



Working for sustainable and healthy food for all in Exeter

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Food Exeter is recruiting

Deadline 5th April 2019

About Food Exeter

Food Exeter is an innovative multi-organisation partnership set up in 2016, and a member of the Sustainable Food Cities Network (<http://sustainablefoodcities.org/>) and Food Power (<https://www.sustainweb.org/foodpower/>).

Our aim is to ensure nutritious, affordable, local, sustainably-produced food is available for everyone in Exeter. We support the development of a localised, sustainable food system and to tackle the issues of food poverty, diet-related ill health, food waste and unsustainable farming practices. Our focus is on achieving strategic, step change across the city.

We have charitable objects and our application to the Charity Commission for approval as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) is currently undergoing assessment. We are currently an unincorporated association.

We are led by a Steering Group with representation from academics, food producers and retailers, Exeter City Council, community organisations and Public Health. Over seventy organisations, business and individuals form a network of support.

Over the past year we have been working to strengthen the role of Food Exeter as a facilitating, enabling organisation across our themes of increasing access to good quality, healthy food and increasing local food supplies. We have had a strong focus on researching and collecting evidence around food poverty, raising this as a local issue, organising a food poverty summit and seeking collaborative cross-city solutions. Building on this work, our focus for the next year is on the following key objectives:

1. **Support the establishment of one or more 'Community Food Hubs' in a neighbourhood of Exeter.** These will improve local access to good quality, healthy and affordable food, through offering a range of food-focused activities and services that respond to local need and interest. These would be pilots testing whether they could be replicated in other areas.

2. **Work with partners to look for cross-city solutions that deliver fair access to food, whilst keeping food poverty in the spotlight.** Food Exeter has put food poverty and poor access to nutritious food firmly on the map as an Exeter issue. We want to sustain this momentum, and seek ways for this to tie in with our broader aspirations around increasing sustainable and locally sourced food in Exeter.
3. **Continue to strengthen Food Exeter as a facilitating, enabling organisation** that exposes city-wide issues relating to food and health, environment and poverty, and helps broker city-wide solutions
4. **Explore the creation of a new Local Food Centre** for the city, generating more reliable markets for organic and environmentally conscious local producers, and improved access for large-scale customers and individual consumers; (this objective is not related to this recruitment process, but is included here for information)

What we are looking for

We are looking for a motivated, confident candidate to work with us, and our existing communications and admin worker to:

- **Coordinate the work of Food Exeter**
 - Provide effective organisational oversight
 - Represent Food Exeter at key meetings
 - Work closely with the Food Exeter Steering Group to plan and deliver our objectives
 - Support and develop the Food Exeter Network through regular communications, networking and by facilitating collaborations
 - Support our transition to CIO status
 - Report to and collaborate with funders as required
 - Develop funding bids for our core and project specific work as required
- **Work with local community centres/organisations to establish and support one or more pilot community food hubs**, to improve access to nutritious, local food. We envision these will offer a mix of activities and services such as: cooking and growing activities; group or affordable buying schemes; community meals or cafes.
 - Continue our mapping work to ensure a strong understanding of current community food work in Exeter and identify gaps
 - Work closely with existing organisations and communities to further develop local work in line with community interest and need
 - Facilitate sharing of resources and organisational expertise, broker relationships between delivery organisations
 - Develop plans and share learning and recommendations for the creation of a replicable model

- **Work with partners to look for cross-city solutions that deliver fair access to food, whilst keeping food poverty in the spotlight**
 - Build on our work to highlight food poverty and ensure it is an issue that remains in the public eye
 - Find effective ways to bring together passionate and influential actors to seek strategic solutions
 - Support cross-city work which moves us towards more systemic solutions and away from 'hand to mouth' temporary sticking plaster projects

Skills and Experience

- Project management experience
- Excellent organisational skills and attention to detail
- Strong interpersonal and networking skills
- Creative and strategic thinker
- Ability to work collaboratively and transparently with team members
- Ability to support and facilitate the work of partner organisations
- Experience of multi-sector partnership working
- Confident presenting to different audiences
- Excellent communications and marketing skills
- Strong IT skills
- Flexibility and pragmatism
- Experience working within communities and delivering change at a local level
- A passion for creating an equitable food system for people and the environment

Working package

- This is a **consultancy contract**, with a day rate of £150
- We have funding for an average of 2.5 days/week over 9 months, worked flexibly according to need. Funding for the role must be spent by March 2020
- The successful applicant will be working with a small Executive Group acting on behalf of the Steering Group, our Fair Access to Food working group, and an existing communications and admin worker.
- This is a **home-based role** as Food Exeter has no office. However, St Sidwell's Community Centre, a partner organisation, offers a handy local place for meetings

The recruitment process

If you are interested, please email admin@foodexeter.org.uk with the following:

- a brief CV
- A short letter, no more than a side of A4, explaining why you are applying for this work and what you can offer in relation to the tasks and skills outlined

We will then approach candidates who match our requirements, to have a more in-depth discussion around how they can meet the needs of Food Exeter.