Food Resilience Network Action Plan

Vision: A patchwork of food growing at local hotspots, linked together like a ribbon and woven into the fabric of our communities.

1 Cultivate Relationships
Foster partnerships, coordinate activities and provide governance on food resilience.

a) Create a supportive network for mentoring leaders, coordinating actions and advancing on the vision through the Food Resilience Network.
b) Encourage organisations to sign the Edible Canterbury Charter and to make commitments on how they will advance food resilience in the region.
c) Identify and map key stakeholders, potential supporters and sponsors of food resilience in Canterbury so approaches can be made to advance involvement and support.
d) Develop sponsorship package based on mutual benefits to potential supporters and the Food Resilience Network activities.
e) Use established crowd sourcing tools to build support for specific food resilience projects.
f) Develop supportive information sharing networks across New Zealand and internationally.

2 Grow understanding, skills and celebrate local food
Communicate, educate and inspire people to grow and enjoy local food.

a) Establish Edible Canterbury web-portal to create one stop shop for information about growing and enjoying local food.
b) Develop resources that help individuals, communities and institutions to grow their own food, to find food in their area, and to find places to buy healthy, local food in Canterbury.
c) Establish targeted events and communications at key planting and harvest times.
d) Provide practical help and advice to gardeners at local markets and events such as soil PH testing and Pest Identification and through education courses run at community gardens.
e) Work with local businesses and nurseries to offer DIY training education for the public on how to grow and cook healthy food.
f) Foster local champions, patrons and community leaders able to inspire and lift the profile of edible Canterbury activities.

3 Propagate and Support Edible Gardens
Support new and existing edible gardens in homes, schools, and communities.

a) Raise the profile and encourage volunteers and support for the existing edible gardens in Canterbury.
b) Support Councils in identify land potentially suitable for edible gardens in Canterbury.
c) Establish edible garden brokering and educational services to facilitate new community gardens and school gardens in Canterbury.
d) Foster linkages able to support new and existing community and school gardens – such as: local businesses; plant and material suppliers; City Care; educators such as CPIT (Te Puna Oranga o Seven Oaks); and designers such as Lincoln University landscape faculty.
e) Explore feasibility of establishing a “Fruit Trees For Canterbury” organisation to deliver low cost, disease resistant plants for public and community garden use.
f) Support high-profile demonstration edible garden projects such as Agropolis in central Christchurch and explore organic waste processing from surrounding businesses.
### 4 Strengthen Our Local Food Economy
Encourage more localised food production, distribution and access to healthy food.

a) Enable more local growers of food by supporting the Biological Husbandry Unit’s Stepping Stone programme that incubates budding market gardeners.
b) Support the establishment of food cooperatives surrounding our towns and cities that are able to supply local markets with fresh locally grown produce.
c) Encourage new farmers markets, green grocers and boxed delivery services in the region.
d) Develop demonstration sites to promote innovative production and distribution methods such as urban agriculture/city farm linked to local food cooperatives and Kaputone Community Orchard in Marshlands.
e) Establish heritage fruit and nut archive and nursery to improve the availability of disease resistant and nutritious plants well suited to Canterbury conditions.

### 5 Grow Supportive Policies
Evidence based policy development and advocacy to advance food resilience.

a) Collaborate with the Christchurch City Council on the creation and implementation of its Food Resilience Policy.
b) Encourage and support Selwyn and Waimakariri District Council actions that support community gardens and food resilience in the region.
c) Advocate for the availability of healthy food in schools, local village shopping centers, and at Council facilities and events.
d) Advocate for healthy food and gardening literacy within the school curriculum to support establishment and on-going operation of school gardens.
e) Explore ways for community gardens to become more self-sustaining organisations and the creation of other social enterprises that advance food resilience.
f) Explore incentives for businesses offering land for productive uses or volunteer time from staff.
g) Examine existing policies, regulations or bylaws that act as barriers to the establishment of edible gardens and suggest ways to create an enabling food framework.
h) Work with CERA and local Councils about opportunities for productive spaces in Residential Red Zone areas.

### Key supporting organisations of the Food Resilience Network (in alphabetical order)

- Avon Otakaro Network
- Canterbury Community Gardens Association
- Canterbury District Health Board
- Canterbury University
- Christchurch City Council
- Christchurch Food Forest Collective
- Enviro-Schools - Environment Canterbury
- Garden City 2.0
- Greening The Rubble
- Kids Edible Gardens
- Lincoln Envirotown
- Lincoln University – Biological Husbandry Unit
- Project Lyttelton
- Rangiora Express
- Selwyn District Council
- Soil and Health Canterbury
- Sow and Grow
- Te Runanga O Ngai Tahu
- Tree Crops Association
- Waimakariri District Council