

Operation Farm Gate: Help connect producers with City Harvest

City Harvest is a sustainable solution to surplus for the food and growing industry, diverting quality food from waste and redistributing it to those facing food poverty across London. When 1 in 4 people struggle to access nutritious food and 1 in 3 parents miss meals to feed their families, City Harvest's solution is manifold.

The London wide operation delivers free food every week to over 375 charities: foodbanks, schools, hostels, soup kitchens, refuges, and local community hubs. City Harvest currently redistributes free food for 1.2million meals a month, but sadly, has a growing list of more than 20,000 people that are needing help.

It's simple to work with City Harvest

City Harvest works with all levels of the food supply chain, throughout the UK and partners with farms and growers, manufacturers, retailers, wholesalers and distributors who flag when stock is either close to its shelf life, has been forecasted incorrectly, forms part of a development trial, has incorrect packaging, or sadly just doesn't make the grade or specification due to seasonal challenges. City Harvest is fully compliant with food safety and distribution law.

They appreciate the hard work and effort that goes into harvesting, so with a dedicated team of volunteers who sort through the produce with the common-sense approach of 'would you eat it yourself?', City Harvest are able to accept up to 20% waste within a donation.

City Harvest makes it as easy as possible to do the right thing

City Harvest can organise logistics to collect directly from your farm or packhouse, **at no cost to you**. They have a fleet of 17 temperature-controlled Sprinter vans and two 7.5t trucks as well as having strong partnerships with a number of third-party hauliers. They will often arrange a collection with 24hrs notice and will always be more than happy to return farm bins and crates back to you.

They love to shine a sustainability spotlight on the social and climate impact that companies make by partnering with them. Their impact reports allow you to see the immediate effect to people and planet with case studies and statistics of who your food is supporting. They report on the number of kgs rescued, meals provided and kgs of GHG prevented.

As the world wakes up to the intrinsic value of food, there is no reason food should be wasted when people experience hunger and malnutrition. Making the right choice has never been easier.

For more information about how simple donating surplus to City Harvest is, please contact Ben in the Food Team at food@cityharvest.org.uk or give him a call on 07708 873994.