

The FareShare ‘Surplus With Purpose Fund’

FareShare’s [Surplus With Purpose Fund*](#) (SWPF- [click for link](#)) was launched in 2019 and aims to reduce edible food waste in the UK. The Fund helps companies to offset the costs involved in diverting edible surplus food to FareShare that otherwise may not have been sent for human consumption. The diverted food is safely redistributed by FareShare to our network of almost 11,000 UK charities and community organisations who use it to create meals for their service users.

Costs covered under the Fund are those incurred for processes that allow a company to divert the food to FareShare, from the point at which it is commercially rejected. Examples include labour costs (e.g. for harvesting, sorting or packing), packaging costs and transport costs. Further examples are given below. The Fund is also able to cover the loss of income for edible food that usually would’ve been sent for anaerobic digestion or to animal feed processors.

The process of accessing the Fund is easy! Costs are pre agreed with FareShare at the point of a food offer and a company can then submit their invoice to FareShare.

Table 1: Example ‘cost-types’ acceptable under the Surplus With Purpose Fund

Waste Status at point of offer	Costs covered by the Fund to make product accessible to FS				
	Harvest	Grading & washing	Packing	Boxing & palletising	Transport costs to FS
In field	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Harvested ungraded		✓	✓	✓	✓
WIP			✓	✓	✓
Packed bulk				✓	✓
Finished Goods					✓

Important notes on the use of the Fund

- ✓ The Fund is only applicable for edible food that would otherwise have been sent to animal feed, anaerobic digestion, landfill or ploughed back into the ground.
- ✓ Only costs incurred within the UK can be considered under this Fund. Therefore, import-related costs incurred are not covered.
- ✓ The Fund can cover processes needed to divert the food for human consumption via FareShare. Therefore, business-as-usual costs incurred up to the point where it is offered to FareShare for redistribution are not eligible. An example of a cost not covered is growing inputs.
- ✓ Any financial contribution made by FareShare towards the cost of surplus food redistribution is subject to negotiation and the final agreement of the value in writing between FareShare and the recipient.
- ✓ FareShare ask participating companies to be mindful that FareShare is not able to process damaged or spoiled produce over a tolerance level of around 20% of the total food offer.

**In the first year of the Fund, DEFRA provided a grant of £1.9 million towards this fund. This was part of their £15 million scheme launched in January 2019 by the Environment Secretary Michael Gove to help redistribution organisations across England to help overcome barriers to getting food currently going to waste onto people’s plates*