Levelling Up White Paper: A few reflections

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= an overarching narrative or ‘story’

“a plan to transform the UK by spreading [i.e. redistributing] opportunity and prosperity to all parts of it.”

= funding stream
3 top tips

• Whether big agenda or funding…. use the language of levelling up!
• Levelling Up will be a challenge for local authorities (& govt) to delivery – be part of the solution for them
• Reframe your activity - It’s easier to be opportunistic if you are ready
• Food is in there! Reference to National Food Strategy – and Food Strategy White Paper promised soon
• Pilot monitoring of school food standards
• School food education including support for food teachers and governors
• Pilot of Community Eat Well programme, enabling GPs to prescribe exercise and healthy food
• A more localised approach to skills – with more employer input
• 12 national ‘missions’ – including high level inequality – with measurement – this is a bit of a ‘carrier bag’ (health, wellbeing, pride in place, education, employment & productivity, transport, home ownership.... ) which may suit local food strategy approach
7. By 2030, the gap in Healthy Life Expectancy (HLE) between local areas where it is highest and lowest will have narrowed, and by 2035 HLE will rise by 5 years.

8. By 2030, well-being will have improved in every area of the UK, with the gap between top performing and other areas closing.
White Paper on Food – could do better

• Very much a ‘pilot’ approach “…a small handful of exciting new announcements. But the reality is that a much greater policy focus on improving the food system will be needed if the Government is to successfully achieve the levelling up goals that it has set itself” – Food Foundation

• No specific measure that references food or even food insecurity – and concerns about ambition for Food White Paper
Further info

• Sustain: https://www.sustainweb.org/blogs/feb22-levelling-up-obesity-down/

• Food Foundation:

Thank you

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