

Edible Edinburgh wins bronze award

The sustainable food partnership Edible Edinburgh has won a bronze award at the Sustainable Food City network's annual conference held this year in Newcastle.

The award recognises those cities which are taking steps to make a positive change on a range of food issues. The partnership's ethos is that "Edinburgh is a city where good food is available and accessible for all, making for healthy people, thriving communities and a sustainable environment."

Within [Edible Edinburgh](#) many food and food growing organisations are represented including the City of Edinburgh Council.

Councillor George Gordon, Chair of the Edible Edinburgh partnership, said:"I am delighted to receive this award on behalf of the partnership. A great deal of work has been done on sustainable food promotion over the last two years within the Council, by our partners and in the community, of which we should all be proud. This work is not finished. We will continue to work towards making Edinburgh a truly sustainable food city and region fit for the present and future."

In accepting the award, Cllr Gordon paid tribute to everyone involved in the partnership, thanking them for all their dedication and work over the last two years, including: the partnership's two sustainable food co-ordinators, Ben and Lesley, Iain Stewart, Pat Abel and Pete Ritchie and all the other members of the partnership and all the organisations, community groups and individuals who give their time and

energy to promoting healthy, local and sustainable food and growing in the city. He also thanked the [Sustainable Food Cities](#) team for their support.



Some of the key achievements during the last two years have included the following :

- All Edinburgh schools, four care homes and a day centre in the city achieving the Soil Association's Food for Life Served Here Bronze and Silver award accreditations;
- Edinburgh's first Food Summit, held in the spring, which brought together local and regional stakeholders involved in all aspects of the food agenda.
- Work to address food poverty including initiatives looking at holiday hunger during the school holidays.
- Participation by city schools, hospitals and communities in the 2019 Veg Power campaign which aimed to improve fruit and vegetable consumption rates across the city.
- Dedicated work by a multitude of community groups to establish, run and expand the network of community gardens and food growing initiatives in the city.

- Work by Edinburgh Community Food, Edinburgh Larder and other agencies to deliver a range of healthy eating programmes and initiatives targeting low income and hard to reach communities including cooking and nutrition sessions.

Next steps for the partnership include the development of a food growing strategy for the city, building on work already done by the Council and others to promote local growing, sustainable green places and more active lives. Work and events are also planned to encourage better business involvement in healthy eating and sustainable, local food.