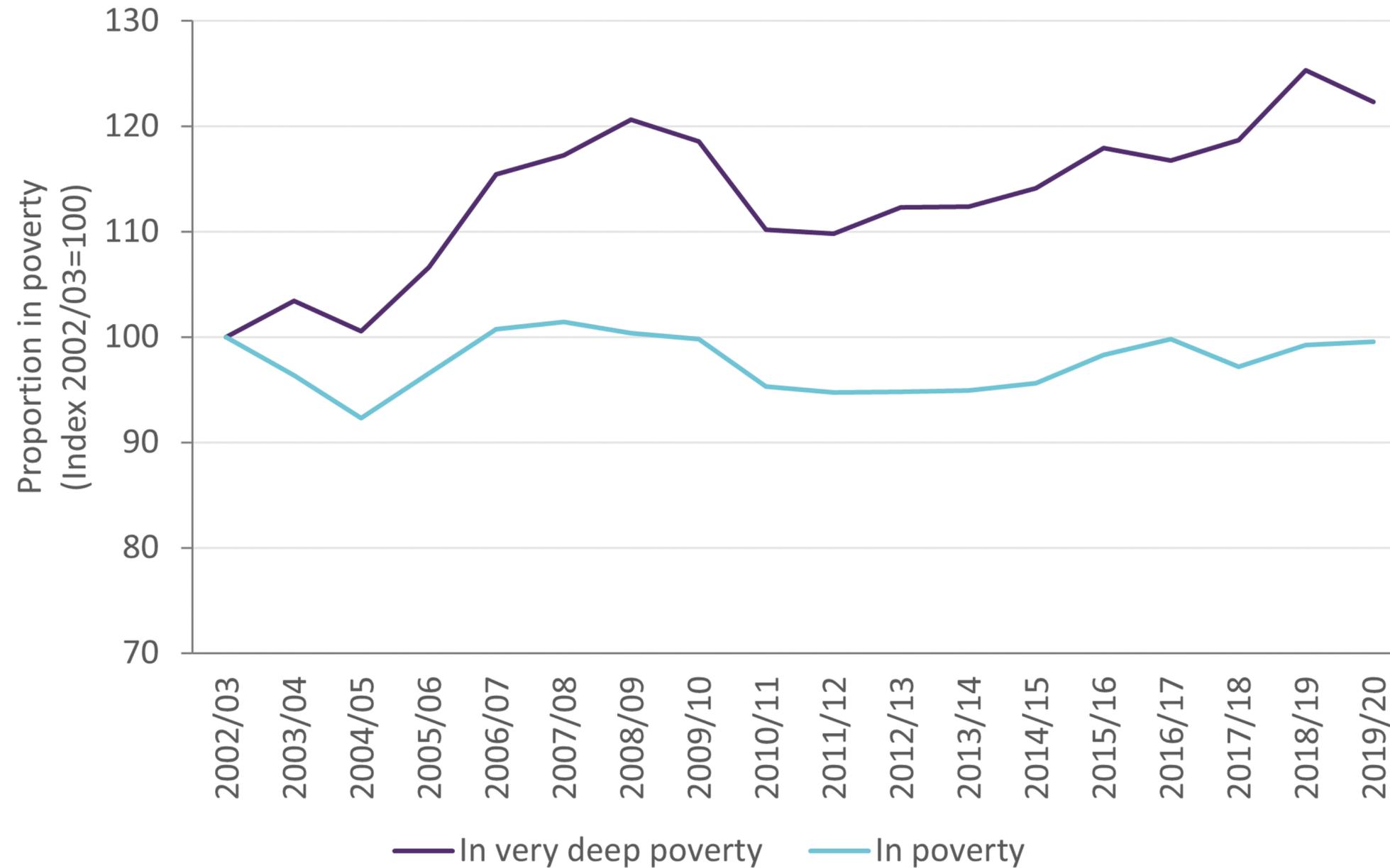


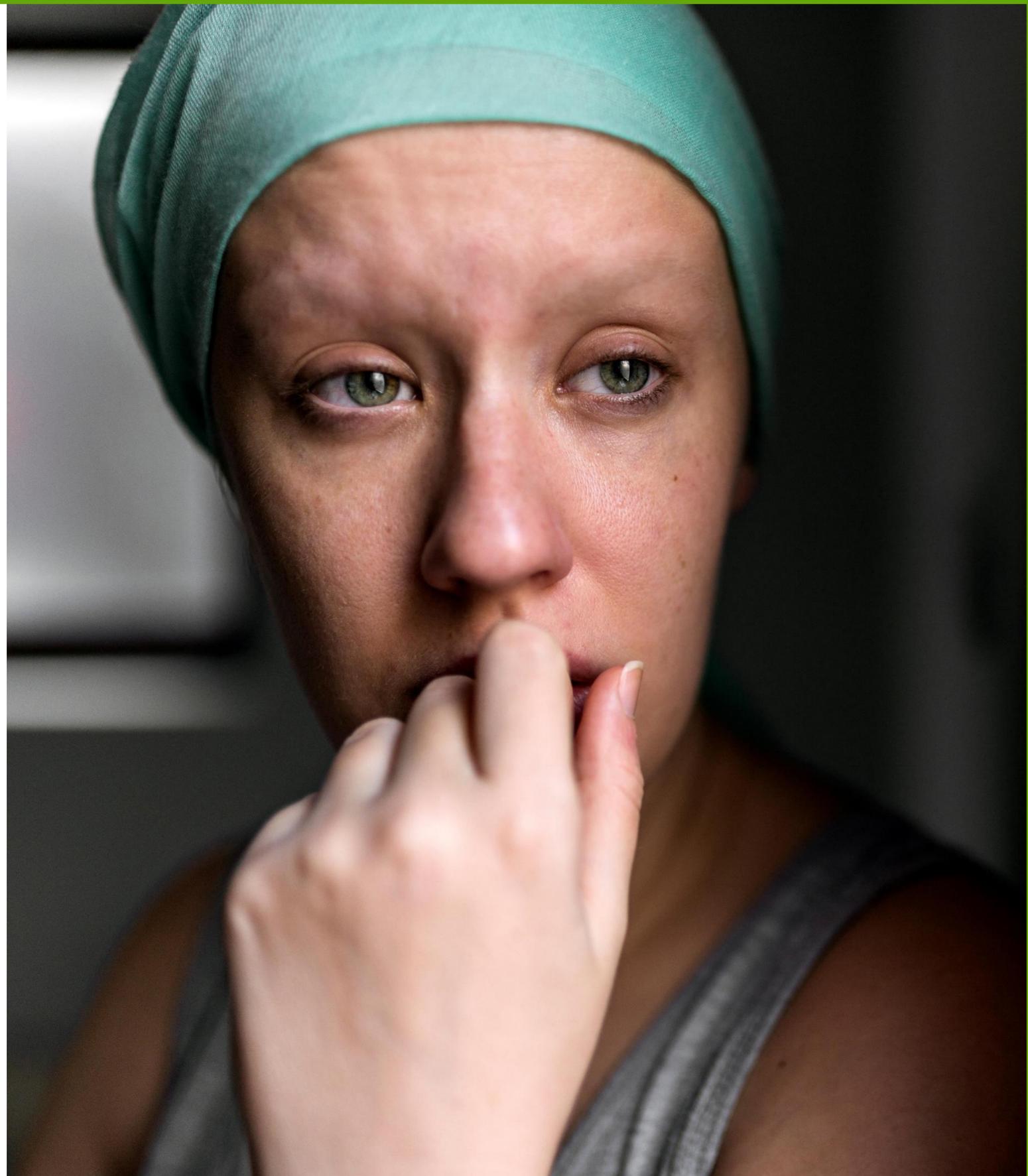
Deepening poverty in the UK pre-pandemic



Who has poverty been deepening for?



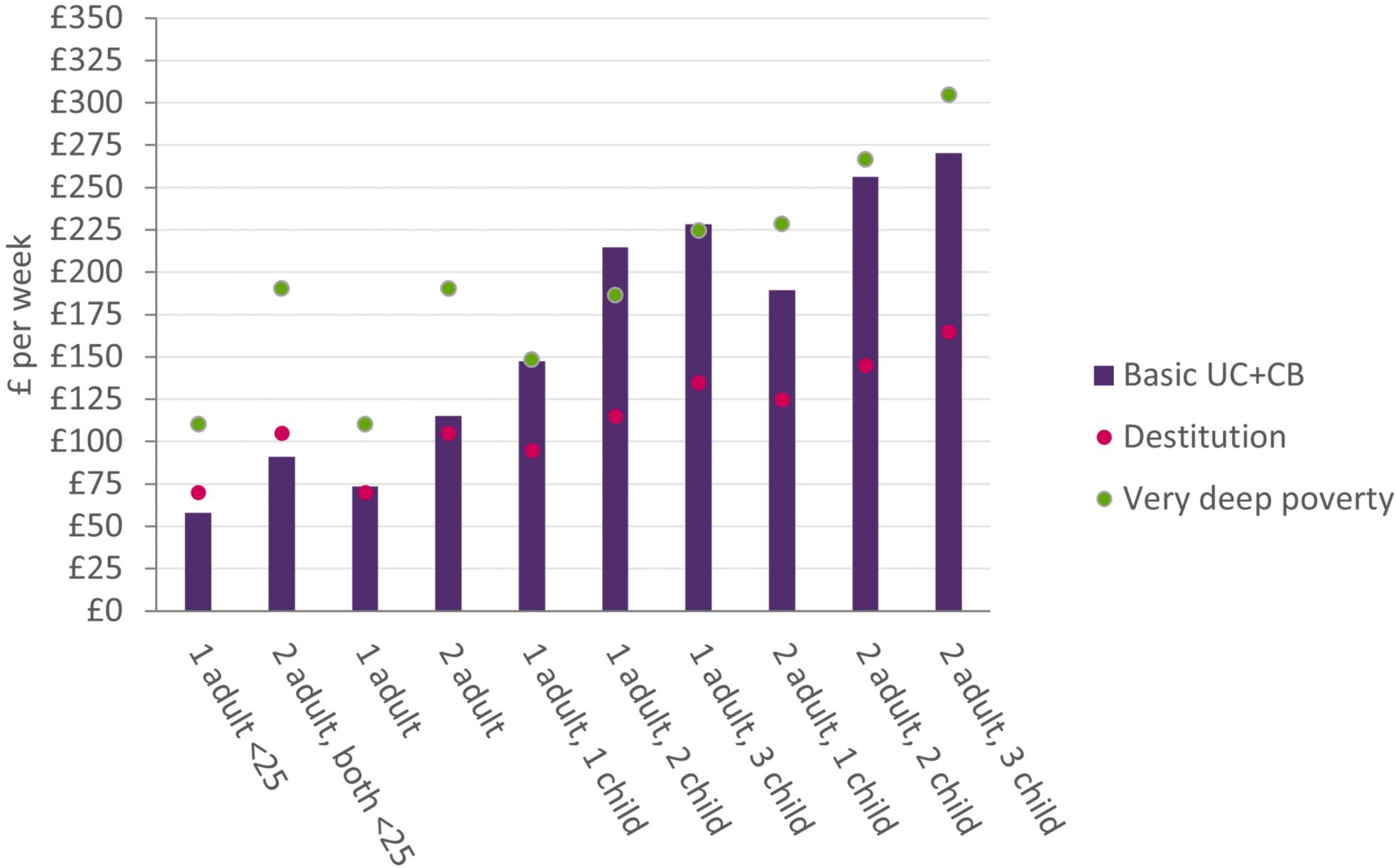
- Lone parents: sharp upward trend after 2010
- Large families (3+ children): sharp upward trend after 2010
- Disabled: steady upward trend
- Workless: steady upward trend from a very high base
- Ethnic minority backgrounds: overall high risk (18%), but risk and trajectory varies for different ethnic groups.



Social security is a key driver



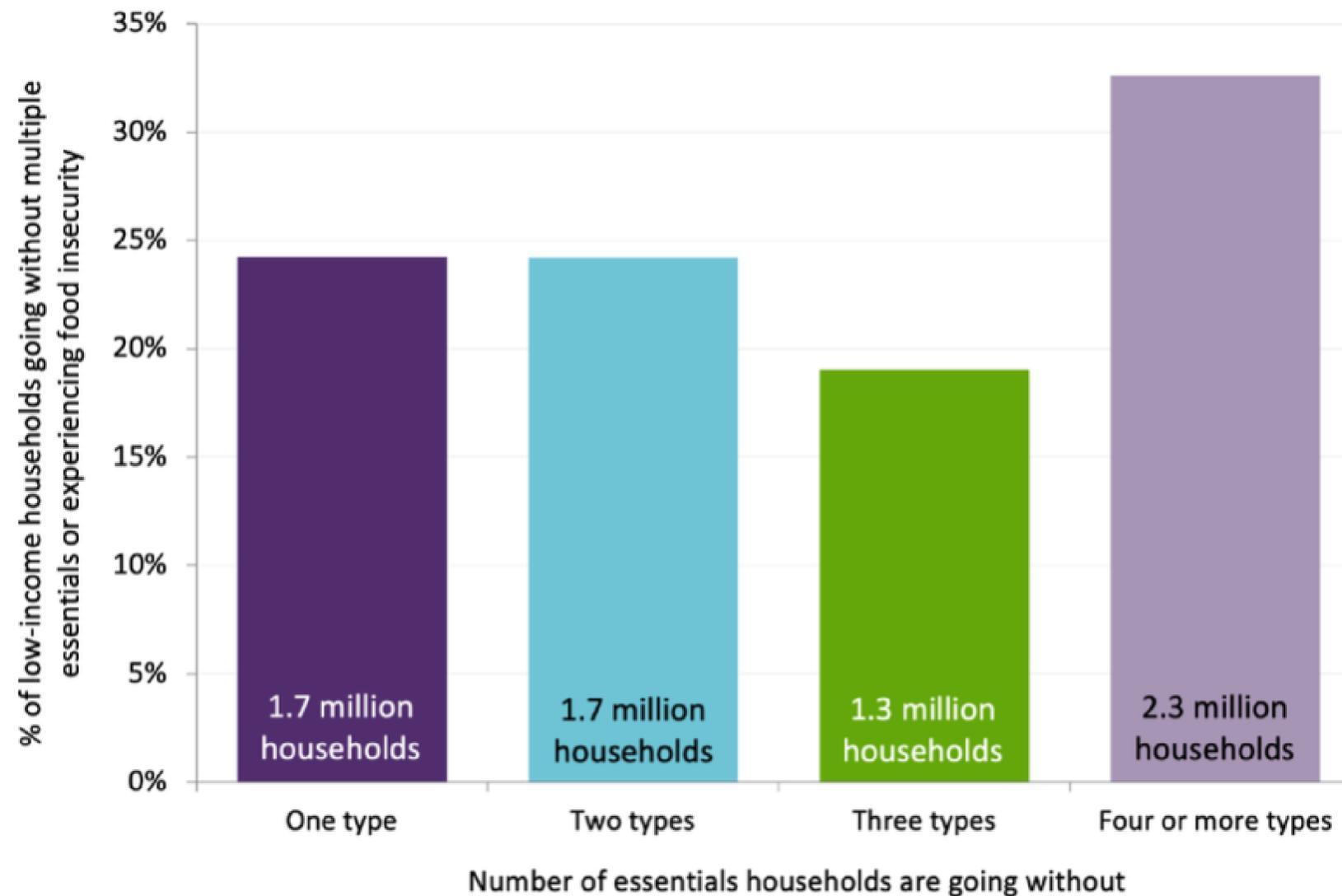
Destitution & deep poverty line vs basic benefit rates



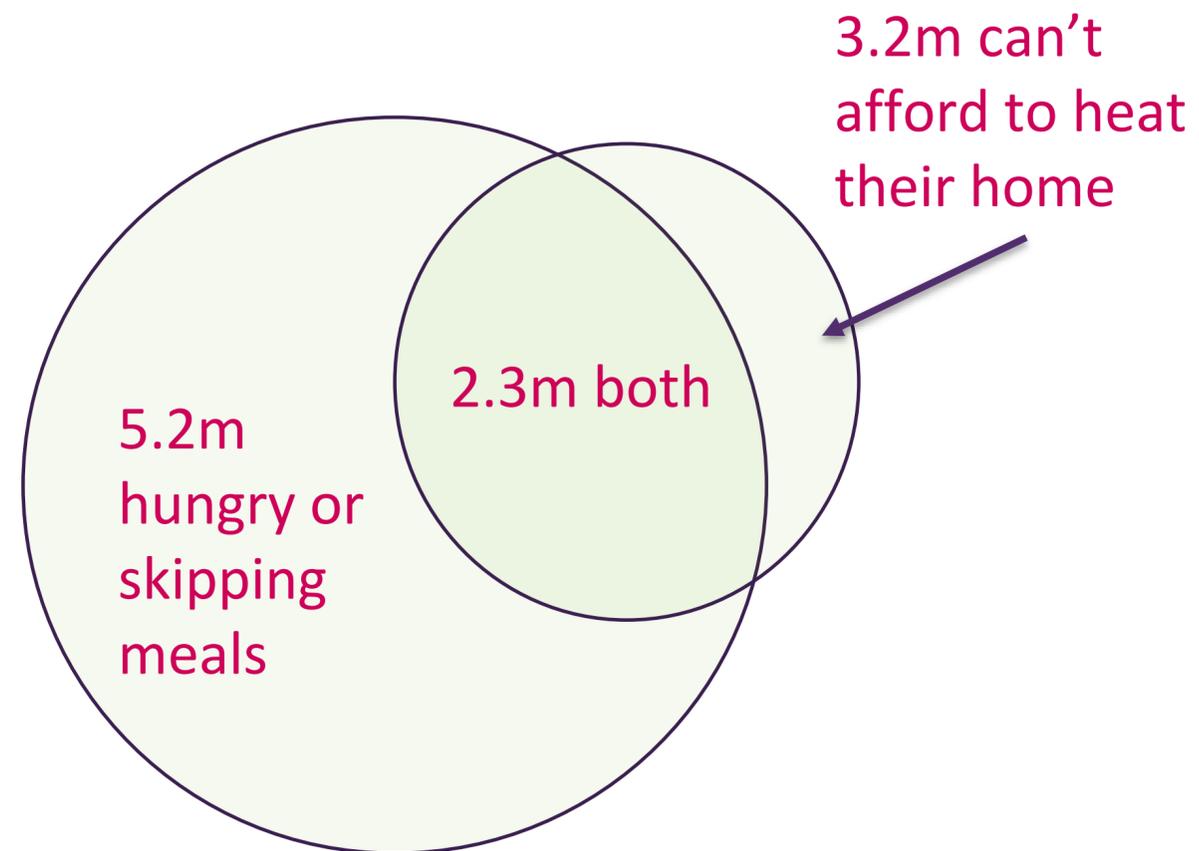
7m households going without essentials



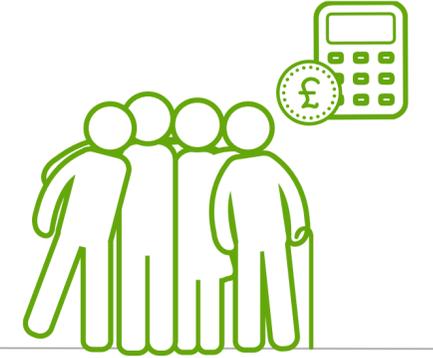
Three quarters of low-income households are going without more than one kind of essential – like food, a warm home or toiletries.



Not heating or eating



Disproportionately struggling



- Households who are subject to deductions from their benefits
- Black, Asian and Mixed ethnicity households
- Working age households (especially young ones)
- Large families and lone parents
- Those struggling with loneliness or mental health



Cost of Living

Innovation and coordination between Council and CVS

Helen Starr-Kedde





#CostOfLivingCrisis



Cash-First Approach

- Community hub
- Local discretionary funding scheme
- Children's Centre vouchers
- Free school meal vouchers in the holiday periods
- Food access service
- Household support fund



Supporting the Community

- Parking permits
- Central food hub
- Children's Centre pilot
- Food access commission



FOOD SOS

Harvest Festival Food Donation Plea

Get involved now
BHFOOD.ORG.UK/FOODSOS

#FOODSOSBTN



DESIGN + ILLUSTRATION BY
STUDIOEVERETT.COM





Brighton & Hove Cost of Living Crisis Campaign





www.bhfood.org.uk

 @btnhovefood

 /btnhovefood



Meeting the shortage of surplus food and donations

Sam Dyer, Cambridge Sustainable Food

[#goldfoodcambridge](https://twitter.com/goldfoodcambridge)



Context

- Austerity mark 2, ongoing, In Feb 22 76% of hub visitors said the rise in food and energy prices meant that they were finding it difficult to afford food and pay their bills
- People not necessarily feeling it so much yet - energy cap, mild autumn.
- Pandemic strengthened local partnerships, networks and services and highlighted inequalities - eg ethnicity / access to culturally diverse foods
- City Council support ongoing



“To speak with other people
so I don't feel socially
isolated.”

Response: Building on existing work

- Food Hubs x 8, 21200 visits 21/22
- Food Distribution centre: CoFarm, Grow a Row, donations, surplus 204 tons
- Christmas: Seniors Meals (250 to sheltered Housing '21)
- Hampers: 650 expected to families - partnership project City Council, CSF CIC, Cambridge City Foodbank]
- Existing Alliance meeting monthly (27 orgs)



“ It means I don't have to steal food.”

Response: Building on existing work

- CAB direct referral: · 70% of referrals had a long term health condition or disability · Income gain outcome for those referred was £38,517)
- In total over 70 businesses and organisations have supported the programme
- Warm spaces: City Council 4 x community spaces - Breakfasts
- funded 38 warm spaces projects with £1k grants can be spent on food costs for meals, food parcels etc
- COL Roadshow - advice on debt, Health, Household Support Fund, Utilities, Healthy Start Vouchers



The poster features logos for Cambridgeshire County Council and Think Communities at the top. It includes an illustration of three hands holding hearts. The text reads: 'Cost of Living Support Pop Ups', 'Drop in to get information and advice. Helping you with the challenges you're facing this winter.', and 'FREE REFRESHMENTS!'. Below this is a table of events.

| WEDNESDAY 18TH OCTOBER | TUESDAY 16TH NOVEMBER |
|---|--|
| 1-4pm Chesterton Methodist Church CB4 1RW | 1-4pm Cambridge Central Library (3rd Floor) CB2 3QD |
| TUESDAY 1ST NOVEMBER | THURSDAY 17TH NOVEMBER |
| 9.30-12.30pm Church of the Good Shepherd CB4 2ET | 3-6pm The Clay Farm Centre CB2 9FN |
| THURSDAY 3RD NOVEMBER | THURSDAY 24TH NOVEMBER |
| 3.30-6.30pm Christ the Redeemer Church CB5 8RS | 4-7pm Cambridge Central Mosque CBI 3DF |
| WEDNESDAY 9TH NOVEMBER | TUESDAY 29TH NOVEMBER |
| 11am-2pm The C3 Church CBI 3HR | 2-5pm St James Church CBI 8QJ |

TURN OVER FOR INFORMATION

“My kids don't sleep hungry”

Fundraiser

A city wide appeal to help front line community food services and projects to buy ingredients and slow cookers for those in Cambridge hit hardest by the cost of living crisis.

- Matched funded 10k CCC
- Raised £25k
- 13 orgs



 Cambridge Sustainable Food CIC is organis

I can't pay all bills and rent with benefits so this is my main source of food."

Call on Government

- Over 30 local voluntary sector organisations and public bodies signed a statement of concern
- Presented to Shadow Minister for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Daniel Zeichner



“Our member organisations are experiencing a perfect storm of increases in the numbers of people seeking help with food, often people who never expected to find themselves in this position ... We feel that the voluntary sector is plugging gaps in state provision for vulnerable households and worry that we will not be able to cope with rising demand”

www.cambridgesustainablefood.org

sam@cambridgesustainablefood.org





Building Local Capacity



Chris Nottingham

Blaenau Gwent Food Partnership

chris.nottingham@taicalon.org



**Synnwyr
Bwyd Cymru
Food Sense
Wales**



Tai Calon
Community Housing



Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations
Cymdeithas Mudiadau Gwirfoddol Gwent



**GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES** | Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board



**Cyfoeth
Naturiol
Cymru
Natural
Resources
Wales**

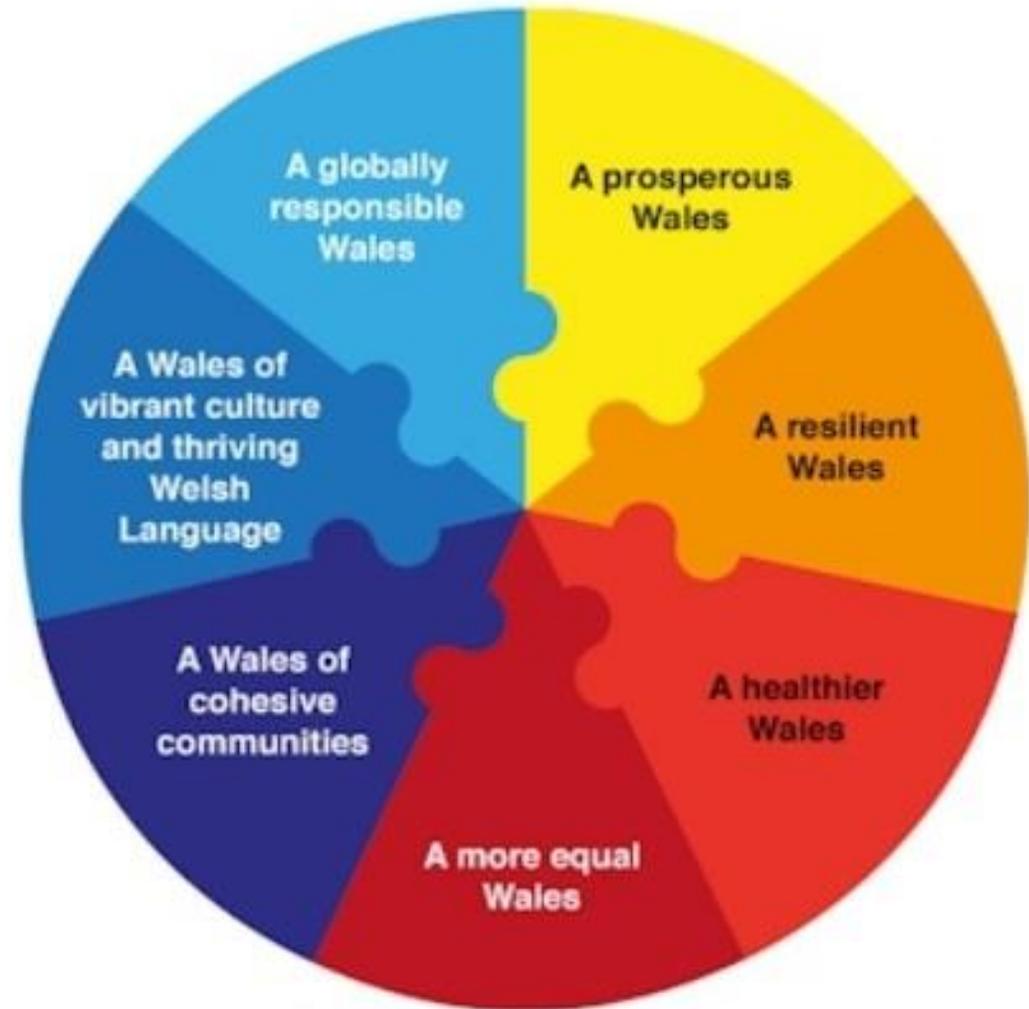


Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
Blaenau Gwent
County Borough Council

Public Services Board accountable to the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act (2015)

Objective:

Generational change whilst working on
problems of the present



National Support for Food Partnerships



Yesterday (Monday, July 11th), Jane Hutt, Minister for Social Justice chaired a Cost of Living Summit during which she **announced a series of intervention packages**, including financial support for cross-sector food partnerships in Wales.

This funding from Welsh Government is worth £3 million and will **support the development of cross-sector food partnerships**. The funding will also strengthen existing food partnerships that help build resilience in local food networks through the co-ordination of on the ground, food-related activity; help tackle the root-causes of food poverty; develop citizen action; maximise the effectiveness of projects and ensure that resources are targeted at areas of greatest need.

Keep up to date with Welsh Food Policy news:
www.foodsensewales.org.uk



Image credit: Richard Whitcombe

Outlook in Blaenau Gwent

A resident in Blaenau Gwent has a 15 year shorter life expectancy than someone living 5 miles away in Monmouthshire.

Child measurement survey showed 19.8% 4 to 5 year olds reported as obese, an 8% increase from pre-pandemic levels

Housing Association issuing 10's of food bank vouchers a day, previously 10 a week

84% increase in Trussell Trust Food Bank use since Covid



Comparing the crises



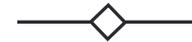
'It don't feel the same (as covid support).... It's like having a lead weight around our neck and we're getting pulled down and down and down''

Claire in Tredegar comparing Cost of Living Crisis to Covid-19 Pandemic



Building local capacity

- Partnership plays a key role in administering Local Authority funding
- Evidence of spending money well led to Health Board funding
- Supporting bids for small pots of funding



Local woodland group funded to start a food growing project



- Produced Blaenau Gwent's first ever veg box – delivered to a food insecurity project
- Provided low cost veg boxes in the community – able to accept Health Start cards



Healthy Start booster program

- Strengthened partnership with Early Years social services Flying Start program
- Developed links with local retailers
 - Next iteration will be less prescriptive



**Boost your
Healthy Start card
with £5 at
Fresh 'n' Fruity
& M&J Fruit & Veg**



Fresh 'n' Fruity
Brynmawr + Ebbw Vale
M&J Fruit and Veg
Abertillery

This £5 voucher can **only be used**
with your Healthy Start card in
Blaenau Gwent
Expires 31/03/22





Community Food Organisations

Fareshare Cymru, some weeks struggles to meet demand. Partnership network has a good quality food through LA funding.

Building in support and frontline knowledge with signposting and partner organisations to deliver 'more than' food.

Working with the Housing Association to reduce tenant stigma of accessing surplus food provisions

A group of people are gathered around a table in a community room, preparing drinks. The table is covered with stacks of brown paper cups, a carton of milk, and other supplies. A woman in a blue cardigan is pouring milk into a cup. In the background, there is a green bulletin board with various notices and a white door. The room appears to be a community center or a meeting room.

Housing Association reach in the community

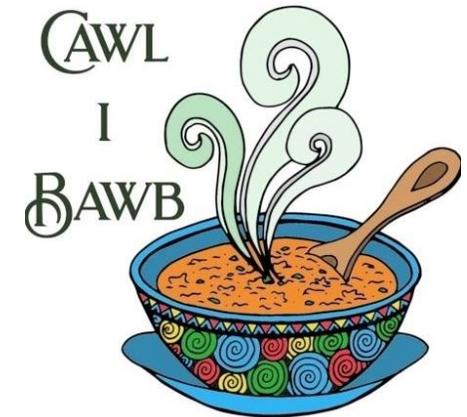
- Well connected in the community
- Infrastructure available to deliver on additional resources
- Frontline staff work with a range of tenants that could benefit from food support





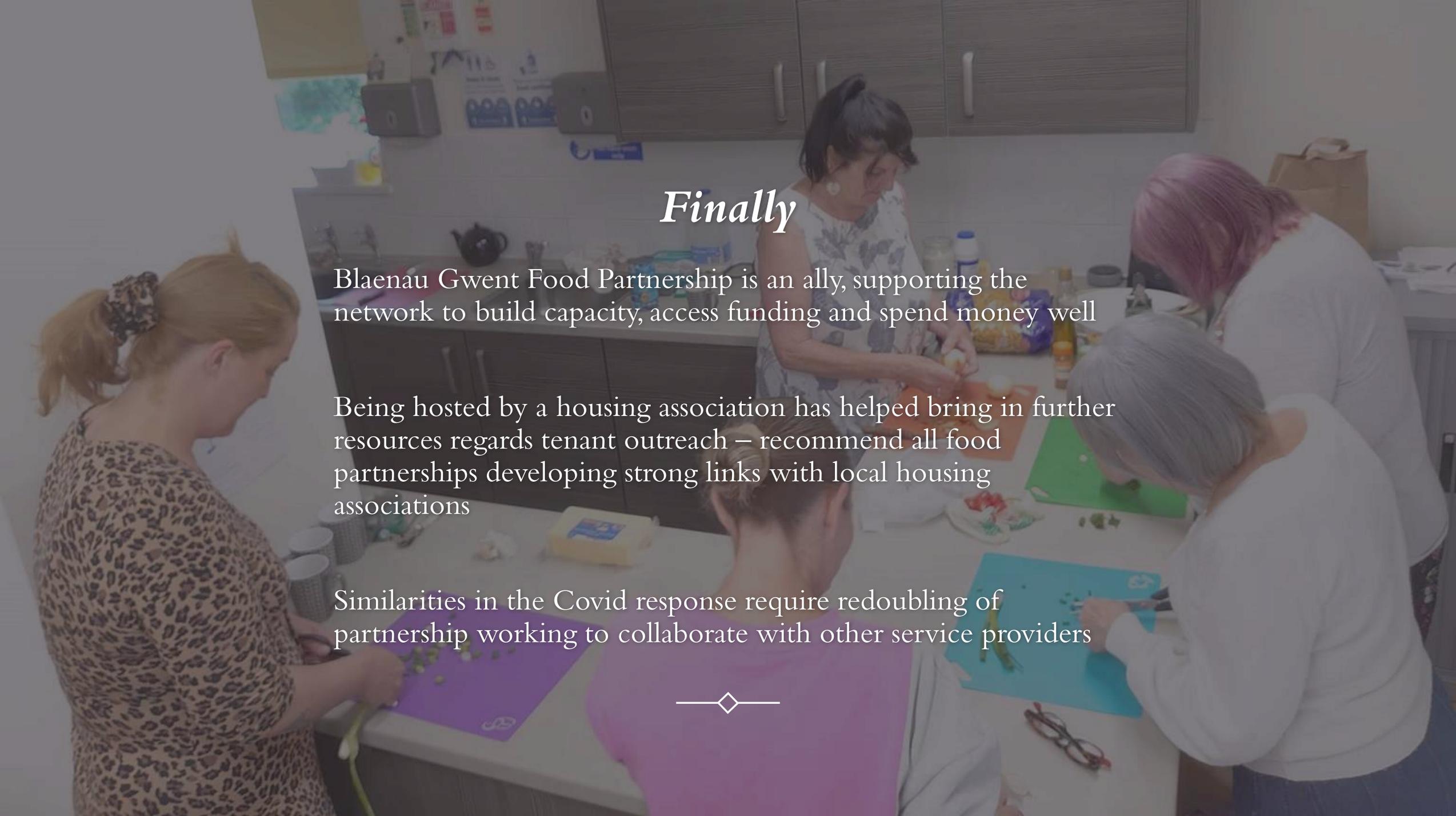
Warm places and food

- Welsh Government funding
- Libraries on board and proving popular – another opportunity for frontline signposting
- Mutual aid network once again delivering



SOUP & a Warm Welcome



A group of five women are gathered around a kitchen counter, focused on preparing food. One woman in the center is cutting a tomato on a red cutting board. To her left, another woman is working on a purple cutting board. To her right, a woman is cutting on a blue cutting board. In the background, a woman with pink hair is also working. The kitchen has dark grey cabinets and a white countertop. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a community or shared kitchen environment.

Finally

Blaenau Gwent Food Partnership is an ally, supporting the network to build capacity, access funding and spend money well

Being hosted by a housing association has helped bring in further resources regards tenant outreach – recommend all food partnerships developing strong links with local housing associations

Similarities in the Covid response require redoubling of partnership working to collaborate with other service providers

