

Enfield Food Action Plan

Alison Asamoah- Community Food Coordinator
Kerry Coe – North Enfield Foodbank Manager
Dionne John- Grassroots Project Manager



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

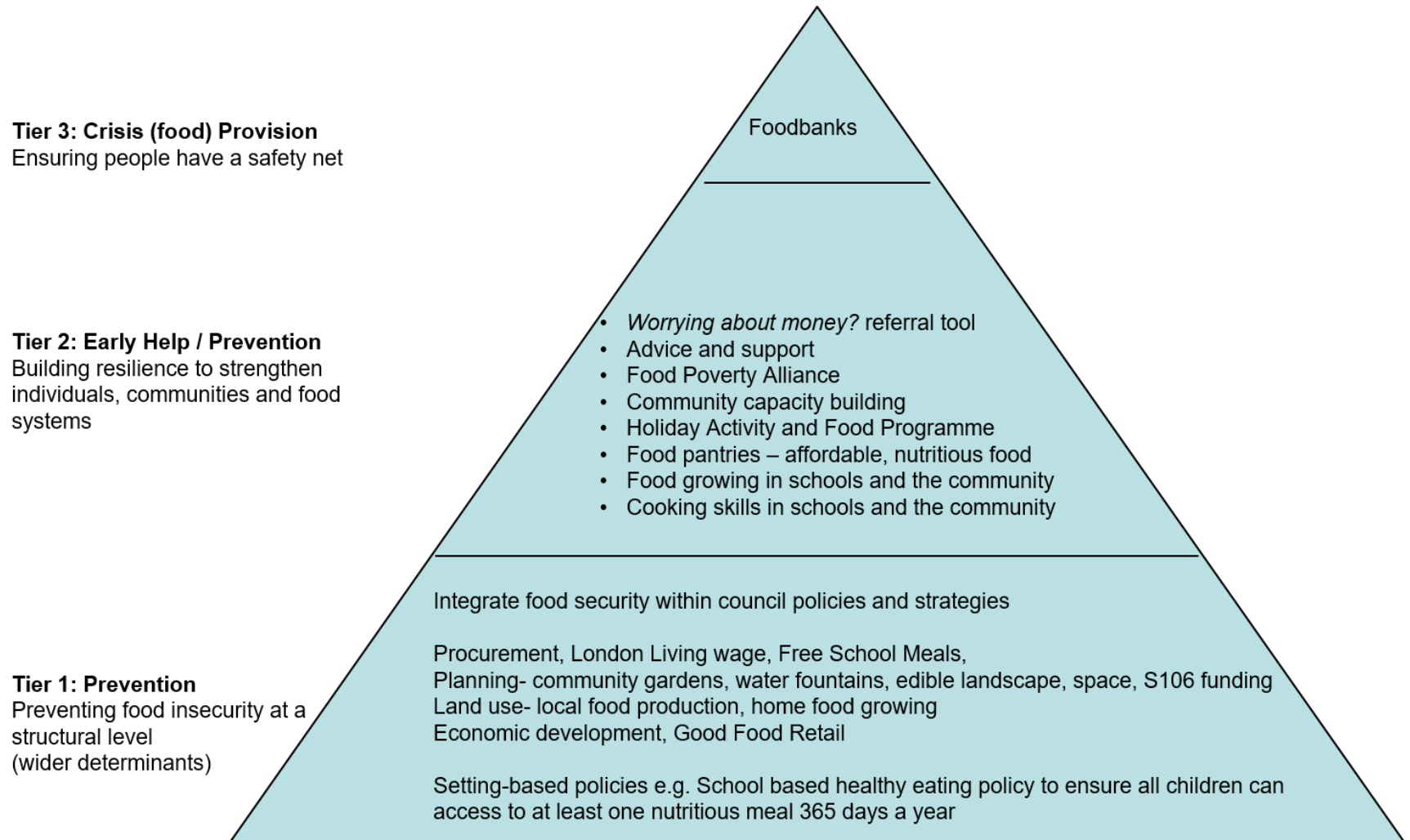
- Where are we now?
- Where is the highest demand in the borough?
- Why are people using foodbanks?

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



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

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: **5**)

See options **1 2 6**

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 **1 4**

Three steps to find options and places to get help

134 005 11

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...