

Food vision: logic diagram



Food situation now

Barriers from the consumer's point of view:

1. Cost: local food is perceived as being too expensive, land for growing food is expensive.
2. Availability: limited variety and quantity locally produced food. Labelling not precise.
3. Lack of time: to source local food, to plant and tend to food gardens.
4. Lack of ownership: of land for food growing or allotments.
5. Existing Policy / regulations: restrictive land use policies in the local plan, licensing and restrictions when setting up local markets.

Barriers from the farmer's point of view:

1. Agriculture systems, subsidies and ethos pull them towards large scale, specialised production for supermarkets or grain merchants.
2. Huge overheads to pay for the land/machinery.
3. Merchants/ supermarkets tell them what to grow.
4. Meat hygiene regulations makes it difficult to access local markets.
5. Supermarket protocols.
6. There is no easy access to local markets.
7. lack of local processing facilities.
8. extra costs of being organic.

Barriers from the fishermen's point of view:

1. Fish Merchants dictate what they do.
2. Large overheads for boats, gear, petrol, licences, insurance.
3. Small fisheries affected by the large boats (no fishing for fish out of Dunbar because of the over fishing by Large boats coming in from elsewhere).
4. There is no easy access to local markets.

Overall situation is:

1. Farmers are not set up to produce local food.
2. Complete disconnection between local needs and local production.
3. Agriculture is completely dependent on cheap oil.
4. All barley goes to malting.
5. Wheat goes for biscuits and animal feed.
6. Demand for feeding intensive livestock system is high.
7. Agriculture is grant and subsidy driven.
8. The whole food supply chain is dependent on cheap oil.
9. Nutritional value of food is low.
10. Soil fertility is low.

Aim Evidence

- 600+ local people throughout ward 7 have indicated that they want to be able to eat locally grown produced food but feel that the existing barriers do not make it easy for them to do so.

- Interviews with local farmers and Fishermen.
- Interviews with ELC.
- Research into published and unpublished information.

By 2025 we are more locally resilient because we are able to eat locally grown and produced food using 50% less fossil fuels than we do in 2010

Actions

What needs to be done?

What resources are needed to be able to make change?

Policy Legislation EL SOA Incentives Grants Researchers
ELC staff Farmers Teachers Public demand

- Ensure that local food production and consumption is part of the EL Single Outcome Agreement.
- Ensure the EL SOA shapes enabling policies.
- Ensure ELCCP develops and implements a Local Food Policy.
- Identify the constraints and opportunities which exist in ELCCP Planning Policy.
- Make it easier for people to access land for food growing.
- Identify the barriers to Landowners to enable people to grow food on their land.
- Find ways to reconnect growers and consumers e.g. need more precise labelling.
- Create opportunities for education and skills training in food growing and land care.
- Set up pilot demonstration local food production projects.
- Analysis of local food needs.
- Understand the barriers that exist to local food processing.
- Understand what the barriers are to low input farming.
- Get a better understanding of the current local fisheries situation and local market barriers.

ELC Consumers Farmers Fishermen Businesses

Participation

Who needs to be involved?

Assumptions

East Lothian Community Planning Partnership will agree and align:

- Policy will be enabling and in place
- Joined up planning

Legislation will be enforcing positive change.

Farmers and consumers will be welcoming of this change.

Funding will be available to enable Research, Technology and Skills Development.

SESPlan and Government Climate Change Delivery Plan will include Food relocalisation.

External Factors

What will make this work:

East Lothian Community Planning Partnership will have:

- Supportive and enabling policies in place
- Joined up Planning

Legislation will be enforcing positive change
Farmers and consumers are welcoming of this change.

Funding is available to enable Research, Technology and Skills Development

What will make this not work:

East Lothian Community Planning Partnership do not have:

- Supportive and enabling policies in place
- Joined up Planning

No Legislation to enforce positive change.
Farmers and consumers are not welcoming of this change.

Funding is not available to enable Research, Technology and Skills Development.

Local food Milestones

Short term - 5 years

- Local food production and consumption is part of the ELC Single Outcome Agreement.
- ELC has a Local Food Policy
- Constraints and opportunities have been identified in ELC Planning Policy.
- The issues preventing Landowners renting their land to people to grow food have been identified.
- A local action plan for connecting growers and consumers exists.
- Understanding of local food needs and how much land is required to meet them and what gaps there are to local production.
- Local food labelling.

Medium term - 10 years

- Subsidies drive sustainable, relocalised food production.
- SOA shapes enabling policies.
- It is easier for people to access land for food growing.
- There are opportunities for education and skills training in food growing and land care.
- Pilot projects are set up to demonstrate local food production.
- We understand the barriers that exist to local food processing e.g. abattoirs, dairies, and fish.
- We are able to eat locally caught fish.

Long term - 15+ years

- Change to smaller scale mixed farming.
- Full range of Local processing facilities exist.
- Change to alternative and organic methods.
- Change to on farm energy sources.
- Change to Sustainable local fishery.
- we are able to eat locally grown and produced food using 50% less fossil fuels.**