



# Developing a food poverty action plan

Lancaster District Food Poverty Alliance: Interim report, July 2019

## Bring people together

In partnership with an academic, we are gathering and analysing data as well as running a focus group with people with lived experience, facilitated by the Morecambe Bay Poverty Truth Commission and interviews with food club operators and members. We conducted a PABCAR exercise to prioritise the various actions we could include within our food poverty action plan. Each action was scored against an agreed framework and we now have an idea of what our local priorities look like.

## Challenges and learning

In all likelihood there is probably already a lot of activity going on where you are, but working independently will have minimal impact. There is strength in numbers – the sum of the parts really is greater than the whole! Never underestimate the knowledge and insight that people can offer.

Don't rush and take the time to find out and understand what the needs and opportunities are in your area. You can't tackle everything; work out what the priorities should be for your area.

Don't be surprised if some groups are suspicious and reluctant at first and don't expect everyone to agree with each other and you may have to hone your tact and diplomacy skills. Once people see the collective achievements, they will come on-board.

## Next steps

We will finalise the action plan once the needs assessment is complete and put this out for consultation with stakeholders. We aim to hold a launch event early in the New Year where organisations will be asked to pledge to commit to work towards delivering the actions. The alliance now has a brand logo and we are developing a publicity and promotion plan to ensure consistency across the partner organisations.



*“ If someone has energy and appetite, whoever they are and wherever they're from, use it!*

Gillian Beeley, Together Lancashire

*Maximise the impact and influence of your plan by engaging as many partners as you can.*

Richard Walsh, Public Health & Protection Manager, Lancaster City Council

## Outcomes

- The local response to food poverty is better coordinated with increased partnership working.
- We believe this will lead to greater reach and impact for our work.

This activity was assisted by financial support and other advice from Food Power.  
[www.foodpower.org.uk](http://www.foodpower.org.uk)

