



FoodWise Leeds – Chair Description

[FoodWise Leeds](#), the sustainable food partnership for the city, is seeking a new Chair to guide the partnership and to increase its influence and impact towards creating a healthy, sustainable and fair food system for everyone in Leeds.

The Chair of FoodWise Leeds offers a fantastic opportunity to influence the Leeds' food system and to build strategic relationships with partners. The Chair should have a working understanding of the Leeds' food system and the skills and experience to lead meetings, shape our position, influence decision makers and act independently in the best interests of the partnership. More importantly, the Chair must display behaviours that draw people together and create a sense of shared purpose. The Chair may be employed by a third sector organisation, statutory sector partner or local business, but must be able to act independently and be happy to work within the accountability structure set out in our Terms of Reference.

The FoodWise Steering Group provides the following functions:

- Acting as a focal point for good food work across Leeds
- Provides a forum for discussion and debate
- Motivates wider stakeholders to engage with action planning and strategy development
- Raises the profile of the Food Partnership and Action Plan
- Sets up and receives reports from subgroups on particular themes e.g. food poverty, waste, procurement
- Helps develop more effective ways of getting things done
- Maintains energy and enthusiasm

The Chair would:

- Be an ambassador and influencer
 - Acting as a strong independent advocate for FoodWise in Leeds through relationship building with key partners
- Provide effective leadership for the Steering Committee
 - Chair FoodWise Steering Group meetings (2 hours quarterly , alternating online and in-person)
 - Agreeing and progressing FoodWise's strategic aims each year with the Steering Group
 - Respond to issues raised by the Partnership group members and the wider network



- Ensure actions from the Steering Committee are taken forward
 - Meet regularly with the Vice-Chair and Coordinator to ensure work progresses between Partnership meetings.
- Ensure links with other strategic agendas
 - Attend FoodWise events and represent FoodWise at local and regional meetings and events where necessary

Commitment:

We estimate that the minimum time required to deliver the Chair's core functions is approximately 2 hours per week, although depending on your interests and the time you can give, there is opportunity to expand your involvement. The period of appointment for the Chair will be two years.