



# Education and Training to encourage and facilitate increased Food production in London

- Lack of practical skills or knowledge in the following groups
  - Workforce
  - Volunteers
  - Public
  - Schools
  - Owners/managers of land
  - Policy makers



# London Food Production – Skills for the “Workforce”

- **Need to empower workforce to produce food**
- **Support novel initiatives to promote “London produce” and encourage productive use of land as appropriate**
- **Options**
  - **Commercial horticultural courses**
  - **Organic production courses**
  - **Smallholder courses**
  - **Specialist courses/support for niche markets**
    - **Viticulture**
    - **traditional farming techniques**
  - **Apprenticeships**
- **LSEB, LSC and Capel keen to be flexible**

## London Food Production – Skills for the “Workforce (cont.)

### Barriers

- **Not a Government priority for financial support**
  - Not ‘full’ qualifications
  - Not ‘first’ qualifications
- **not a ‘key’ sector, CBI, London first and LSEB do not recognise it as a priority**
- **Sector made up of Small/micro businesses – difficult to support training costs or requirements**
- **Not suitable for traditional Government apprenticeship schemes.**



# London Food Production -Skills for Volunteers

- Need to work with existing networks to identify and meet their training needs e.g.
  - Federation of City Farms
  - LDA Greenheart for London Scheme
  - Housing associations
  - Volunteer organisations
- Objective is to empower volunteers
  - Possible London wide 'master grower/producer scheme supported by a VLE system?

# London Food Production -Skills for Volunteers (continued)

## Options

- **ESF and similar funding**
- **Train to Gain funding**
- **LSC mainstream funding via approved providers**
  - **Foundation Tier (entry level)**
  - **16-18 courses**
  - **18+ Full Qualifications**
- **LSEB, LDA flexible programmes**



# London Food Production -Skills and knowledge for the Public

- **Two levels of engagement**
  - General public awareness and engagement
  - Empowering people to grow and produce food
  
- **General public strategy to encourage support**

## London Food Production -Skills for the Public (continued)

- Opportunity for development of skills within 14-19 diplomas;
- Opportunity for more schools to “grow their own”;

### Barriers

- Lack of skills, desire or ambition amongst general London population or its policy makers ;
- Lack of funding for this sort of training/education;
- Lack of developed market or demand for niche ‘home grown or local’ produce;

# Capel Manor College Objectives

- Seeking to meet your education and training needs either directly or by supporting you to deliver them
- Identify key partners to help us deliver our objectives
  - 200 acres mostly organic and open to the public available as a centre to promote London Food education and training network
  - Seek partners to deliver the Master grower/producer network to quality mark producers



# Conclusions

- We need strategies to
  - **provide a local workforce with skills to maximise food production in London**
  - **Empower politicians and strategists with the knowledge to understand why local food production (and an understanding of food production generally) is a priority**
  - **Harness initiatives and work together**