



### Feeding 5000 a lunch made from rescued food

On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December volunteers from across Portsmouth will come together in Guildhall Square to make and serve 5,000 portions of free lunch to the people of Portsmouth. The lunch, served between 11am – 2.30pm, will be made entirely of food that would otherwise be destined for the bin.

Feeding the 5,000 Portsmouth will be a spectacular public celebration of the positive solutions to food waste. Similar events have helped to launch regional food waste campaigns in cities around the world including London, Paris, Amsterdam, Dublin and Sydney among others, catalysing national and international action on tackling the food waste scandal. The Portsmouth event is part of the launch for the Portsmouth Food Partnership, a newly formed Partnership Project to bring good food to communities across Portsmouth, and working to get food higher up the political agenda.

“Globally 10 per cent of rich countries’ greenhouse gas emissions come from growing food that is never eaten. Reducing waste is one of the most effective ways of dramatically reducing the carbon emissions of our food system and is urgently needed,” said Tristram Stuart, Feedback founder and author of "Waste: Uncovering the Global Food Scandal" (Penguin, 2009).

“Here in the UK an estimated 20 to 40 per cent of UK fruit and vegetables are rejected even before they reach the shops – mostly because they do not match the supermarkets’ excessively strict cosmetic standards.”

Annually, food waste generates 3.3 billion tonnes of greenhouse gas, which is contributing to an already warming world. If food waste was a country it would be the third largest carbon emitter after China and the US. Hugh’s War on Waste BBC1 programme has put food waste in the media spotlight this again month.

Feeding the 5000 Portsmouth is a call to action as well as a celebration of the delicious solutions to food waste. The public will be inspired to try out new recipes and tips to reduce food waste at home, to get involved in local food waste projects, and back campaigns tackling food waste at a policy level. Businesses will be called on to do more to reduce their food waste and support local food projects through donation of surplus.



“A huge team of volunteers will be needed to transform over a tonne of food from shops, supermarkets and farms that would otherwise be wasted into a free lunchtime feast. We want to demonstrate that we can tackle food waste with a fork and spoon, and have fun doing it.” stated Megan Saunders, Coordinator for the Portsmouth Food Partnership who is helping to bring this edible event to Portsmouth.

To get involved with Feeding the 5000 Portsmouth register your details [here](#) or search for us on [Portsmouth Together volunteering page](#).

Volunteer roles include: set up and take down of the site, food waste ambassadors, bin angels, runners, servers, site stewards, team leaders, communications, media support and of course, dressing as a vegetable! There is something for everyone, and roles vary in time commitment. Opportunities are not restricted to Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December during the event, we require support with the promotion and organisation in the lead up to the Feeding the 5,000 lunch too!

We will also be hosting a Big Chop event the day before where will be peeling and chopping all the rescued vegetables ready to cook the next day. We will need an army of choppers to help is with this preparation. This event will be running from the afternoon into the evening in Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December.

Feeding the 5000, Feedback’s flagship campaign where 5,000 members of the public receive a delicious free lunch, prepared exclusively with ingredients that would otherwise have been wasted, will take place on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2015 11am – 2.30pm in Guildhall Square.

###ENDS###

#### Contact details

For more information, interviews and photographs contact Megan Saunders, Portsmouth Food Partnership Coordinator, [megan.saunders@johnpoundscentre.co.uk](mailto:megan.saunders@johnpoundscentre.co.uk) or call 02392 89 20 22

#### Event details

Feeding the 5000 Portsmouth  
Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2015 11am – 2.30pm  
Portsmouth Guildhall Square, PO1

#### Notes for Editors:

1. Feeding the 5000 is Feedback’s flagship campaigning event to shine a light on the global food waste scandal, champion the delicious solutions and catalyse the global movement against food waste. At each event, organisers serve up a delicious communal feast for 5000 people made entirely out of food that would otherwise have been wasted, bringing together a coalition of organisations that offer the solutions to food waste, raising the issue up the political agenda and inspiring new local initiatives against food waste. The first ever Feeding the 5000 event was held in London’s Trafalgar Square in 2009. Other events have since been held in cities across the world, including Paris, Dublin, Manchester, Sydney, Amsterdam and Oakland. In each location the events have had a lasting impact and catalysed action on food waste on a local and national level.
2. [Feedback](#) is an environmental organisation that campaigns to end food waste at every level of the food system. We catalyse action on eliminating food waste globally, working with



governments, international institutions, businesses, NGOs, grassroots organisations and the public to change society's attitude toward wasting food.

3. Their campaigns have expanded since 2009 and are now under five banners: Feeding the 5000, Gleaning Network, The Pig Idea, Stop Dumping and the FSE Network. Feedback is the charity that governs these campaigns, as well as our wider work influencing public attitudes and government and business policies on food waste.
4. Feeding the 5000 Portsmouth is organised by a partnership of organisations, including Portsmouth Food Partnership, Portsmouth Guildhall Cultural Trust, Love Your Street, Portsmouth Together, University of Portsmouth, The Royal Navy, FoodCycle Portsmouth
5. Thanks to: John Pounds Community Trust, Highbury College Travel and Tourism, Highbury College Hospitality and Catering, Food bank network, Portsmouth City Council.