

Feasibility Study: Policies and Society

Local Nexus Network for Redistributed Manufacturing, Launch Event,
University of Oxford, 23 March 2015

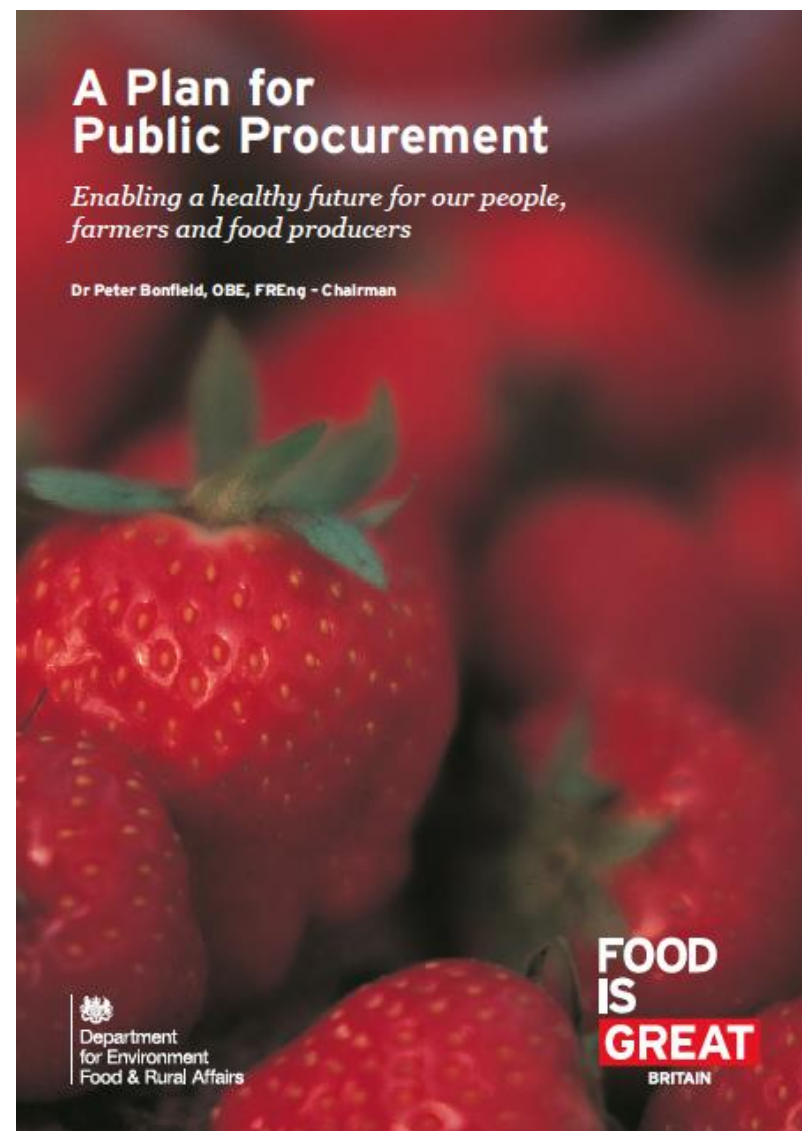
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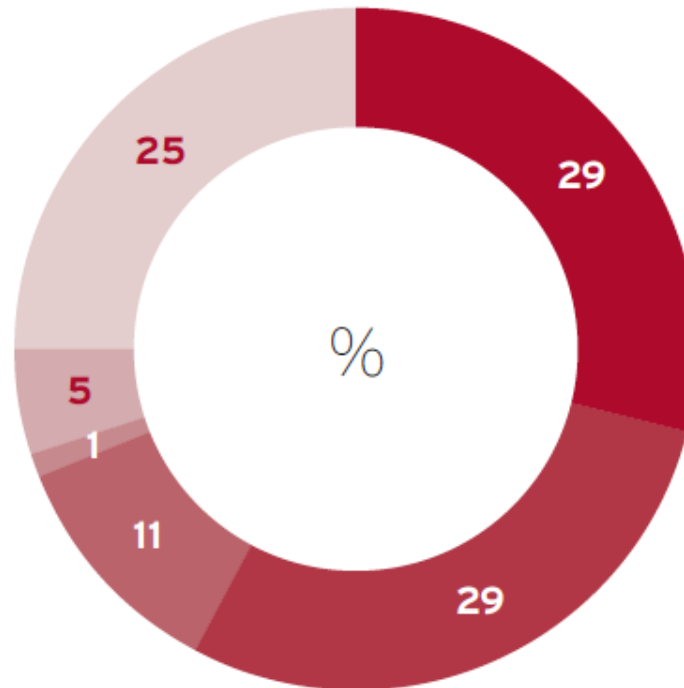
Context I

“the public sector spends about £2.4bn per annum procuring food and catering services, which represents approximately 5.5% of UK food service sector sales. This money is spent feeding people in our schools, hospitals, armed forces, central and local government, government agencies, prisons and courts, and significantly affects their health, wellbeing, and habits...The public sector is estimated to spend about £0.6bn on imported produce”.



Context II

Public sector food procurement spend (from 3rd PSFPI report, 2010)



- School dinners
- Further and higher education
- MoD
- Government Department Head Offices
- Prisons
- NHS hospitals and care homes

Source: DEFRA (2014) A Plan for Public Procurement, HMSO: London.

Context III

“...although EU rules prohibited discrimination against service providers on the grounds of nationality, nonetheless there was scope for discretion. It stated that it was not for example lawful to...specify that food is locally produced, *but it is standard practice to specify that it is fresh or seasonal; and to take into account the level of harmful emissions caused by its transportation*”.

Aims/objectives

- To identify the barriers and potentials of public procurement localisation for sustainable local development
- To examine the awareness and skills of public procurement managers at the local level for local and sustainable purchasing
- To explore how public service institutions are shaping local food demand and supply and its further localisation
- To examine measures to connect localised public purchasing with the stimulation and expansion of local food supply chains
- To investigate international lessons from localised public food procurement for energy and water systems.

Key tasks/activities

- Literature review of public procurement localisation for local authorities
- Review international policy and practice for using public food procurement as a development tool for localisation and local sustainable development
- Examine the public procurement strategies and practices of selected actors in the case studies of Oxford ('retrofitting') and Northstowe ('new development')
- Identify and develop strategies, policies and practices for public food procurement localisation and local sustainable development.