

CHAPTER





Urban food planning has become one of the quintessential global challenges of the 21st Century. The basic necessities of life are air, water, shelter and food, and urban planners have addressed them all with the conspicuous exception, until recently, of food.

Increasingly, however, food production, distribution and consumption are being seen as central to a wide array of policy areas, including the economy, social justice, public health and the environment. Food production is widely regarded as a rural activity, yet this ignores the significance of urban agriculture, an activity that is growing in developed and developing countries alike. Food consumption, which presents such challenges as child poverty and obesity, is central to the World Health Organization's *Healthy*

Cities programme, of which Cardiff has just become a member.

The global food price surge of 2007-08, when wheat prices doubled and rice prices nearly tripled, has made food security a preoccupation for national policy-makers everywhere. Meanwhile, the production of and access to healthy food is increasingly understood to be an essential part of urban regeneration and planning for sustainable cities. This conference addresses all these themes by charting the development of a sustainable food policy within Wales, a policy that needs to find space for locally-produced food from Wales as well as fairly traded food from afar. This conference is a timely event because it coincides with the publication of a radically new Food Strategy from the Welsh Assembly Government.

Conference agenda

Monday 24 May 2010

9.00am	Coffee and registration	
9.50am 10.00am	Opening Remarks Healthy Cities: the Role of Food Policy Professor Kevin Morgan, Regeneration Institute, Cardiff University	
10.30am	Urban Agriculture: The City as a Farm Andre Viljoen, School of Architecture and Design, University of Brighton	
11.00am	Coffee	
11.30am	Street Food: Bringing the Country into the City Steve Garrett, Director, Riverside Community Market	
12.00pm	Cardiff Council's commitment to Sustainable Food Procurement Steve Knowles, Sustainable Development, Cardiff Council	
12.30pm	The Welsh Government's National Food Strategy Elin Jones, Minister for Rural Affairs	
1.00pm	Lunch	
2.00pm	Rescuing Food: The FareShare Vision Mike McNally, Natonal Development Manager, Fareshare	
2.30pm	Learning from Bordeaux Quay: the Bristol Experience Barny Haughton, Chef and Owner, Bordeaux Quay	
3.00pm	Clone Towns or Retail Diversity? Professor Cliff Guy, Cardiff University	
4.00pm	Conference closes	

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Over the best part of two millennia, notions of Welsh identity have ebbed and flowed but the desire to ensure the retention and survival of Welshness has staved.

In this wide-ranging and scholarly new book from the IWA, Harold Carter, sometime Gregynog professor of Human Geography at the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, looks at what constitutes identity and at the remarkable achievement of the Welsh in withstanding cultural assimilation into their much bigger neighbour. The book examines the importance of language as a marker for identity and the dilemma it poses in the Welsh context. It also engages with religion, myths and memories, as well as more modern symbols such as Wales's growing range of national institutions. Changes in the way the Welsh people perceive their identity, the somewhat ambivalent attitude of the nation's capital, Cardiff, and the impact of globalisation and multiculturalism on Welsh identity are all considered. Finally, it judges the prospects and the requirements for the Welsh carrying forward a renewed sense of their coherence as a people.

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