

The workshop considered some of the retailing responses that have emerged to the need for healthy, accessible and affordable food: Some of these community responses struggle to survive, whilst others thrive and become highly successful.

### **Examples of community based food retail interventions:**

- food co-ops,
- community cafes,
- food banks,
- mobile food stores,
- community owned shops,
- food markets,
- home delivery,
- food trains,
- box schemes.

### **What factors influence the survival of community retail interventions?**

#### **Food co-ops**

Obstacles - Lack of volunteers, stigma and negative perceptions, divided communities

Incentives - Run by volunteers, driven by local community, underpinned by local knowledge, support workers, good suppliers, good value, training opportunities, flexibility, loyal customers, links with farmers

#### **Community cafes**

Obstacles - Grants and funding, lack of experience, personnel management, bad business planning, not listening to or growing with the community, take away outlets nearby.

Incentives - Local support, good locations good cooks, appraisal (do people want a café), social inclusion 'everyone is welcome', management (know how to run a café), good partnership working, statutory, private and community support, good training/food hygiene standards, knowledge of income generation and 'branding out'

#### **Mobile food stores**

Obstacles - Marketing, fear that someone will steal their 'round'

Incentives - Good for places where people can't get to the shops or have no shops, delivering on a well known 'round', reliable routes, great for social inclusion, having the chance to speak to someone.