Food Resilient London

Mapping our community assets

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Food Resilient London

Agenda:

- **Welcome** - Lula Wattam, Sustain
- **Project overview** - Vera Zakharov, Sustain
- **London Resilience** - Kristen Guida
- **Kingsley Hall** - Nathan Grady
- **Lewisham Local** - Laura Tilbury
- **Portal registration launch**
- **Q&A**

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Credit: Vera Zakharov, Oxford Real Farming Conference

Sustain is an alliance of organisations and communities working together for a better system of food, farming and fishing, and cultivating the movement for change.

Together, we **advocate food and agriculture policies** and practices that enhance the health and welfare of people and animals, improve the working and living environment, enrich society and culture, and promote equity. Our programmes and campaigns.

Place-based, local action programmes

➤ Sustainable Food Places:
https://www.sustainablefoodplaces.org/members/
➤ Good Food Local: London:
https://www.sustainweb.org/good-food-local/london/
➤ Capital Growth – London's food growing network:
https://www.capitalgrowth.org/

Sustain work linked to food resilience
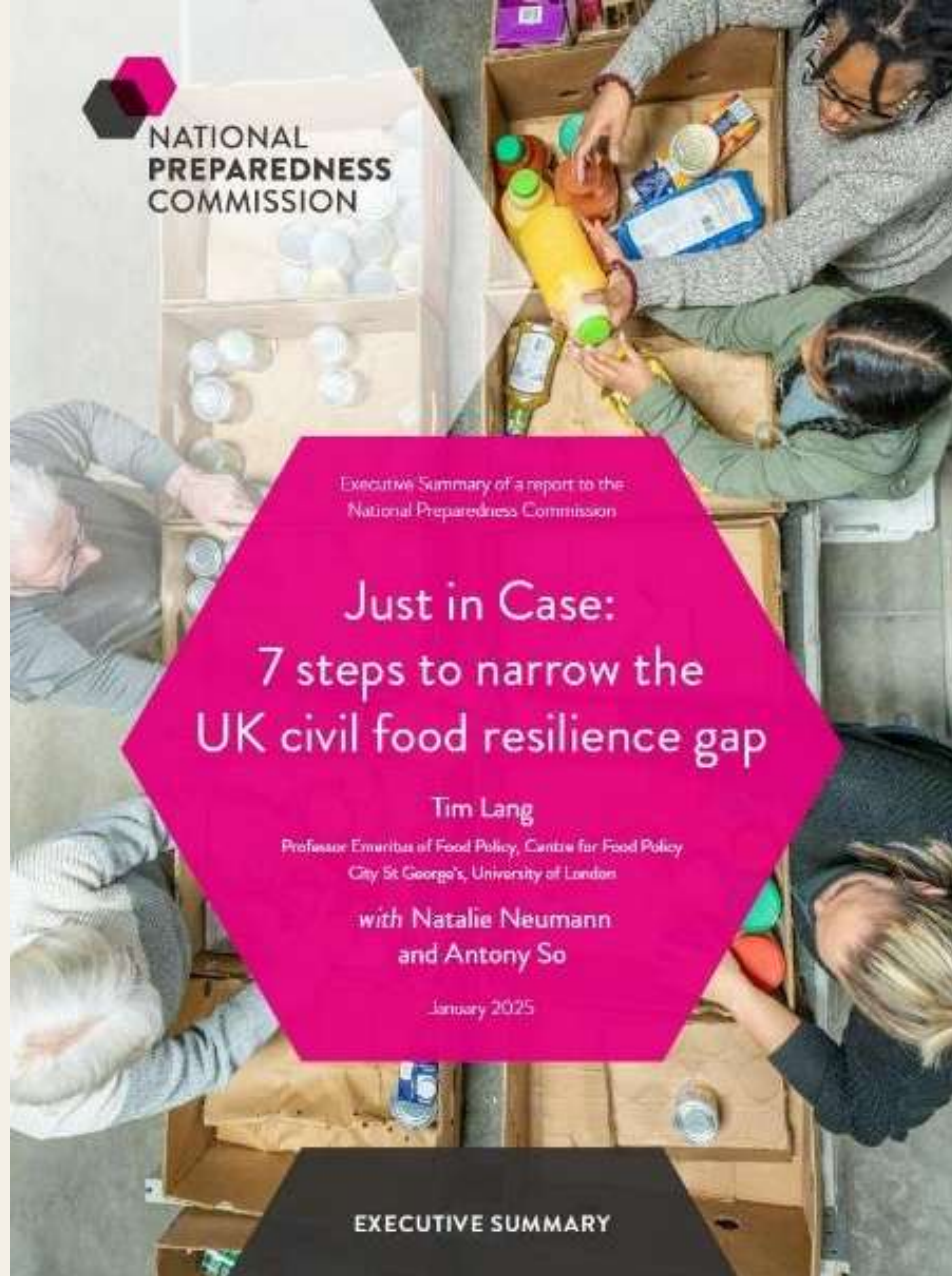
Equity, community food and supply chain security:

➢ Four Pillars of Dignified Food Access: https://www.sustainweb.org/foodpoverty/four-pillars-of-dignified-food-access/

➢ Connecting Community Enterprises: https://www.sustainweb.org/good-food-enterprise/connecting-community-food-enterprises/

➢ Bridging the Gap (between nutritional security and agroecological production): https://www.sustainweb.org/reports/dec25-bridging-the-gap-how-to-fix-the-food-system-for-everyone/ (report)

➢ Local Food Growth Plan (growing local, sustainable supply chains): https://www.localfoodplan.org/the-plan/

Why do we need to map community food assets?

To prepare for future emergencies and supply disruptions, it is essential that local authorities can:

- **Audit** existing community food settings
- **Identify** locational gaps
- **Plan** for different crisis situations

Executive Summary of a report to the National Preparedness Commission

Just in Case: 7 steps to narrow the UK civil food resilience gap

Tim Lang
Professor Emeritus of Food Policy, Centre for Food Policy
City St George's, University of London

with Natalie Neumann and Antony So

January 2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

National Preparedness Commission – Report on Food Resilience

Recommended actions for councils and food partnerships:

- Establish Local Food Resilience Committees/Forums
- Develop Local Food Resilience Plans
- Map and invest in community food assets
- Expand urban/town food growing
- Integrate food into planning: consider urban green belts as 'food resilience zones'

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Types of emergencies

- **Accidents and system failures:** fires, power failures, supply contamination
- **Geopolitical events:** trade wars, supply chain disruption, price spikes, state-led attacks
- **Human, animal, plant diseases:** pandemic, outbreaks impacting food supply
- **Societal disruptions:** rioting and public disorder, humanitarian crisis
- **Environmental hazards:** climate-related events, space weather
- **Intentional threats and cyber-attacks:** domestic or foreign attacks on infrastructure, digital systems.

Chronic risks: Climate and nature crisis, pollution, disinformation, income disparities, ageing population, globalized economic systems

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How do emergencies impact London's food systems?

- Supply chain disruption – production, transport, distribution
- Consumer physical access disruption
- Economic/transaction disruption
- Disruption of utilities necessary for food storage and prep
- Events that put some populations at greater risk/raise numbers of food insecure people

Lessons from the COVID Pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis
Enhancing the Resilience of London's Food System (Uni Oxford, GLA)
Resilience and transformation: Lessons from the UK local food sector (Uni of Sheffield, CCRI)

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Gathering good practice: case studies

- **Be Enriched** (cross-borough)
- **Cook for Good** (Camden)
- **GCDA** (cross-borough)
- **GROW Lewisham**
- **Feast With Us** (cross-borough)
- **Kingsley Hall** (Barking & Dagenham)

- **Newham Food Alliance**
- **Pembroke House** (Southwark)
- **Sutton Farm**
- **Sufra** (Brent)
- **The Winch** (Camden)
- **WEN** (Tower Hamlets)

Mapping community food assets

What are community food assets?
Food growing, prep, retail and dining settings focused on health, sustainability, inclusion, community power and innovation. Charitable or commercial in operations but hold responsibility to communities in time of emergency.

Mapping data in three layers
- London-wide portal: for organisations leading London-wide coordination
- Borough-wide portal: for local authorities and VFCS infrastructure organisations coordinating local and borough-wide support
- Settings: Individual organisations, venues or enterprises registering to be contacted in an emergency.

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Mapping community food assets

Dashboard-enabled map
- Settings' data only visible to organisations and bodies involved in coordinating resilience and emergency preparedness work.
- Does not replace local food support and signposting maps (such as Lewisham Food Map shown in this presentation)
- Borough coordinator contacts, e.g., resilience lead, food partnership, VCFS infrastructure org, will be invited to be added to portal.
- *Settings can opt out any time. Not a commitment to support with food access, only to be contacted and engaged in the event of an emergency.*

Thank you for registering with Food Resilient London

Welcome to your London Food Resilient London dashboard. You can update your contact or setting details here anytime.

1) Contact information

2) Your setting

3) Your location

You may also be interested in checking out the following free resources and reports:

- The London Community Resilience toolkit
- Sustain - Good Food enterprise toilkit
- Sustainable Food Places - Food ladders
- Just in Case: 7 steps to narrow the UK civil food resilience gap (report)
- Enhancing the resilience of London's food systems (report)

Lula's test farm

Southwark

First name: Lula
Last name: Wattam
Role: Farmer

Email: lulawttm@gmail.com
Secondary email:

Phone number: 019209102901
Postcode: SE16 3LL
Website:

Type of food provision

- Social supermarket / pantry
- Commercial kitchen
- Peri-urban / city farm

Are you currently providing community food support?
No, we are currently only growing/preparing/sharing food as part of community engagement and skill-building

Did you previously provide community food support during the Covid pandemic or another significant emergency?
no

People supported per week
Total people supported: 2
Total meals served: 2
Total home meals provided: 0

How many kilograms of food products are you trading per week? 0

If you are growing food, how many kilograms are you producing per week? 0

Vehicles available
Lorries: 0
Vans: 0
Cars: 0
Cargo bikes: 0

Do you have capacity to expand operations? yes

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Next steps

Publication of case studies and report with insights and recommendations.

Take Action:
- If you're a London setting, register now →
- If you're a borough council, food partnership or VCFS infrastructure org, get in touch with Sustain.
- Beyond London: Join Sustainable Food Places and Good Food Local and take part in regional food resilience work.

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Kristen Guida

Head of Strategy, Prevention & Community Resilience

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Kingsley Hall

Lewisham Partnership pivoting and stepping up during the pandemic
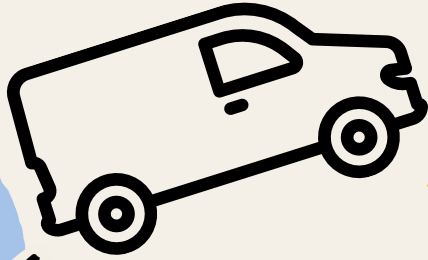
Laura Tilbury

Lewisham Local

LEWISHAM FOOD HUB!

logistics
Transport = vans, volunteer pick ups, communication., networks
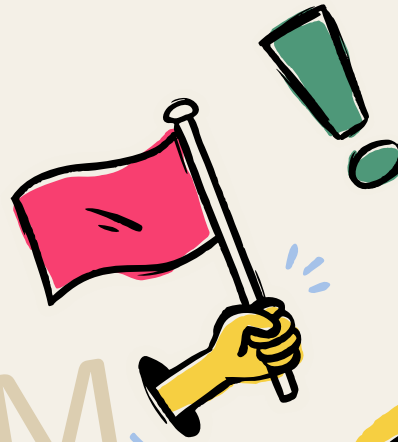
location
Finding, locating food hubs (2), food storage, food pickups, accessibility and location

community networks
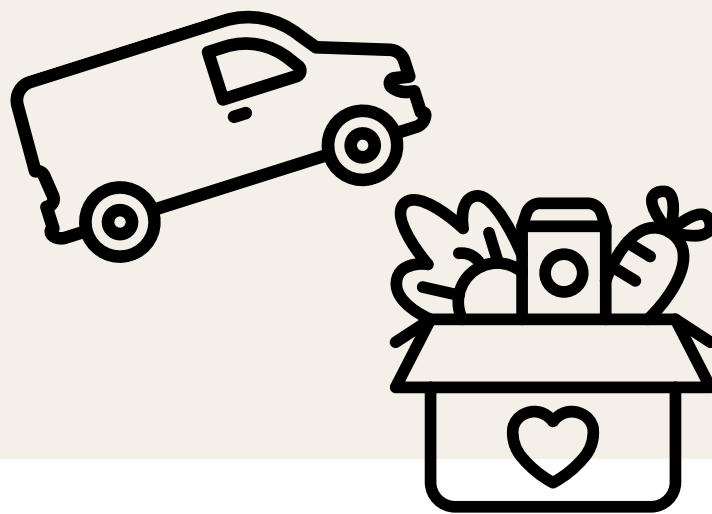Finding Lewisham community groups, building a network, creating relationships, volunteers.
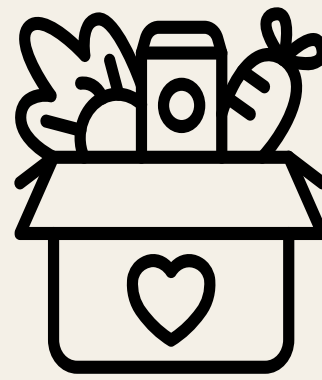
food
Building relationship with Fareshare (now Felix project), Food safety & culturally appropriate when possible.
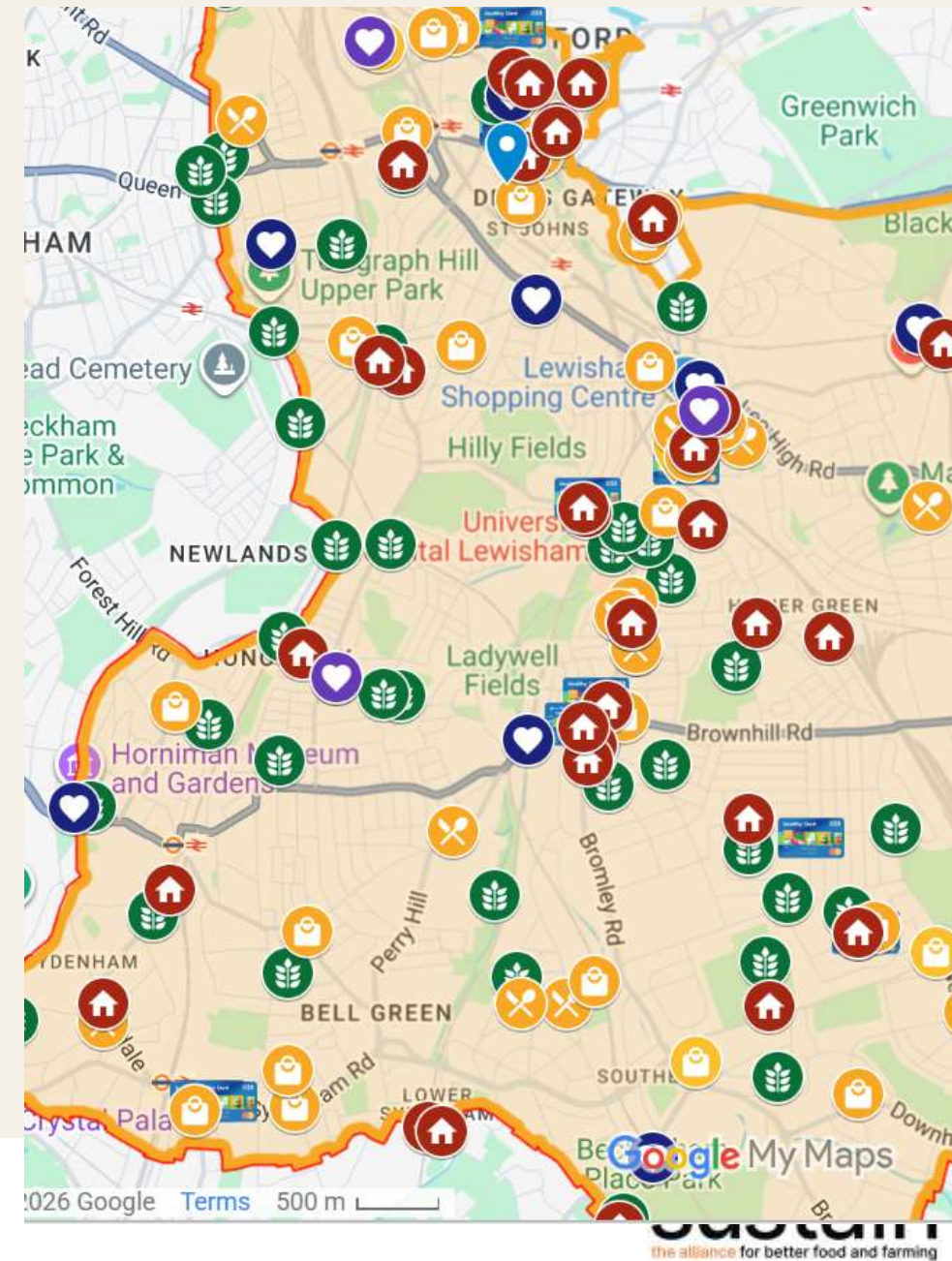
Positive Food Hub Outcomes

- Strengthened community networks and relationships.

- Food banks transitioning to food hubs, pantries and additional support.

- Lewisham Food Map, gardens, pantries, Food Businesses, Healthy Start independent business, markets and more.

- Amazing community cohesion and solidarity.

- Silver award with Sustainable Food Places.

- Connected, more supportive Lewisham.

Thank you!

www.foodresilientlondon.org

Stay in touch!
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