
From weight management to Food Partnership: Tameside's journey so far

Liz Harris

Population Health Programme Manager,
Chair of Tameside Food Partnership

Tameside



HLE
56.4
years



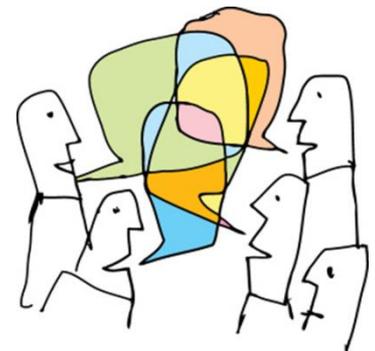
HLE
58.7
years

65.5% Adults overweight and obese
21.2% Year 6 obesity
9.8% Reception obesity

Public health beginnings



- Consider all impacts of diet on health – not just obesity
- Lack of progress on reducing overweight and obesity from traditional approach
- Difficulty in engaging partners and public in addressing obesity – in the ‘too hard’ box or perception of blame for something that is normal?
- 2015: Discussion with partners about changing focus to food and health
- 2016: Decision taken at food and health conference to broaden the scope and adopt the SFC approach
- 2017: Food network established
- 2018: Food strategy group established
- 2018: Health and Wellbeing Board approval for approach
- 2019: Public consultation
- 2019: SFC membership gained

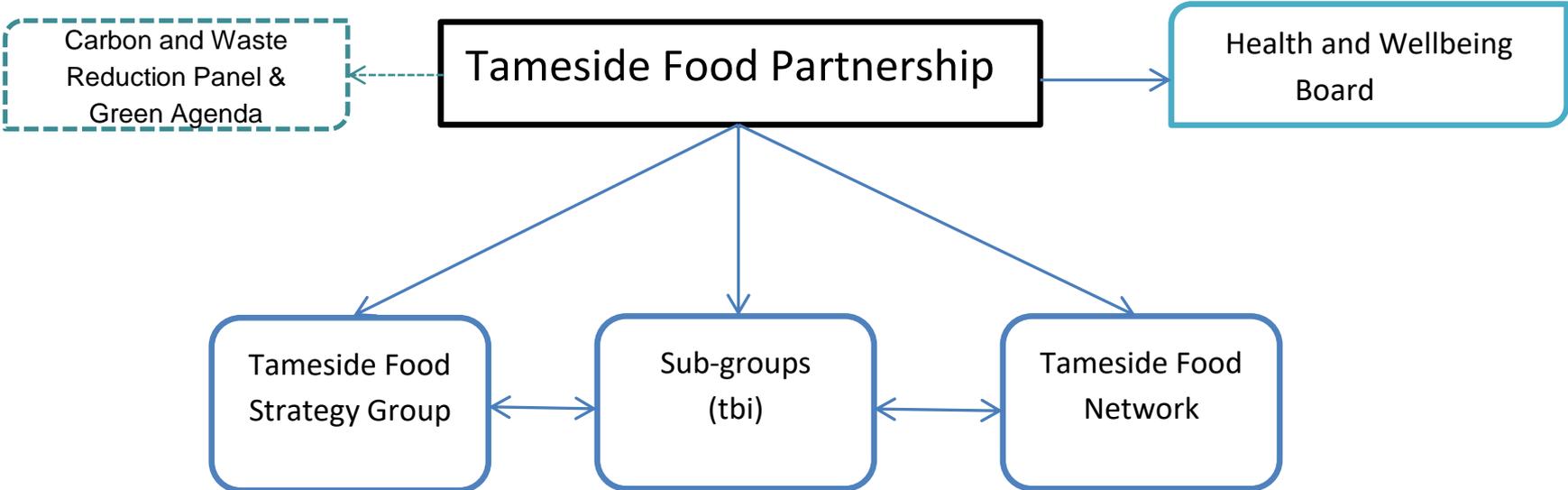


6 objectives

1. To make the supply and consumption of affordable healthy and sustainable food the norm
2. To address and reduce food poverty
3. Promote community food knowledge, skills and resources
4. Develop a vibrant and diverse sustainable food economy
5. Increase healthy and sustainable catering and procurement
6. Reduce waste and the ecological footprint of the system



Structure



Progress and next steps

- Consultation engaged over 2,500 people between September 2018 and April 2019
- On-line survey completed by 1370 respondents (975 Tameside residents)
- Mapping of community food growing groups
- Commissioned insight research on food poverty
- Launched Refill Tameside

Next steps:

- Further engagement to develop strategy and action plan
- Delivery
- Work towards Bronze award...



Reflections

- We will not commission our way out of obesity and need to join the dots with wider food and health issues (including food poverty) and other agendas
- In times of austerity multi-disciplinary working has challenges
- Much easier to engage people on the holistic SFC agenda
- Change of tone from ‘public health advice and intervention’ to ‘let’s have a conversation about food’
- More work to do on making the case in some areas e.g. economic development, businesses
- Still a pressure to deliver on obesity – action plan will need to reflect this
- However – very positive response overall
- Helps that there are 50 plus other SFC areas
- We are delighted to be part of the SFC network and excited about next steps

“Only through collective action to build healthier environments can a prevention strategy achieve lasting success”

IPPR, Ending the blame game – the case for a new approach to public health and prevention