# **Enfield Food Action Plan**

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# What is food poverty?

### Definition

Limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate foods or limited or uncertain ability to acquire suitable foods in socially acceptable ways.

 food poverty is an acute form of poverty that cannot be addressed through food alone

# **Food Poverty in Enfield**

- Currently no systematic measure for food poverty in the UK
- COVID-19 has almost certainly made the scale of food poverty worse
- The Survey of Londoners (2019) found that 20% of adults in Enfield had low or very low food security
- Foodbank usage is not a good overall measure of low food security, however, the North Enfield Food Bank has seen a year-on-year increase since it opened in 2012.

# The North Enfield Food Bank

Where are we now?

Where is the highest demand in the borough?

Why are people using foodbanks?

# **Developing the Food Action Plan**

- 10 interviews with people with lived experience of food poverty
- Interviews with managers of food aid projects
- Focus groups frontline staff
- Surveys general public, food bank users, Enfield Food Alliance
- Workshops Determining Goal and Objectives
- Thematic workshops

# FOOD ACTION PLAN (draft) Co-produced with the Enfield Food Alliance

**Tier 3: Crisis (food) Provision**Ensuring people have a safety net

Tier 2: Early Help / Prevention Building resilience to strengthen individuals, communities and food systems

Tier 1: Prevention
Preventing food insecurity at a structural level
(wider determinants)

Worrying about money? referral tool

Foodbanks

- Advice and support
- Food Poverty Alliance
- · Community capacity building
- Holiday Activity and Food Programme
- · Food pantries affordable, nutritious food
- Food growing in schools and the community
- · Cooking skills in schools and the community

Integrate food security within council policies and strategies

Procurement, London Living wage, Free School Meals,
Planning- community gardens, water fountains, edible landscape, space, S106 funding
Land use- local food production, home food growing
Economic development, Good Food Retail

Setting-based policies e.g. School based healthy eating policy to ensure all children can access to at least one nutritious meal 365 days a year

# Food Action Plan- Main goal and Priorities

### Goal

Everyone living in Enfield can afford and access suitable, nutritious food to meet their needs, with dignity and without resort to emergency food aid

### **Priorities**

- Prevent food insecurity at a structural level by creating local policies that will increase food security; and ensuring a strategic, collaborative and joined up approach is taken
- Build resilience at an individual, community and food system level
- Ensure children's access to nutritious food 365 days
- Adopt a cash first approach
- Improve crisis (food) provision
- Monitoring and evaluation

# **Cash First Approach**

# Worrying about money?

Support is available in Enfield



to get help

## Step 1: What's the problem?

### I suddenly have no money

- · Lost job or reduced hours
- Money stopped
- Lost money
- Unexpected expense
- · Disaster (e.g. flood or fire)
- Relationship breakdown
- Sanctioned (see option: (3))

See options (100)

### ons (160)

### My money doesn't stretch far enough

- Deciding between food, fuel, and mobile credit
- · Low income
- · Zero hours contract
- · Statutory Sick Pay too low
- Facing redundancy
- · Not sure if eligible for support
- · Change of circumstance

### See option 2

### I have debt

- · Rent or Council Tax
- · Gas and electricity
- Payday loans
- · Owe friends or family
- Benefit repayments

See option (3)

#### I am waiting on a benefit payment or advance

- · New claim for benefit
- · Payment delayed
- · Waiting for decision

See options 10

# **Food Pantries**

- Pantry members pay weekly membership
   fee
- Membership provides a heavily discounted weekly food shop & support to improve finances, employment and wellbeing



 Bounces Road, Fore Street, Edmonton Green Library, Ordnance Road

# **Food Pantries**

- Help to address some of the underlying causes of food poverty
- Increase access to affordable, nutritious food
- Build resilience to strengthen individuals and communities
- Who has been supported so far?
- Next steps...