

FM13 Ideas for FM 14 Groups

Public: Policy / Regulatory / Campaigns

- National level
 - Cooking and growing in the national curriculum
 - DEFRA backing for organic
 - Import tariffs on food which can be grown locally
 - Land tax (e.g. Australia) for private (mis)use of agricultural land
 - Public procurement of local sustainable food*
 - Ban on GM crops and food*
 - Policy
 - Every organisation to have a local food policy/strategy (nurseries, colleges, university, workplaces, hospitals)*
 - Policy on healthy and sustainable food*
 - National food and farming policy & return of the Agricultural Training Board (min wage for growers)

- Local level
 - Council-quota for local growing
 - Policy
 - On landscape planting: new trees/shrubs planted in public spaces to be edible
 - Planning policy in support of local growing
 - From commercial growing in farm belt to doorstep growers
 - Ban on developing Grade 1 or 2 land (national?)

- Transparency
 - A carbon rating on food
 - Labelling of food mileage & GM

- Campaigns (could be national and local)
 - Reduce plastic packaging
 - Decrease food waste
 - Eliminate food poverty
 - Encourage local food

Growing

- Support and subsidies
 - Interest-free loans for organic start-ups and community projects

- Land ideas
 - Mapping of disused land and strategy for land reclamation
 - More LA land to be used for growing
 - More growing spaces (allotments and communal); local authority requirement
 - Improved soil quality

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- A viable career option where profits are more equitably distributed
 - Union or co-op for growers
 - Manchester Veg People as main distributor
 - More market gardens

- Non-commercial growing
 - Schools and youth centres to have allotments/growing spaces
 - Growing within care institutions

- Support with equipment
 - Open source tractors
 - Locally-made machinery for production

- Sustainable production of fish and meat

- Organic
 - Government-funded research on organic growing
 - Promotion and support of organic certification

- Hydroponics in disused city spaces

Distribution / Access

- Convenient access by all to locally grown produce
 - Distribution at workplaces, local shops, restaurants
 - Whole foods shop in every ward
 - Utilise sustainable transport; use canals
 - Local shops prioritised by local authorities
 - Supermarket hegemony highly regulated

- Economics
 - Cheaper prices for organic

- Goal: 50% of food consumed in Greater Manchester grown locally
- De-carbonised distribution
- More cooperation and collaboration / linked-up distribution

Awareness raising

- Foci
 - Economic benefits: Less lawns = more space for food
 - Wildlife benefits: rising bee populations

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- promoted by gardens and green roofs
- Health benefits
- Environmental benefits

- Types of actions
 - Compulsory food growing for councillors and teachers
 - High profile events (e.g. grower for a week)
 - Celebrity support
 - On-going (e.g. Meat free Mondays in schools, workplaces)
 - Events to increase footfall in public growing spaces

Education / Skills / Community / Sharing & Networking

- Ideas for schools and youth centres
 - Prioritise cooking and growing (pupils and parents)
 - Food economics, environmental impact and seasonality also in the curriculum
 - Parents involved in school meal planning

- Sharing & Networking
 - Lessons learned
 - Integrated network of growers & suppliers
 - Establishment of a Gtr Manchester seed bank
 - Database of what's being grown and what is for sale
 - Schools/allotments develop partnerships/exchanges around food/growing
 - Sustainable Food Cities Conference

- Community
 - More opportunities to involve disabled people, homeless and marginalised
 - Stronger links with ethnic communities around food