advocate for health considerations within national, regional and local consultations, both strategically and publicly on takeaways and advertising	Tameside Food Partnership members will support and advocate for health considerations to be included within consultation responses – in particular for consultations on takeaways and advertising.	Objective 2 & 4	As and when	TMBC & Tameside Food Partnership	Legislative responsibilities and enforcement (planning and community safety)
Explore adopting the Healthy Weight Declaration within Tameside MBC and for Partner Pledges.	Influence the development of the Healthy Weight Declaration for TMBC. If implemented influence three Partner Pledges.		Awaiting direction.	TMBC	Role Modelling Change (buildings and spaces) System Leadership and Partnerships (Education and campaigns, voluntary agreements and incentives & use of evidence)

OBJECTIVE 2 ACTION PLAN: PROPOSED To address and reduce food poverty					
Action	**Tasks**	**Links to other objectives**	**Timescales**	**Partnership Delivery Mechanism**	**Healthy Places Strategic Framework Alignment**
Raise awareness of food poverty and food insecurity in Tameside	Develop food insecurity resources and roll out to support professionals, volunteers and residents to know where to get practical support with a focus on prevention related to food poverty and food insecurity e.g., support from Welfare Rights and accessing Healthy Start and Free School Meals. • Link in with Social Housing Providers to promote any support they offer via their residents e.g., money advice team. • Roll out Money Advice Referral Tool to support people experiencing food poverty, to support conversations about financial insecurity and address the underlying causes • Include web based resources such as Helping Hands	Objective 1	December 2024	Public Health Food Lead & Tameside Food Steering Group Strategic Lead 2 (Welfare Rights and Poverty Prevention Manager)	System Leadership and Partnerships (Education and campaigns, voluntary agreements and incentives & use of evidence)
	Maintain Tameside's foodbanks and food pantry online resource to support residents, professionals and volunteers to access food support.	Objective 1	Ongoing	Public Health Food Lead & Tameside Food Steering Group Strategic Lead 2 (Welfare Rights and Poverty Prevention Manager)	
Gain a better understanding of food poverty in Tameside through surveying, data collection and other engagement and consultation	Influence Policy Team to ensure any food or poverty related consultations and surveys include questions to improve understanding of food poverty and food insecurity within Tameside		To be ongoing	Public Health Food Lead, Tameside Food Steering Group & Tameside Policy Team	

Explore ways to increase uptake of Free School Meals (means tested from year 3 onwards)	Engage with other local authorities to understand ways they have worked to increase awareness of Free School Meals and ways they have increased uptake. Develop communications to raise awareness and uptake of means-tested Free School Meals in Tameside. Work with social housing providers to deliver targeted work for families in social housing to encourage them to access Free School Meals.	Objective 1	October 2024 June 2025 June 2025	Public Health Food Lead & Public Health Starting Well Lead	
Explore delivery of welfare rights advice in food pantries to provide income maximisation advice	Contact food pantries to scope out the provision of advice within pantries and/or establish referral pathways to appropriate providers for income maximisation advice Develop a delivery model to support users of food pantries	Objective 1 & 4	December 2024 February 2025	Tameside Food Steering Group Strategic Lead 2 (Welfare Rights and Poverty Prevention Manager)	
Develop a pathway to move people from reliance on foodbanks through to support via a food pantry	Engage with foodbanks and pantries to explore how people can be supported to move on from foodbank reliance to support via food pantries Develop a pathway to support people with the most appropriate level of food support	Objective 1 & 4	August 2024 December 2024	Tameside Food Steering Group Strategic Lead 2 (Welfare Rights and Poverty Prevention Manager)	
Explore feasibility to roll out slow cooker project and support organisations across Tameside to deliver their own slow cooker project if requested.	Understand impact of the Slow Cooker Project from the evaluation and explore funding opportunities to continue delivery of project (or at a smaller scale). Support organisations and grass-roots groups in Tameside to set up their own slow cooker project to deliver through community based groups and services.	Objective 1 & 3	Regularly monitored currently – full evaluation will take place once resources run out and when project ends. As and when support requested.	Tameside Food Steering Group Strategic Lead 2 (Welfare Rights and Poverty Prevention Manager) Public Health Food Lead	

Raise awareness of discounts to maximise income including how to apply e.g. Winter Fuel Payment, Warm Home Discount, Cold Weather Payments, energy provider discretionary funds.	Continue to promote the Helping Hands initiative and hold specific campaigns throughout the year to raise awareness of specific discounts and benefits to maximise income		Ongoing	Tameside Food Steering Group Strategic Lead 2 (Welfare Rights and Poverty Prevention Manager) and Tameside MBC Communications lead	
Explore feasibility of advice in schools and Family Hubs to provide support to families experiencing or at risk of food insecurity	Engage with other Local Authorities to understand ways in which families can be supported within school settings. Work with colleagues in Childrens services, to deliver advice within each of the four family hubs to support families with advice, including income maximisation and to refer to debt advice where appropriate		August 2024	Welfare Rights and Poverty Prevention Manager	Role Modelling Change (influencing through commissioning & buildings and spaces)
Deliver welfare rights benefits training to front line staff and volunteers to support residents in financial difficulty	Develop a suite of training to support front line staff around income maximisation, basic benefits, and where/ when to refer Deliver training to relevant front line council staff and relevant community and voluntary sector partner organisations in Tameside who provide support to people in financial difficulty		August 2024 December 2024	Welfare Rights and Poverty Prevention Manager	System Leadership and Partnerships (Education and campaigns, voluntary agreements and incentives & use of evidence)

OBJECTIVE 3 ACTION PLAN: PROPOSED Promote community food knowledge, skills and resources					
Action	**Tasks**	**Links to other objectives**	**Timescales**	**Partnership Delivery Mechanism**	**Healthy Places Strategic Framework Alignment**
Increase awareness of community-based and grass-roots food projects across Tameside	Complete mapping exercise on cooking sessions across Tameside with public information on how to access, for promotion through Tameside Food Partnership, Action Together Newsletter and other channels.	Objective 1	October 2024 – to be reviewed as and when.	Tameside Food Steering Group Strategic Lead 3 (Action Together) & Tameside Food Partnership	Role Modelling Change (buildings and spaces) System Leadership and Partnerships (Education and campaigns, voluntary agreements and incentives & use of evidence)
	Operation Farm to develop Community Cooking Toolkit to be distributed to local community kitchens and cafés	Objective 1, 2, & 6	Spring 2025	Operation Farm & Children's Nutrition Team	
	Promote community food growing spaces through Action Together Newsletter, the Tameside Food Partnership mailing list and any other channels.	Objective 6	As and when	Tameside Food Steering Group Strategic Lead 3 (Action Together) & Tameside Food Partnership	
Promote and encourage professionals and volunteers working with families to access Children's Nutrition Team food training session	Promote and share information of CNT training sessions with voluntary sector services who work with children e.g., teams within social housing who deliver cooking sessions and link directly to residents to support them with conversations about healthy eating. The Children's Nutrition Team will support care leavers professionals to transition care leavers they support into adulthood with good food knowledge and skills. The Children's Nutrition Team will explore feasibility of delivering bespoke sessions to care leavers.	Objective 1 & 2	Ongoing	Tameside Food Steering Group Strategic Lead 3 (Action Together) & Tameside Food Partnership	System Leadership and Partnerships: (education and campaigns)

Encourage community food growing projects and encourage residents to access	Map food growing projects across Tameside and produce online resource to promote	Objective 1, 2 & 6	January 2025	Tameside Food Steering Group Strategic Lead 3 (Action Together) & Tameside Food Partnership	
	Operation Farm community food growing toolkit and Abundance Training on collecting and redistributing surplus fruit – these to be distributed and promoted to community allotments, orchids, new or existing groups to support community food growing.	Objective 1, 2, & 6	Spring 2025	Operation Farm	
	Create a resource to encourage and support early years and children and young people's venues to deliver growing activities • Promotion of Operation Farm and other available toolkits	Objective 1 & 6	Spring 2025	Tameside Food Steering Group Strategic Lead 3 (Action Together), Operation Farm? & Tameside Food Partnership & Public Health Starting Well Lead	
	Work towards encouraging food growing provision is considered within new planning for housing estates in Tameside through championing policies in the Local Plan that encourage healthy lifestyles, such as opportunities to grow food within housing applications. Explore community food growing within social housing. Community gardens and allotments – Droylsden etc. and look to build space and support from residents to develop community food growing spaces where they live.	Objective 1, 2, 4 & 6	March 2026 and annually from then on March 2025	Public Health Food Lead & TMBC Planning Team	Role Modelling Change (buildings and spaces), System Leadership and Partnerships (Education and campaigns, voluntary agreements and incentives & use of evidence(, Legislative responsibilities and enforcement (planning and community safety)

OBJECTIVE 4 ACTION PLAN: PROPOSED Develop a vibrant and diverse sustainable food economy					
Action	**Tasks**	**Links to other objectives**	**Timescales**	**Partnership Delivery Mechanism**	**Healthy Places Strategic Framework Alignment**
Explore other local authorities awards for healthy and sustainable food offers and plan to implement across Tameside.	Acquire learning of best practice on catering awards for Tameside to adopt and promote with Tameside food businesses – covering both health and sustainability within the award. Promote future Tameside Catering Award to all newly and previously awarded food hygiene rated businesses. Promote and celebrate food businesses that have achieved the revised catering award through local communications. Explore social housing providers who sell food within community venues to adopt the Catering Award to ensure community meal provision is healthy and sustainable.	Objective 1	March 2025 Once award has been established	Public Health Food Lead, Environmental Health, Children's Nutrition Team & Tameside Food Steering Group Lead 4	Role Modelling Change (buildings and spaces) System Leadership and Partnerships (Education and campaigns, voluntary agreements and incentives & use of evidence)
Work towards having a healthier and more sustainable food offer across Tameside estates vending machines	Explore policies and ways to influence ensuing vending machines across TMBC and Partners estate provide healthy options. • Jigsaw.	Objective 1 & 5	March 2026	Public Health Food Lead, Children's Nutrition Team, Environmental Health & Robertson's	
Promote businesses selling healthy and sustainable food across Tameside	Explore the development of a map to promote local market traders that provide healthy food through sustainable practices.	Objective 1 & 6	March 2025	Environmental Health & Tameside Food Steering Group Lead 4	
	Encourage Tameside's Market Street Fest events to have healthy and sustainable food offered from their trade.	Objective 1 & 6	October 2024	Tameside Food Steering Group Lead 4	

Encourage five local food businesses to become members of the Tameside Food Partnership.	Approach and encourage food businesses to become members of the Tameside Food Partnership to support representation of Tameside businesses and take forward health and sustainability actions to set good example to other businesses	All	March 2025	All Tameside Food Steering Group Leads	System Leadership and Partnerships (Education and campaigns, voluntary agreements and incentives & use of evidence)
Establish closer working-relationship between Public Health and Planning to influence approach to responding to planning applications for hot food takeaways	Influence planning department to ensure health is considered for planning applications of food-related businesses, through championing policies in the Local Plan that encourage healthy lifestyles, such as opportunities for consideration of restrictive policies to avoid clusters of hot food takeaways. Work with planning department to develop all relevant guidance and practices to halt or reduce the number of hot food takeaways in Tameside.	Objective 1, 2 and 6	March 2026 March 2026	Public Health Food Lead, Tameside Food Steering Group Lead 4 & TMBC Planning	Legislative responsibilities and enforcement (planning and community safety)
Explore with Employment and Skills department the feasibility of promoting and encouraging food businesses to get Living Wage accreditation.	Work with Employment and Skills to understand ways of encouraging Tameside food businesses to achieve Living Wage accreditation.	Objective 2	October 2024	Public Health Food Lead, Tameside Food Steering Group Lead 4 & Employment and Skills	Role Modelling Change (buildings and spaces) System Leadership and Partnerships (Education and campaigns, voluntary agreements and incentives & use of evidence)

OBJECTIVE 5 ACTION PLAN: PROPOSED Increase healthy and sustainable catering and procurement					
Action	**Tasks**	**Links to other objectives**	**Timescales**	**Partnership Delivery Mechanism**	**Healthy Places Strategic Framework Alignment**
Explore other local authorities awards for healthy and sustainable food offers and plan to implement across Tameside.	Acquire learning of best practice on catering awards for Tameside to adopt and promote with Tameside premises that provide food e.g., community service providers, childcare settings etc. – covering both health and sustainability within the award. Promote and celebrate food premises and childcare settings that have achieved either the revised Tameside Catering Award or Children's Nutrition Team Food4Life Award through local communications. Promote the Catering Award to social housing locations that provide food to residents in-house such as Beatrix House to ensure food provided is healthy and sustainable by default.	Objective 1 & 4	March 2025 Once award has been established	Public Health Food & Starting Well Leads, Environmental Health, Children's Nutrition Team, Tameside Food Steering Group Lead 5 and TMBC communications	Role Modelling Change (buildings and spaces) System Leadership and Partnerships (Education and campaigns, voluntary agreements and incentives & use of evidence)
Understand school meals catering and procurement process to influence healthier and more sustainable food procurement	Develop an audit tool for schools and Governing Boards to review school food internally and offer support to settings who do not meet the standards. Deliver communications for: • Education Boards and Senior Leaders to ensure understanding on Government School Food Standards and ensure Governing Boards are aware of their responsibilities to ensure standards are met. • School Food Providers to ensure the meals they provide meet school food standards. Work with school food providers in Tameside to ensure the food they provide meet the School Food Standards and they support Tameside schools to ensue any school changes are in-line with School Food Standards. Better understand school catering procurement cycles to influence healthier and more sustainable school food catering.	Objective 1 & 2	July 2024 December 2024 April 2025 July 2025 July 2025	Public Health Food & Staring Well Leads & Children's Nutrition Team	Role Modelling Change (influencing through commissioning), System Leadership and Partnerships (Education and campaigns, voluntary agreements and incentives & use of evidence)

Work with STAR procurement to ensure food procurement within TMBC considers health and sustainability.	Establish connection with STAR procurement to understand the importance of healthy and sustainable food procurement to be included through commissioning and procurement.	Objective 1	November 2024	Public Health Food Lead, TMBC Commissioning & STAR Procurement	Role Modelling Change (influencing through commissioning), System Leadership and Partnerships (Education and campaigns, voluntary agreements and incentives & use of evidence)
Explore benchmarking of sustainability for Tameside	Work towards any food-related awards/catering awards reflect sustainability through Sustainable Food Places guidance.	Objective 6	As and when	Public Health Food Lead, Operation Farm	System Leadership and Partnerships (Education and campaigns, voluntary agreements and incentives & use of evidence)

OBJECTIVE 6 ACTION PLAN: PROPOSED Reduce waste and the ecological footprint of the system					
Action	**Tasks**	**Links to other objectives**	**Timescales**	**Partnership Delivery Mechanism**	**Healthy Places Strategic Framework Alignment**
Deliver food related waste reduction schemes across Tameside	Promote Kitchen Call Out scheme across Tameside and commit to kitchen disposal points across TMBC estate and other partner estate e.g., social housing.	Objective 2 & 3	March 2025	Public Health Food Lead & Tameside Food Steering Group Lead 2, 5 & 6	System Leadership and Partnerships (Education and campaigns, voluntary agreements and incentives & use of evidence)
	Promote Refill Scheme across the borough and increase number of Refill Stations. Explore social housing community venues to become Refill Stations.	TFP Objective 1 & Part of reducing Single Use Plastics (SUP)	Ongoing	Tameside Food Partnership & Tameside Waste Services with GMCA	
Promote shopping locally to reduce food miles	Promote local markets and green grocers. Develop and promote the Good Food Map to support residents to be aware of ways to shop in a more sustainable way.	Objective 4 Objective 2 & 4	March 2025	Tameside Food Steering Group Lead 2 & 6	
Support national, regional and local campaigns that promote reducing food waste and the recycling of food waste becoming the social norm in Tameside	Promote and educate households on how to avoid food waste e.g., through leftovers and making the most out of food through promotion of national, regional and local campaigns e.g., Love Food Hate Waste and One Pot At A Time booklet.	TFP Objective 2 & Waste Minimisation	Ongoing	TMBC Waste Services & Working with Recycle for GM, WRAP Love Food, Hate Waste Campaign	
	Roll out of weekly food waste collections to all properties as part of the Government's Simpler Recycling agenda.	Increasing TMBC recycling rate	March 2026	TMBC Waste Services, Central Government, GMCA & WRAP	
	Promote and educate households on recycling for food waste	Objective 1, 2 & 3 & Increasing TMBC recycling rate	Annually	TMBC Waste Services	System Leadership and Partnerships (Education and campaigns, voluntary agreements and incentives & use of evidence)

	Promote and amplify Love Food Hate Waste campaign annually.	Objective 1, 2 & 3 & Waste minimisation, increasing our recycling rate	Annually	TMBC Waste Services & Working with Recycle for GM, WRAP	
	Promote and amplify National Food Waste Week annually.	Waste minimisation, increasing our recycling rate	Usually March each year	TMBC Waste Services & Working with Recycle for GM, WRAP	
	Hold a month of action to promote the Refill Scheme across Tameside.	Objective 1 & Part of reducing Single Use Plastics (SUP)	Annually	Public Health, TMBC Waste Services & Work with GMCA	
Support and educate residents to practice sustainable food-related shopping	Ensure practical food waste education and information is featured within the Helping Hands: One Pot At A Time resource to support residents to make the most out of food, reduce food waste and when food waste is unavoidable understand how to recycle food waste	Waste minimisation, increasing our recycling rate	Ongoing	Tameside Food Partnership, TMBC Waste Services & Working with Recycle for GM	
Promote apps that support reducing food waste	Promote use of consumer-facing apps such as Olio, Too Good To Go and The Company Shop as alternative low cost options to purchasing food whilst reducing food waste.	Objective 2	March 2025	TMBC Waste Services & TMBC Communications	
Tameside Public Health to ensure representation on the Tameside Environment Strategy Action Plan	Public Health to continue work within the Tameside Environment Strategy Action Plan and ensure food related waste is identified as actions.		Ongoing	Public Health Food Lead	

Ensure the continued effectiveness of food waste collection schemes for residential dwellings and businesses across Tameside	Roll out of weekly food waste collections to all properties and businesses as part of the Government's Simpler Recycling agenda		March 2026	Central Government, GMCA, WRAP	Legislative responsibilities and enforcement (planning and community safety)
	As part of Government's Simpler Recycling agenda offer chargeable food waste collections to business with 10 FTE or more.		March 2025	Central Government, GMCA, WRAP	
	As part of Government's Simpler Recycling agenda offer chargeable food waste collections to business with less than 10 FTE		March 2027	Central Government, GMCA, WRAP	
Reduce food-related waste with businesses in Tameside	Encourage Tameside businesses to sign up to apps that aim to reduce food waste e.g., Olio and Too Good To Go	Objective 2	March 2026	TMBC Waste Services	System Leadership and Partnerships (Education and campaigns, voluntary agreements and incentives & use of evidence)