

The background is white and decorated with various colorful, stylized illustrations of food and kitchen items. These include a blue fish, a red strawberry, a yellow banana, a green broccoli, a purple watering can, a green shovel, a pink knife, an orange fork, a blue fork, a purple vegetable, a green pear, a yellow rooster, and a small green plant in a pot. Three circular photographs are also present: one at the top showing two children in a kitchen, one at the bottom left showing three children in a garden, and one at the bottom right showing a woman with a basket of vegetables.

OUR IMPACT

FOOD FOR LIFE SCOTLAND

2019 – 20



PUTTING GOOD FOOD ON THE TABLE IN SCHOOLS ACROSS SCOTLAND

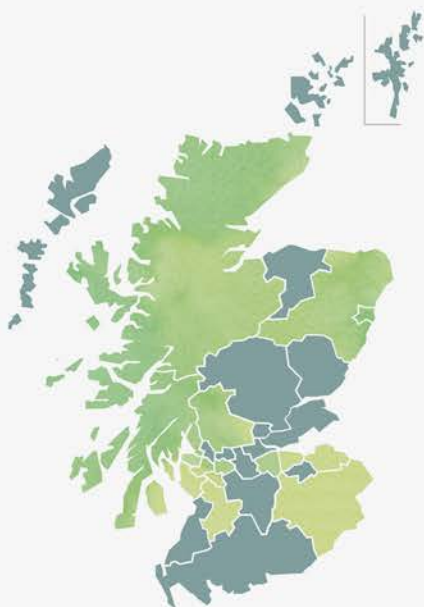
Food for Life is a nationwide Soil Association programme that works to make good food the easy choice for everyone. In Scotland, we are funded by Scottish Government to help councils put more local food on school dinner plates, and serve fresh, healthy, sustainable meals in their schools.

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



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

ENGAGING, UPSKILLING, AND EMPOWERING

The Food for Life Scotland team is on hand to support local authorities across Scotland at every stage of their Food for Life journey: from buying list analysis, menu development, and staff training, to pre-inspection support and marketing materials to publicise your new award.

SPECIALIST TRAINING SESSIONS

Our two training sessions for catering staff, Seasonality & Food for Life Scotland and Understanding the Food for Life Served Here Standards, are offered free to Scottish local authorities who hold or are working towards their FFLSH award. The interactive sessions are designed to engage frontline catering teams with the principles of FFLSH, and empower staff with the skills to approach menus from a freshly prepared, seasonal perspective.

PEER-TO-PEER SUPPORT

Food for Life Scotland's support for local authorities doesn't stop once Food for Life Served Here is achieved. Our award holders have access to advice from a network of peers via the FFLS Award Holder Working Group, as well as ongoing menu development and supply chain support from the Food for Life Scotland team.

In 2019–20, members of our Award Holder Working Group road-tested brand new training activities, fed back on resources under development, discussed new menu ideas, and undertook a site visit to see Silver FFLSH in action at a high school.

SHOWCASING SCHOOL MEALS SUCCESSES

A Food for Life Served Here award is a recognised and respected mark of quality. We're here to help local authorities to publicise their fresh, sustainable school meals.

Local authority award holders received a dedicated profile on the Soil Association Scotland website, and a set of colourful posters to highlight the high standards that their school meals meet as part of Food for Life. We also provide an engaging (and, most importantly, wipeable), Caterer's User Guide Booklet for every school covered by the award, which introduces and explains the FFLSH award for catering staff.



90%
OF CATERERS WHO
ATTENDED FFLS
TRAINING WOULD
RECOMMEND IT TO
A COLLEAGUE



**432 CATERING
STAFF TRAINED**

12

LOCAL
AUTHORITIES
COVERED



18

STANDARDS & SEASONALITY
SESSIONS RUN





FRESH, LOCAL & SUSTAINABLE: THE INGREDIENTS FOR FOOD FOR LIFE

In June 2019, representatives from 26 local authorities across Scotland joined Food for Life Scotland and partner organisations at the University of Strathclyde Technology and Innovation Centre for the first Food for Life Masterclass.

After a keynote address from Nicole Pisani, Head Chef at Gayhurst Community School, and co-founder and Executive Head Chef of the charity Chefs in Schools, attendees took part in three practical workshops focusing on different aspects of achieving FFLSH:



- **The Supplier: Sourcing locally**
With Scotland Excel & East Ayrshire Council
Tackled common public procurement myths.
- **The Caterer: Getting good food on the plate**
With FFLS & City of Edinburgh Council
Demonstrated the cost saving capabilities of data analysis and menu development.
- **The Pupil: Making healthy choices**
With East Renfrewshire Council & East Lothian Council
Explored the role of local authorities caterers in customer engagement, learning and education.



**12 LOCAL
AUTHORITIES TOOK
STEPS TO GAIN,
MAINTAIN, OR
UPGRADE THEIR FFLSH
AWARD AFTER THE
MASTERCLASS**





100,000 FOOD FOR LIFE MEALS EVERY DAY

In August 2019, the addition of Inverclyde Council to the growing list of local authority award holders meant that over **100,000 Food for Life Served Here** awarded meals are now being served across Scotland every school day.

Mairi Gougeon MSP joined pupils in Inverclyde for their school lunch to mark the latest major milestone for the Food for Life Scotland scheme.

“It’s wonderful to see school children enjoying delicious, healthy food that has been grown, sourced and produced in Scotland. Since its inception in 2008, the Food for Life programme has made a big difference to the lives of many young people across the country.

“We want more children to enjoy healthy food in their school meals that is grown, sourced and produced in Scotland. The Food for Life Served Here programme is helping us to achieve that.”

MAIRI GOUGEON, MINISTER FOR RURAL AFFAIRS AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

GOOD FOOD FUTURES

In 2019, Food for Life Scotland was proud to join **Good Food Futures**, a Scottish Government food education initiative backed by £1 million of funding. With support for farm visits and more locally produced food on school menus, the programme aims to give children a greater understanding of where food comes from and the many career opportunities available in the industry.

Find out more about
Food for Life Scotland:
www.soilassociation.org/FFLScotland

 @SoilAssocScot

 /soilassociationscotland

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Scottish Government
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