

# OUR IMPACT



**FOOD FOR LIFE SCOTLAND**

2019 - 20



# PUTTING GOOD FOOD ON THE TABLE IN SCHOOLS ACROSS SCOTLAND

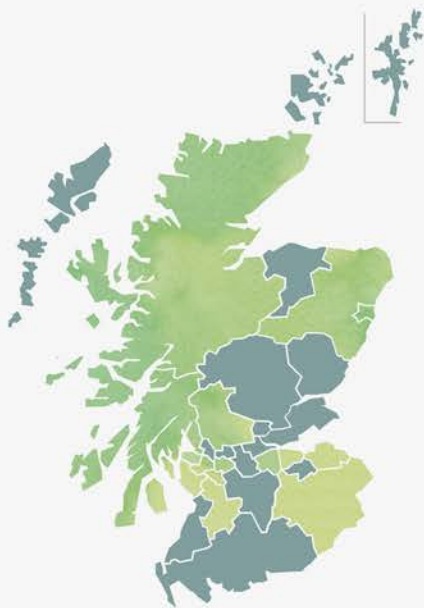
Food for Life is a nationwide Soil Association programme that works to make good food the easy choice for everyone. In Scotland, we are funded by Scottish Government to help councils put more local food on school dinner plates, and serve fresh, healthy, sustainable meals in their schools.

The **Food for Life Scotland** (FFLS) team supports local authorities to achieve the Food for Life Served Here (FFLSH) award for their school meals service. It's a recognised and respected mark of quality, available at three levels: Bronze, Silver, and Gold.

## FOOD FOR LIFE SERVED HERE ALWAYS MEANS:

- 🥕 At least 75% freshly prepared
- 🚫 No undesirable additives
- 🥚 Only free range eggs
- 🐖 Meat that can be traced back to the farm

Download the full FFLSH Standards at  
[soilassociation.org/FFLScotland](http://soilassociation.org/FFLScotland)



## 14 LOCAL AUTHORITY FFLSH AWARD HOLDERS ACROSS SCOTLAND

- ABERDEEN CITY
- ABERDEENSHIRE
- ARGYLL & BUTE
- CITY OF EDINBURGH
- EAST AYRSHIRE
- EAST LoTHIAN
- EAST RENFREWSHIRE
- HIGHLAND
- INVERCLYDE
- NORTH AYRSHIRE
- RENFREWSHIRE
- SCOTTISH BORDERS
- STIRLING
- WEST LoTHIAN

# 18.8M

FOOD FOR LIFE SCHOOL MEALS SERVED ACROSS SCOTLAND IN 2019-20



# WELCOMING TWO NEW LOCAL AUTHORITY AWARD HOLDERS



In June 2019, Inverclyde Council achieved the Food for Life Served Here Bronze award, putting fresh, local, sustainable food on the menu for over 3,500 primary school children across their 20 certified primary schools.

Scottish Borders Council joined the scheme in March 2020, becoming the 14th local authority in Scotland to achieve the Food for Life Served Here award for their primary school meals. With 62 certified sites, 5,500 pupils every day are now benefitting from meals that are Food for Life certified.



Mairi Gougeon, Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment, joined pupils at St Ronan's Primary School in Innerleithen to present the Food for Life Served Here award to the Head Cook, Michelle Povey, on behalf of the whole of Scottish Borders Council.

In Inverclyde, one child in four lives in poverty. In some areas the figure is as high as one in three. Research has consistently highlighted the basic fact that you have to eat well to do well, and we recognise the absolute importance of making sure local children receive good quality meals made from healthy ingredients. This initiative provides an important contribution towards their physical development and contributes towards closing the attainment gap between children from poorer areas and more affluent areas.

**COUNCILLOR NATASHA MURPHY, VICE CONVENER OF THE EDUCATION & COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE, INVERCLYDE COUNCIL**

## CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF FOOD FOR LIFE

In September 2019, Highland Council celebrated their tenth consecutive Food for Life Served Here award for their primary school meals service. The Highland Council serves 10,740 Food for Life meals a day across its 155 certified primary schools and nurseries.

“ I am delighted that we have continued to maintain our commitment to sourcing and using locally produced foods. Offering our pupils a range of freshly cooked and nutritionally balanced meals is a Council priority, and the Food for Life Served Here award reinforces our sustainable approach to school meal production. ”

**COUNCILLOR JOHN FINLAYSON, CHAIR OF THE CARE, LEARNING AND HOUSING COMMITTEE, HIGHLAND COUNCIL**



Fergus Ewing, Cabinet Secretary for the Rural Economy, presented the award to catering staff at Central Primary School, Inverness.

# BOOSTING SCOTTISH PRODUCE ON SCHOOL PLATES

Food for Life Scotland works to put more local food on the table in Scottish schools. Working with our partners, we've taken on supply chain projects of all sizes, making links between Scottish food businesses and local authorities, supporting councils to make their supply chains shorter and more resilient.

“ We are immensely proud to be part of the Food for Life Scotland programme. A lot of our workforce live locally, with children in West Lothian schools, so it is a project that is very close to home. ”

**ALAN WILLIAMSON,  
CAMPBELLS  
PRIME MEAT**



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR SCOTTISH SUPPLIERS

For **Scottish Food & Drink Fortnight 2019**, Food for Life Scotland joined forces with Scotland Food & Drink and Scotland Excel to highlight the opportunities available to local food businesses in supplying Scotland's public sector.

In an average year, Scotland's public sector spends almost £150 million on food and drink. Over a third of local authority money spent on Scotland Excel frameworks is now spent on food that has been produced or manufactured in Scotland – a figure that has grown by more than half since 2015.



Achnagairn Farm, suppliers to The Highland Council.

“ Local authorities across Scotland are already making great strides in supporting local food businesses through their procurement. But we know there's the opportunity to do even more.

### **BUYING FOOD AND DRINK LOCALLY IS INVESTING PUBLIC MONEY BACK INTO THE LOCAL ECONOMY,**

which supports local business and boosts employment. It also ensures that produce is fresh, and shorter delivery distances mean lower food miles, reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Putting high quality Scottish food on the public plate benefits everybody involved. ”

**JAYNE JONES, NATIONAL CHAIR OF ASSIST FM**







Find out more about  
Food for Life Scotland:  
**[www.soilassociation.org/FFLScotland](http://www.soilassociation.org/FFLScotland)**

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Soil Association Scotland, 20 Potterrow, Edinburgh EH8 9BL

T: 0131 370 8150



Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
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