

**Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Milton Keynes  
and Oxfordshire Food Group  
Community Interest Company**



**Membership Information Pack**

**The Berks, Bucks, MK and Oxon Food Group CIC (BBO Food Group)** is a Community Interest Company, comprising local food & drink and hospitality businesses, as well as organisations and individuals that share a passion for local food & drink.

Our **Mission** is to “promote the production and consumption of local food and drink and to increase the volume of this market in the area”.

The principal **Objectives** are to

- Support producers to sell locally
- Promote the benefits of food and drink produced in the area
- Enable as many people as possible to have access to good locally produced food
- Encourage producers to use environmentally friendly methods and to practise good animal welfare.

BBO Food Group is recognized by the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) and DEFRA as the lead organisation for small & medium producers, growers and processors of food and drink from within the region.

We target several segments of the local food & drink market:

- Food & drink businesses (as Associate, Hospitality, Full or Patron members)
- Public and private organisations (as Donors)
- Consumers (as Food Forum members)
- The Voluntary and Community Sector (as Partners)

The main sponsors are SEEDA, the South East Food Groups Partnership (SEFGP), and local authorities in the three counties.

**In this pack you will find:**

- Members Benefits with an Overview Table
- Members Agreement
- Application Form



Berks, Bucks, MK and Oxon Food Group Community Interest Company, No 6708705

Speedwell House, Speedwell Street, Oxford OX1 1NE Tel: +44 (0)1865 328786/328787 Mob: +44 (0)7795 334474

E: [info@local-food.net](mailto:info@local-food.net) [www.local-food.net](http://www.local-food.net)

## Membership & Benefits

Membership is open to food producers, processors, caterers, retailers, distributors who are either based in the three counties, or are based in a neighbouring county and sell their produce within the BBO area.

Membership runs for 1 year.

You are invited to choose from 4 different types of membership – **Associate, Full, Patron and Hospitality**. Consumers and organisations from within the Voluntary and Community Sector can join the free **Food Forum**.



### Associate Membership

This is open to producers, farmers and growers, processors, retailers including farm shops and local shops and distributors.

#### Benefits:

- Listing in the high quality annual local food & drink directory, 10 000
- Listing in the on-line directory at [www.local-food.net](http://www.local-food.net) (24 000 visitors) and [www.southeastenglandfoodanddrink.co.uk](http://www.southeastenglandfoodanddrink.co.uk) (more than 50 000 visitors),

Associate Membership fee £100.00 plus VAT

### Full Membership

Open to producers, farmers and growers, processors, retailers including farm shops and local shops, distributors.

#### Benefits:

- Listing in the high quality annual local food & drink directory, 10 000
- Listing in the on-line directory at [www.local-food.net](http://www.local-food.net) (24 000 visitors) and [www.southeastenglandfoodanddrink.co.uk](http://www.southeastenglandfoodanddrink.co.uk) (more than 50 000 visitors),
- Subsidised training via SEFGP [www.southeastenglandfoodanddrink.co.uk](http://www.southeastenglandfoodanddrink.co.uk)
- Subsidised participation in county shows, Speciality and Fine Food fair and International Food Exhibition (conditions apply):  
*Examples:* £25 off at Bucks County Show  
 £25 off at Oxfordshire County & Thame Show  
 £25 off (at least) at Royal Berkshire Show  
 £100 to exhibit at Speciality and Fine Food Fair and International Food Exhibition, London, within the South East England stand
- 25% reduced advertising rates in the annual local food & drink directory
- Exclusive access to “Members only” area on Food Group website to update and promote your own events [www.local-food.net](http://www.local-food.net)
- Monthly on-line Newsletter detailing latest news, event opportunities, training courses, special offers and promotion of your events and achievements
- e-Bulletins and trade opportunities from the South East
- Other free publications, i.e. Local Training Providers Directory, Food from Britain Guide for Producers and retailers; application forms for awards and courses
- Exclusive use of our logo on your publicity and packaging material. Free point of sale material for your displays and sales outlets (conditions apply).
- Trade development including “Meet the Buyer” events (if appropriate) and introductions with key trade buyers and retailers e.g. Waitrose, Midcounties CO-OP, Sainsbury, Budgens, etc
- Promotion (if appropriate) and support to sell to the catering sector, tourism sector, schools and local retailers
- Promotion of your business at all events, including agricultural shows, national/regional local produce and tourism related events.
- Networking and business contacts with other members and invitations to at least 3 events per year
- Right to sit on BBO Food Group Board of Directors

Full Membership Fee £150 plus VAT



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## Hospitality Membership

Open to restaurants, pubs, hotels, guest houses, B&Bs, caterers, cookery schools, private chefs and demonstrators.

### Benefits:

- Full Membership with Tourism South East for the heavily discounted price of £55 (saving approx. £80)\*
- Listing in the high quality annual local food & drink directory, 10 000
- Listing in the on-line directory at [www.local-food.net](http://www.local-food.net) (24 000 visitors) and [www.southeastenglandfoodanddrink.co.uk](http://www.southeastenglandfoodanddrink.co.uk) (more than 50 000 visitors)
- 100 free copies of annual local food & drink directory for promotion and distribution
- Advice and opportunities to help you source and supply local produce including an invitation to at least 3 themed networking events each year
- 25% reduced advertising rates in the annual local food & drink directory
- Exclusive access to "Members only" area on Food Group website to update and promote your own events [www.local-food.net](http://www.local-food.net)
- Monthly members e-newsletter detailing latest news, opportunities and special offers available for members and opportunity to promote your own events, offers and achievements
- e-Bulletins and trade opportunities from the South East
- Exclusive use of our logo on your publicity. Free point of sale material for your displays (conditions apply)
- Free basic entry into Local Flavours Food Festival Programme and listing on the Festival website [www.local-flavours.net](http://www.local-flavours.net)



Hospitality and Retail Membership Fee £100 + VAT

\* TSE membership offer open to applicants with annual business turnover of less than £200,000

## Patrons

Several larger companies with a local presence in Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes and Oxfordshire that have a strong corporate responsibility to BBO countryside and to the local economy work with us. They support local food activities with grants, gifts, covenants and sponsorship.

### Patron Membership offers:

- All of the Full Membership benefits above
- Acknowledgment and your company logo in the annual local food & drink directory, in our Annual Report and other publications
- Acknowledgment and your company logo and contact details, with a link to your own website from [www.local-food.net](http://www.local-food.net)
- Acknowledgment and your company logo and contact details, with a link to your own website from our on-line monthly Newsletters emailed to all members, Food Forum and local authorities.
- Promotion of your business at all events, including agricultural shows, national/regional local produce and tourism related events.

Patron Membership Fee £1 000 plus VAT

## The Food Forum

This is open to everyone who supports the work of the BBO Food Group across the three counties as consumers, non-governmental organisations, community groups, and public sector organisations.

### Food Forum Members will receive:

- Our annual local food & drink directory
- Monthly on-line updates on BBO Food Group's projects and activities
- Invitation to at least three networking events organised each year.



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