Refreshing Investment in Children’s Health
Using the Sugary Drinks Tax to improve healthy food access in schools’

Webinar
Monday 18 January
11 — 12.15 pm

Speakers:
Robert Halfon MP
Chair of the Education Select Committee
Emma Lewell-Buck MP
South Shields
Alysa Remtulla
Magic Breakfast and National School Breakfast Programme
Laura Flanagan
School Food Improvement Officer, Croydon Council
Vera Zakharov
Sustain and Sugar Smart UK
Barbara Crowthor
Children’s Food Campaign
Refreshing Investment in Children’s Health

Using the Sugary Drinks Tax to improve healthy food access in schools

Report findings and recommendations
Acknowledgements and thanks

• Schools, council teams and organisations
• School Food Matters, Soil Association & Sustainable Food Places
• Individuals who wrote to their MPs
• MPs who raise these issues in Parliament
Refreshing Investment in Children’s Health

Background

• SDIL investment in children’s health welcomed by campaigners and local areas
• Very limited info on how HPCF was spent, mainly from Academy Trusts
• No further info on future funding for healthy food access apart from breakfast clubs
• Great examples emerging from local areas
• Need to support our policy calls with detailed recommendations
• Ensure they fit with local needs
Survey & case studies feedback

• 90 respondents
• Limited uptake; majority for PE projects
• Challenges around lead time
• Where councils involved, added capacity and guidance increased uptake
• Diverse approaches to ensure best impact
• Opportunities to monitor impact
• Opportunities to build on one-off funding
Refresh Investment in Children’s Health

Recommendations

Spend of SDIL revenue
- Transparency and accountability
- At least 50% of spend on food-related children’s health programmes
- Establish Healthy Food Innovation Fund
- Continue scaling up National School Breakfast Programme ahead of securing permanent statutory provision
Healthy Food Innovation Fund

Key principles:
• Food-focused
• Flexible
• Future-proof
Types of projects it could fund

Provision
• Cooking & dining facilities improvement
• Drinking fountains
• Healthy tuck shops
• After-school & holiday club investment

Education
• Growing & outdoor education
• Cookery education
• Teacher training
Types of projects it could fund

Community-building & beyond the gate
- Mobile food education bus
- Dedicated food teacher training facilities
- Farm visits and offsite education activities
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Thank you!

Vera Zakharov, Local Action Coordinator, Sustainable Food Places & Sugar Smart
Ren Piercey, Local Action Officer, Sustainable Food Places & Sugar Smart
Healthy Pupils Capital Funding (HPCF) 2018

London Borough Croydon
Overview of HPCF in Croydon

- Funding was allocated to schools based on NCMP data.
- Schools were able to submit project proposals based on 1 or more of our 4 designated project areas:
  1. Improvements to dining spaces
  2. Improving access to water
  3. Improving teaching kitchens or mobile teaching equipment
  4. Promotion of food growing
The success of projects

Laura Flanagan
What worked well

• The funding was for a specific purpose.

• It raised the profile of pupil health and changes that could be made to encourage healthier behaviours.

• It resulted in changes that wouldn’t have happened otherwise.

Staff feel the children's behaviour has improved in the dining hall as a result of the changes and more pupils are definitely eating a school meal.

Drinking water has now become a fun part of the children’s daily routine.