

# Collaboration in the local food chain



One of a series of seminars designed and facilitated by f3, the local food consultants. They are targeted at local food producers and support organisations. Each seminar aims to provide key skills to help in the development of healthy local food economies.

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## Introduction

The local food sector is typified by small and micro enterprises, often involved in artisan production of specialist produce. These businesses can find it hard to penetrate new markets and meet demands of new potential clients.

Collaboration is essential for many such producers, whether informally, or as part of a committed co-operative group. Such structures are often the bedrock of growth in the local food economy grow.

Collaboration requires a new approach to the culture of business, with new skills and sometimes new structures or business models.

This training seminar will provide you with the tools and models you need to create the partnerships with others in your local food economy. These could be private, public or community organisations.

## Who should attend?

The seminar is aimed at people who want to work in partnership or collaborate on new businesses, shared infrastructure, policy or strategy forums or co-operative ventures for producing, and marketing local food, including:

- Local producer businesses
- Local food support organisations
- Funders of the local food sector
- Local authority and health officers

## You will learn about:

- Why collaboration is important
- Exemplar models of collaboration in the local food sector
- Skills for helping partnerships to work together effectively
- Co-operatives, partnerships and other legal structures for collaboration
- Which areas of your local food economy can most benefit from a collaborative approach
- Pitfalls of co-operation and how to avoid them

## f3 training courses

Our courses are primarily targeted at groups or organisations with up to 20 delegates. This seminar is facilitated by two trainers, with active participation by delegates.

The f3 trainers are highly experienced in local food projects and the facilitation of groups and partnerships. The principal trainers for this course are:

### **Naomi Diamond**

Broad experience in local food and community projects. Specialist expertise in training and facilitation, local food links projects and local economies.

### **James Pavitt**

Consultant to the Plunkett Foundation and former manager of the National Association of Farmers' Markets. James has wide experience of local food and social enterprise, and a working knowledge of organisational models for collaboration.

There will be two invited guest speakers who will share their hands-on experience of collaboration in the local food sector.

## Details and how to book

**Course costs** are £2,200 + VAT. Costs are designed to cater for up to 20 delegates, with the venue provided by the client (or arranged by f3 on behalf of the client).

### **Follow-up**

All delegates are invited to participate in an on-line discussion forum, where experience can be shared and questions asked. Further advice such as help with funding or business development can be provided by f3 on a consultancy basis.

### **About f3**

f3 - the local food consultants, provides research, consultancy, and training services to the local food sector. f3 has been established for 6 years and has carried out over 100 successful projects across the UK.

Our consultants operate as a co-operative of leading practitioners in the fields of local food marketing, environmental management, sustainable development, business and social enterprise, and community development.

See more about f3 at:  
[www.localfood.org.uk](http://www.localfood.org.uk)

To talk about how we can tailor these courses to fit your needs, contact us at:  
[mail@localfood.org.uk](mailto:mail@localfood.org.uk)  
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