

Buckinghamshire Food Systems Theory of Change Brief

Project Background

At the start of 2020 we commissioned [Sustain](#) (the alliance for better food and farming)) to lead a scoping exercise to see if there is demand for more joined-up work to support food and farming in Buckinghamshire.

Producing a [summary report](#) of Buckinghamshire's food system: the results of the consultation, data on food and farming locally, current food-related activity, the recommendations, highlighted the desire and need to set up a [Buckinghamshire Food Partnership](#) (BFP).

In 2021 BFP officially became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with a board of Trustees, supported by a Steering Group and network of delivery partners. BFP is a member of the Sustainable Food Places network.

We believe that more attention needs to be paid to local food systems, and that through collaboration and investment we can make Buckinghamshire's food provision healthier and more sustainable. The real impact of the pandemic and cost of living crisis has been felt locally, reflected in food report from [Sheffield University](#), highlighting Wycombe as a hotspot for food insecurity.

The aim of the work is to clarify and pinpoint the change we want to see in the local food system, understand the role we play and lay a robust foundation for our monitoring and evaluation framework.

Invitation to Tender

The core aim is to guide us and the BFP through a theory of change process which informs future decision making. The person must have experience of working with organisations to produce theory of changes through critical strategic thinking. Knowledge of the Buckinghamshire, food systems and sustainability is desirable. We will send three delegates as well as three from BFP; it is envisaged that the actual session will be no longer than a day. There may be other local stakeholders invited as appropriate. The aim is to clarify thinking, bring together learning and challenge assumptions so that resources can be targeted efficiently.

Deliverables

- It is expected that the facilitator will want to speak to both the RF and BFP before the workshop, the teams will be available to do this.

The Rothschild Foundation

Windmill Hill, Silk Street, Waddesdon, Buckinghamshire HP18 0JZ

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- Facilitate a day's theory of change workshop
- Produce a visual representation of the theory of change

We will be the primary audience alongside the BFP. However we expect that the Theory of Change will be shared with other external audiences such as relevant grantees, potential grantees, local authority and peer funders.

We are striving to be a more inclusive funder and would like to work with those who share this commitment.

Budget

The budget for this work is £5,000 including all expenses, exclusive of VAT. We are open to how the time is divided up and used, however the expectation is that there will be a one day workshop for all the stakeholders to go through the theory of change.

Timeline

- Expression of interest to be submitted by 26th August
 - Shortlisted organisations will be contacted in early September
 - Final decision to be made by 16th September
 - The day workshop is expected to be in late October/early November, depending on diaries.

Process

Any interested party can speak to a RF team member by emailing grants@rothschildfoundation.org.uk to arrange a call. Application will be made by expression of interest, answering the questions below and sending to the email above.

EOI questions:

Name:

Organisation (if appropriate):

What experience of delivering theory of change workshops do you have?

Why would you like to facilitate this piece of work?

Please provide the name of two referees:



Rothschild Foundation

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