



Hello and welcome to the November update from Hull Food Partnership!
You are receiving this email because you have previously signed up to receive more information about the work of Hull Food Partnership.

As we await positive [news from Yorkshire Water](#) about the easing of hosepipe restrictions, there is still much to do in the garden.

Plenty of hardy vegetables actually thrive in chilly weather – some even taste sweeter after a touch of frost. Leafy veg such as kale, spinach, winter lettuce and swiss chard will thrive alongside garlic, leeks and parsnips, so [don't give up on the veg patch just yet](#).

Get ahead of the growing season next year and SAVE THE DATE for the Hull Seed Celebration on Saturday 21st February 2026!

If you know someone who would like to receive this newsletter, please ask them to email their name and contact details to enquiries@hullfood.org.uk with the subject header 'HFP newsletter subscription' and we will add them to the mailing list. All requests will be dealt with in line with our data protection and GDPR policies and people can unsubscribe at any time.

Sustainable Food Places Award Winner SILVER 2025



Hull Food Partnership News

Hull obtains the Sustainable Food Places Silver Award!

Hopefully you will have seen the great news that Hull was successful in obtaining the [Sustainable Food Places Silver Award](#)!

This award is the culmination of 5 years hard work from over 100 organisations and individuals working collectively to improve the local food environment so that everyone in Hull is able to access tasty, nutritious, sustainable food regardless of background or income. THANK YOU to everyone who has played a part of it.

Special praise was given to our work around poverty, food insecurity and the Right to Grow with an encouragement to focus on these areas if considering applying for Gold Award.

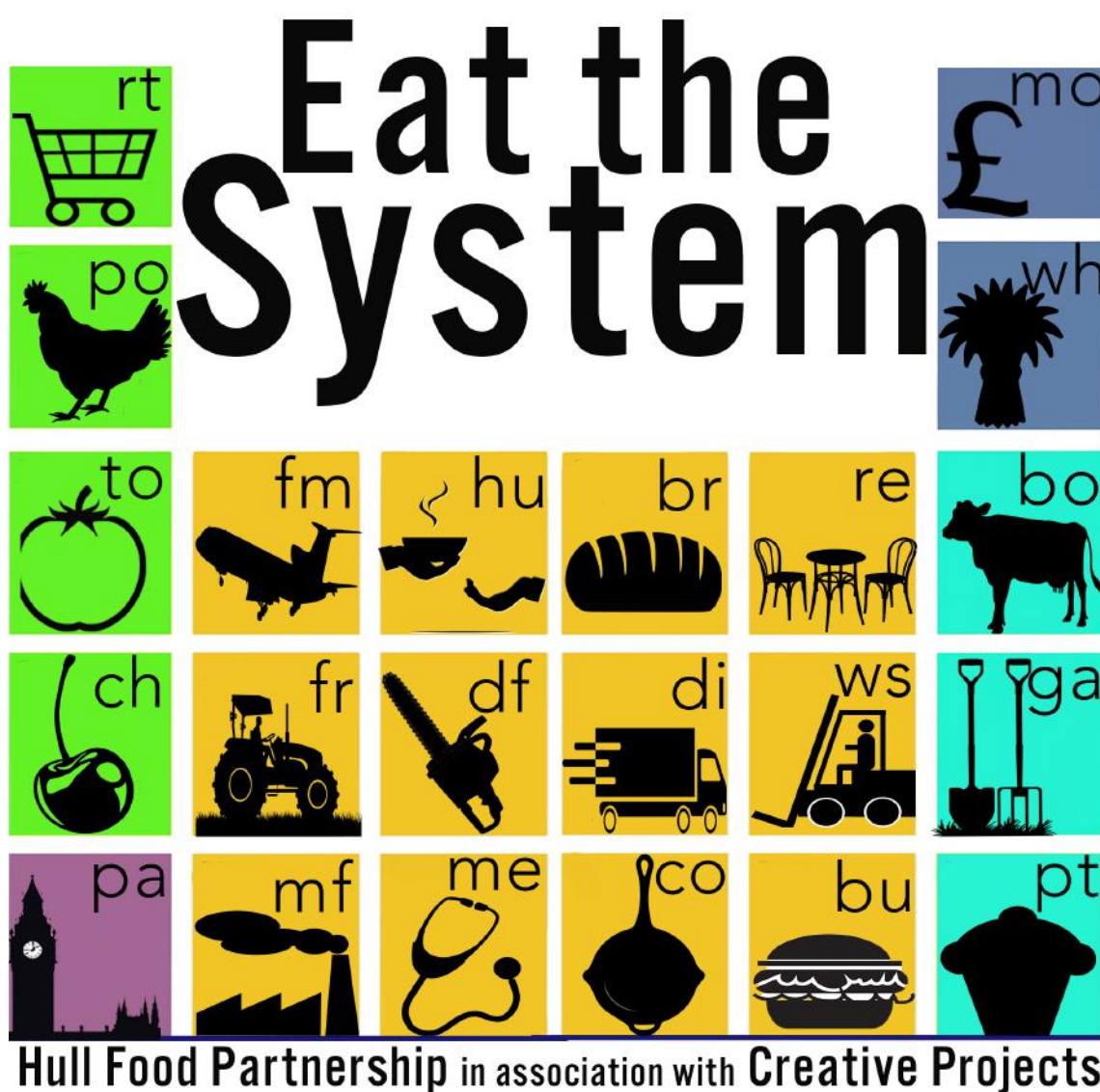
However, [Sustainable Food Places](#) also recognised there is further work to be done on sustainable supply chains and procurement, catering, and supporting small businesses.

Our Steering Group will be meeting next week and we will be considering the next steps on how we build on this success.

Hull Food Partnership visits Parliament on 5th November

On 5th November, Hull Food Partnership visited Westminster to showcase how we, alongside [our network of 120+ Sustainable Food Places](#) connect local authorities, community organisations, farmers, businesses and residents to roll out innovative projects improving access to healthy, sustainable food, strengthening supply chains and celebrating local food identity.

We met with MPs and political decisionmakers to champion the role of local action in improving resilience, connecting communities and building a vibrant food culture in every community.



'Eat The System' podcast: Feed us with Trees

[Darren speaks to Elspeth Hay](#), about her recently published book about harvesting nuts, called 'Feed us with Trees'.

The conversation ranged how traditional hunter-gathering societies managed the land, to how trees could and should play a major role in modern agriculture. Prepare to discover a missing piece of the modern food system.



Local News

Community shop opens in North Bransholme

As previously reported, [Community Shop is coming to Lothian Way](#) with an opening date scheduled for mid-December.

Residents who live nearby and are in receipt of means-tested benefits are being [encouraged to sign up for membership](#) so they can take advantage of the great quality affordable food that will be on offer.

Although the shop is only available to members, use of the community hub facilities and café are open to all, with free meals for children available every day. [Check their Facebook page](#) for more information.

Real Christmas trees available from Rise Walled Garden – get yours now!

Since the ending of Arthur Street Trading Company (Arthurs Organics), Graham has been busy working with lots of the regulars and together they now run the [Rise Walled Garden](#) Charity (people are welcome come for a visit on any

Monday). They have also been slowly and quietly growing some Christmas trees in the areas of the walled garden not run by the charity.

Whilst the garden is no longer certified as organic by the Soil Association, and therefore they can't market their trees as organic, they have stuck to their foundational values and grown them following organic methods.

The main crop of Nordman Firs has turned out to be the slowest growing species and still requires another couple of years before they are large enough. But they do have a small number of Douglas Firs that are ready, they hold their needles well and have a wonderful fragrance. The Douglas Firs are perhaps not the most symmetrical of trees but please bear in mind that at Christmas even slightly wonky trees need love. They hope that you can find a place in your homes for one of these locally grown, ultra fresh, fragrant low impact trees.

The trees are still growing so you need to pop to the walled garden, select a tree that tugs at your heart strings, they cut it for you and then you pay the bargain price of £25.

[Graham or Guy will be at the walled garden](#) on the following dates from 10am to dark;

Sat 29th-Sun 30th Nov. Sat 6th, 13th, 20th, Sun 7th, 14th, 21st Dec.

Any enquiries, questions and for further info please feel free to call Graham on 07949 805695 or Guy on 07717 323077 or just turn up, but please wear suitable gear!

Free school meals auto-enrolment pilot helps hundreds of Hull pupils

A Hull City Council pilot scheme to automatically identify and register eligible children for free school meals has helped ensure [750 additional pupils are now receiving the support they are entitled to](#). The auto-enrolment pilot, launched earlier this year, was designed to make it easier for families to access free school meals without the need for a separate application. The scheme has proven a major success – increasing uptake across the city and helping Hull's schools secure more than £1 million via Pupil Premium funding for the 2025/26 academic year.

The council's evaluation shows that free school meal applications rose significantly during the pilot – from 685 in 2024 to 1,093 in 2025 – well above the usual increase expected from new school starters alone. The new system was also more efficient, reducing pressure during the busy September period when schools and council staff prepare data for the autumn census.

The team behind the pilot is now recommending that the process is repeated every year to ensure that pupils new to school, or those who become newly eligible, are supported quickly.

Autumn update from Hull and East Riding Citizen's Advice

Demand for [Citizen's Advice services across Hull and the East Riding](#) is as high as ever, and they supported clients with 24,412 issues in the second quarter of 2025/26.

As [The People's Champion](#), it's not just about numbers - it's about the difference they make to people's lives every day. Not only are they helping thousands of people, but their using real live insights from clients across our communities to inform their work. Fuel poverty is tightening its grip on Hull and the East Riding, with local data showing that over half of the clients they see who cannot meet their bills are already repaying energy debt, and one in five are repaying water debt.

There's also news of new support they're offering in Hull, including the amazing Advice First Aid projects aimed at upskilling staff and volunteers at local community groups and organisations with free training.



The poster is for 'Blue Influencers Wilder Allotments' and features a green background with white and yellow text. It includes logos for 'Child Dynamics', '#iwill', 'Department for Culture Media & Sport', 'COMMUNITY FUND', and 'THE EFFENDI CODE TRUST'. There are two images: a blue sky with clouds on the left and a green seedling in soil on the right. The text invites youth aged 10-14 to help create a habitat area in Marfleet, with a meeting on Saturday 6th December. It also mentions that sessions are free and group sessions will be arranged for January.

Blue Influencers
Wilder Allotments
Great Crested Newts and habitat creations

Are you **aged between 10 and 14** and have a passion for nature?
We need your help!

We need youth input to create a habitat area right here, in Marfleet!
Take the lead in this fantastic opportunity to protect the future of wildlife right on your doorstep!

Want to know more?
Meet at The Hut on Preston Road
Saturday 6th December 11am until 12noon.

*Sessions are free, everything needed will be provided.
Group sessions will be arranged for January*

Please call 01482 781121 to let us know if you will be attending.

National News

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government releases English indices of deprivation 2025

Good news for Hull as it [falls from 4th most deprived local authority in England to 8th place](#). The last time these statistics were released was in 2019, before covid and the ongoing cost of living crisis.

Welcome news from the budget as Chancellor removes two child Universal Credit limit

Yesterday's budget statement confirmed that the [two-child Universal Credit cap](#) (a key driver of child poverty) will finally be scrapped from April 2026. The move will [increase the benefits for 560,000 families by an average of £5,310](#).

Alongside this, the announcement that re-assessments for PIP awards will be less frequent for people aged over 25 is welcome news for some of the most vulnerable members of society, for whom food insecurity is still a real concern.

New study highlights growing concerns over ultra-processed foods

A new report in The Lancet warns that [ultra-processed foods are now a major driver of poor health worldwide](#). Carried out by 43 global experts and based on 104 long-term studies the report suggests that these foods are linked to a greater risk of [12 health conditions including obesity, type 2 diabetes and heart disease](#).

In addition, the report explores how current food systems and corporate practices are driving the shift toward these kinds of foods, causing a rise in consumption of UPFs which are now increasingly replacing traditional minimally processed diets.

In the UK and US, more than half the average diet now consists of UPF. For some, especially people who are younger, poorer or from disadvantaged areas, a diet comprising as much as 80% UPF is typical.

High blood pressure rates doubled in children “largely driven by increasing childhood obesity”

The rate of children and teenagers living with high blood pressure globally has nearly doubled because of a toxic combination of unhealthy diets, mass inactivity and soaring levels of obesity, [according to the largest review of its kind](#).

Prime Minister indicates support for better quality school food

Keir Starmer announced the launch of an initiative aiming to make the UK's children healthier [at a reception at 10 Downing Street earlier this month](#). A key focus will be working in partnership to improve the nutritional quality of children's food in school.

The Prime Minister said:

"I think (school meals) are hugely important. We're celebrating here partnership working, government with various sectors, but particularly focusing on food at school...Nutritious food is obviously better for children.

And guess what? They do like it more. It has an impact on health beyond eating a good meal a day, because two of the biggest issues for children are obesity and tooth decay. And what we're doing today is really important on all those fronts."

To achieve the ambition to transform school food, we join the Food Foundation in calling on the government to take the following actions in time for the September 2026 expansion of Free School Meals:

- Revise the School Food Standards in line with nutrition advice
- Review how free school meal funding is allocated to ensure it is used effectively
- Introduce universal national monitoring to ensure basic compliance with school food standards led by the Food Standards Agency
- Require Ofsted to ask about school food quality and food education during their inspections



Simply Veg – win a Big Beans Boost games bundle, closes 31st January

[Simply Veg](#) are trying to encourage families to explore the power of beans in supporting childhood nutrition with these protein powerhouses.

To support this, they are giving away a family games bundle to help bring households together. [Enter here](#).

Have your say on the local growth plan

Hull and East Yorkshire Combined Authority is developing a new Local Growth Plan : a ten year strategy designed to drive sustainable economic growth and prosperity across our region.

We want your views to help shape the future of our region.



Consultations / Campaigns

Hull and East Yorkshire Combined Authority Local Growth Plan Consultation

The Hull and East Yorkshire Combined Authority is developing a new Local Growth Plan – a ten-year strategy designed to drive sustainable economic growth and prosperity across our region.

The Local Growth Plan (LGP) is a long-term approach that sets out how the Combined Authority will support local businesses, create jobs, and invest in our communities. It aligns with national priorities and local ambitions, aiming to build a thriving, innovative, and resilient economy for everyone in Hull and East Yorkshire.

The Combined Authority has now [launched stage one of this consultation](#). Further information and the background documents can be found at the bottom of this page: www.hullandeastyorkshire.gov.uk/lgp

PLEASE NOTE, question 14 of the survey specifically asks about the best ways the VCSE sector can contribute to the Local Growth Plan, and what support, collaboration or involvement would help them have the greatest impact. We would encourage you to complete the survey so that the VCSE sector can ensure it has a strong voice in future developments of our Combined Authority area.

National Campaign - Tell the whole truth about ultra-processed foods

The Soil Association's latest survey highlighted that [making whole and minimally processed foods more affordable](#) is the most important thing the government could do to make healthy food easy to access.

The Department of Health and Social Care had planned to encourage retailers to shift the balance of price promotions towards minimally processed foods. This includes fruit, vegetables, beans, whole grains like rice and pasta, and unprocessed meat.

But industry lobbyists, representing the UK's biggest UPF companies, demanded this advice be removed from the guidance issued to retailers. And yet, there is overwhelming scientific evidence that minimally processed and whole foods are crucial for a healthy diet.

[Sign the petition](#) calling on the UK government to resist the influence of the ultra-processed food industry and make minimally processed food accessible to all.



Competitions/Offers/Resources

Win a Robin Friendly Garden Gift Set

To celebrate the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust's first ever Robin Festival, they're giving one lucky winner a Robin Friendly Garden Gift Set. This nature-friendly gift set has been carefully curated by our wildlife experts. It's packed with everything you need to support the wildlife on your doorstep and bring a touch of wonder to your outside space. [Enter here](#).

Hull Winter Wellbeing Booklet out now!

Forum are hosting the Hull Winter Wellbeing Network which brings organisations together to support residents through the colder winter months. To assist with the sharing of information households may find useful, a new Winter Wellbeing Booklet has been produced which [you can download here](#). They have also

produced an extra booklet which has specific information about [accessing health services during the winter period](#).

Iceland's interest-free food loans available this winter

[Iceland's Food Club](#) is a way to borrow a small amount for your food shop without being stung by sky-high interest. You can apply for as little as £25 (or up to £75 if you're new and £100 if you've used it before). If approved, the money's loaded straight onto a pre-paid Iceland card you use like cash in-store or online. Repayments are set at around £10 a week.

It's run by Fair For You, a not-for-profit lender. You only ever pay back what you borrowed. Fixed repayments mean you can plan around it

Borrowing for food isn't something we endorse, but this may help some households who struggle in the run up to Xmas.

Find out more here: www.fairforyou.co.uk/food-club-card

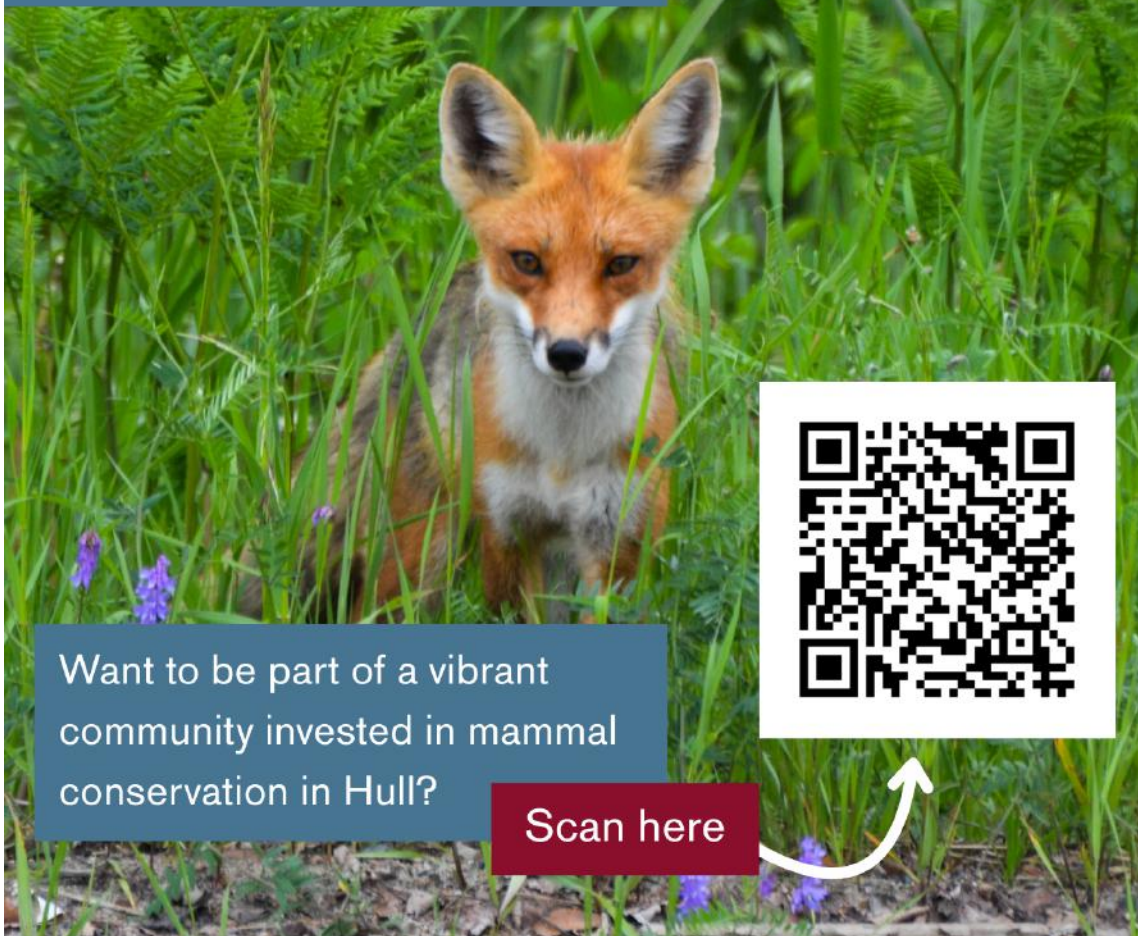
Report on the Future of UK Orchard Fruit

Orchards in the UK face an increasingly uncertain future due to climate change, changes to global supply chains, access to land, availability of labour and the economic viability of UK farming businesses.

It's a critical time for all stakeholders to be making the case for a positive, thriving future for orchards as the best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.

[This report](#) considers five visions for what a thriving and climate resilient orchard sector in the UK would look like and what is needed to achieve that vision.

Join the Hull Mammal Group!



Want to be part of a vibrant
community invested in mammal
conservation in Hull?

Scan here



Funding

The Fore - Deadline 3rd December

The Fore funds small charitable organisations with an annual income of under £500,000. [More information about who and what they fund can be found here.](#) Their current funding round opened for registrations of interest on Wednesday 26th November and will close at 12pm (midday) on Wednesday 3rd December. So be quick!

National Lottery: Awards for All (Environment) – Deadline 17th December

The National Lottery Community Fund has grants of between £300 and £20,000 for up to two years available to fund projects that help people connect with and care for nature in their area and make a positive difference to the environment.

You can use the funding to:

- start a new activity or continue an existing one
- help your organisation adapt to new challenges
- run one-off events that have a clear environmental benefit.

They're looking to fund projects that:

- help people connect with and care for nature in their area
- make a positive difference to the environment

Find out more and apply here:

<https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/national-lottery-awards-for-all-england-environment>

Humber Teaching NHS Foundation Trust, Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Grant

Humber Teaching NHS Foundation Trust have opened up their Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Grant to Hull and East Yorkshire.

The fund aims to help connect people and communities to improved access and support for mental health and wellbeing across Hull and East Riding.

Grants to the value of £250-£5,000 are available to apply for now.

This grant programme links to a number of areas of the Trust Strategy:

- Enhancing prevention, wellbeing & recovery
- Fostering integration, partnerships and alliances
- Promoting people, communities and social values

Find out more and apply here:

<https://northbankforum.org.uk/funding/community-mental-health-and-wellbeing-grant/>

Calisen Impact Charitable Trust – Deadline 31st December

Calisen is a Manchester based renewable energy company. Their funding priorities are geographically targeted across Great Britain, with a particular focus on where Calisen operates and where their employees live. This approach ensures support is rooted in the communities they know best. The fifth category, Net-Zero & Energy Efficiency Projects, is open to eligible charities across Great Britain, provided their core mission aligns with one of the other four funding areas.

The Trustees will accept applications for funding based on their alignment with the Charity's core objectives which are detailed as follows:

Youth Empowerment, Children's Play & Safe Spaces

- Supporting schools, youth clubs and programmes that actively reduce social exclusion, improve physical and mental wellbeing, and equip young people with life and employment skills through hands-on engagement.

Hospice & Palliative Care

- Projects that complement and enhance the essential work of hospices, focusing on initiatives that improve comfort and dignity for patients and families. We do not fund core clinical operations or NHS-run hospices.

Community-Based Social Benefit Projects

- Enabling initiatives that strengthen local communities through direct support, such as food banks, befriending schemes, accessible transport services, or improvements to shared facilities that promote inclusion and wellbeing.

Community-Led Environmental Action

- Funding hands-on projects that enhance local environments and foster community wellbeing, including but not limited to tree planting, habitat restoration, community gardens, and the creation or improvement of outdoor spaces designed for public use.

Net-Zero & Energy Efficiency Projects

- Investing in infrastructure for charities whose core mission aligns with one of our other funding priorities that drives immediate carbon reduction - including but not limited to solar panel installations, heat pump systems, and retrofit schemes - with demonstrable environmental and cost-saving benefits.

Find out more and apply here:

<https://www.calisenimpactcharitabletrust.com/about-funding>

Randal Foundation Fund – Deadline 12th January

The Randal Foundation Fund has been set up as a collaboration between the Randal Charitable Foundation and Two Ridings Community Foundation to support grassroots charitable organisations with a turnover under £50,000 working in Hull.

Organisations must be working to significantly improve the quality of life for individuals, enabling a long term or permanent betterment of life chances, personal circumstances or physical or mental health.

You can apply for up to £3,000 to be spent over 12 months. They have a total funding pot of £30,000 and anticipate awarding 10-12 grants.

Your project must align with one or more of the below themes and should clearly demonstrate how you are working to address at least one of the following priorities:

- Alleviating poverty
- Tackling mental ill-health
- Education for the most disadvantaged

They are also particularly interested in applications where people who are experts by experience of the issues being addressed are involved with the design of the project and/or the running of the organisation / delivering the project.

Find out more and apply here:

<https://tworidingscf.org.uk/fund/randal-foundation-fund/>

Joseph and Annie Cattle Trust

Grants of up to £1,000 are aimed at supporting vulnerable people change their lives in the Hull and East Riding of Yorkshire, by providing financial support.

Some of the following projects the Trust will support:

- Older people
- People with disabilities
- The underprivileged
- Children living with dyslexia

Charitable organisations working in Hull and East Riding of Yorkshire may apply, on behalf of families and individuals. Also, applications for funding for projects and work with groups of people in Hull and East Yorkshire are welcome.

Find out more and apply here:

<https://www.jacattletrust.co.uk/>



Dates for your Diary / Events

- Christmas events and markets across Hull and East Riding from [20th November](#)
- National Tree Week, [22nd-30th November](#)
- Buy Nothing Day, [28th November](#)
- Green Social Prescribing Celebration Event, St Matthews Community Enterprise Centre, 345 Anlaby Road, [28th November](#)
- World Soil Day, [5th December](#)
- Good Things Makers Market, [7th December](#)

- FREE Community Meals [every Thursday at 6:30pm](#) (Marfleet Community Centre)
- Waffle pay what you feel Community Meals, [every Tuesday 4:30-7pm](#) (Lonsdale Community Centre). [PLEASE NOTE they will be closed from 16th Dec until end of Jan 2026](#)



Training/Webinars

FREE webinar: State of the Nation's Food Industry Report 2025. [3rd Dec 11am-12noon](#)

Be one of the first to hear key findings from the 2025 State of the Nation's Food Industry report. The Food Foundation will share some of the key findings from this year's report, which assesses 37 of the UK's major food businesses and their progress in meeting climate and health targets.

FREE TRACC (Transformative Actions for Resilient Coastal Communities) events on [Monday 8th December from 10am to 4.00pm at Ferens Art Gallery, Queen Victoria Square, Carr Lane, Hull HU1 3RA.](#)

- Session one: Drop-in Consultation: 10am to 12.30pm
- A light working lunch will be available from 12:30 to 1:30pm for anyone who would like to stay over from the morning session or will arrive to participate in the afternoon session
- Session two: Designing an Action Plan for People and Nature: 1.30pm to 4.00pm

Rewilding Youth's Autumn Wild Workshops are all ready and waiting for you lovely people to book onto!

The team have got some real treats for you to keep you happy and healthy through the winter!

- 30th Nov 10-1pm Christmas Crafts (make your own natural Christmas decorations - garlands, pomanders and more) £20pp

- 7th Dec 10-1pm Homemade Skincare Gifts for Christmas (time to make all those pressies for Christmas - balms, lotions and creams galore!) £20pp

Visit their website for more information and to book your places:

www.rewildingyouth.co.uk

FREE Hull & East Yorkshire Digital Marketing Skills Bootcamp

Attention Hull & East Yorkshire-based farmers, crafters, small business owners, employees and the self-employed!

Fareport are excited to collaborate with Hull City Council to offer a Department for Education (DfE) fully-funded Digital Marketing Skills Bootcamp course – completely free for those who qualify. Enhance your marketing expertise and connect with fellow local professionals in this engaging course.

The next courses begin on 9th December 2025, find out more and register here:

www.fareport.co.uk/course/hull-digital-marketing-skills-bootcamp

FREE Water & Coasts Network Event, Guildhall, 23rd January 2026

Water and Coasts is a Hull and East-Riding focused series of events which bring together different groups, individuals and organisations that are all working on or exploring issues relating to flooding, erosion and water management across Hull and East Riding.

This session is in collaboration with Living with Water and Coast-R and is looking to share updates from projects and activities taking place across the region.

Hull CVS in person training

Hull CVS offers a variety of low cost training courses for the Voluntary and Community Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector. Upcoming courses include;

- Thursday 04 December: Harm Reduction Level 2 (ReNew)
- Thursday 04 December: Naloxone Training (ReNew)
- Tuesday 09 December: Event Planning
- Tuesday 09 December: Martyn's Law
- Wednesday 10 December: Fire Safety Principles Level 2 (Accredited)
- Monday 15 Financing the Plan

Find out more here <https://hullcvs.org.uk/training>

WEA courses

Founded in 1903, the [Workers' Educational Association \(WEA\)](http://www.workerseducationalassociation.org.uk) is a charity dedicated to bringing high-quality, professional education into the heart of communities. Many courses are FREE or discounted (subject to eligibility). Some courses we think you'll find interesting include:

- Healthy Living: Yoga to support a healthy digestive system, [starts 2nd December](#)

- Cooking Practical: Batch Cooking, [starts 18th December](#)



**WANT TO MAKE YOUR
WORKPLACE FESTIVITIES
MORE SUSTAINABLE?**

GET OUR FREE RESOURCE PACK



HUBBUB.ORG.UK



Hull Food Partnership, The Strand, 75 Beverley Road, Hull, HU3 1XL

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