



Fair Access to Food

Food Exeter Interim report, November 2018

Developing the Exeter Food Poverty Action Plan

We spent 6 months gathering input for our action plan - carrying out a brief survey of support agencies, interviewing food bank users, analysing new Public Health indicator data, mapping what's currently available and holding a workshop with food support agencies. A small grant from the University provided us with research expertise to analyse this data.

Our Food Poverty Summit brought together people from more than 35 local public and community organisations - schools, children's centres, community projects, churches, local politicians and council officers – to better understand the nature and scope of the problem, hear about inspiring initiatives, propose strategic priorities and make commitments for action.

Challenges and learning

A key challenge is to make sure people with lived experience are involved in every part of the work - in the action planning, in decision making and in developing and delivering the food support programme.

Next steps

- Establish the Fair Access to Food Alliance of organisations who will be active in delivering the Food Poverty Action Plan.
- Finalise the Action Plan to ensure fair access to nutritious food is included within Alliance members' policies, strategies and workplans and that coordinated programmes of food support are available across the city.
- Develop clear referral pathways, signposting and access to food support for those in need.
- Build a network of good food schools and community food hubs across Exeter.
- Begin the process of evaluating of the impact of the Alliance as part of the national Food Power evaluation work stream.



“We need more community-focussed initiatives for sharing food and resources - food growing and food clubs in every school, more edible landscapes, food co-ops and community cafes, and campaign for the Living Wage”

Ideas from community providers at our Fair Access to Food workshop in July 2018

Outcomes

- There is clear commitment for a coordinated, multi-agency response to food poverty.
- A better shared understanding of the scale of food poverty in Exeter and the ways we can work together to support people

This activity was assisted by financial support and other advice from Food Power.
www.foodpower.org.uk

