Towards a practical action plan
Luton Food Poverty Alliance: Interim report, September 2018

Five priorities for action

The Luton Food Poverty Alliance (LFPA) has agreed on five main target areas that need to be addressed in this region.

1. Wider rollout of the Healthy Start vouchers
2. Widening of holiday food provision in Luton
3. Increase in volunteer support for practical actions in relation to LFPA activity
4. Increase the number of community food growing spaces
5. Support skills development in horticulture and cooking with fresh produce

The alliance hopes to focus on producing a practical action plan that increases uptake for Healthy Start vouchers, expands holiday food provision, provides outdoors spaces, training and the growing, sharing and cooking of fresh produce. In this way we can address the issues of food poverty, as well as improving mental and physical well being through social community connections.

Challenges and learning

The challenge for the alliance will be to support the individuals who need it the most. Individuals and families who need support may not be visible or want to be known. The alliance can hopefully provide a service both online and in their local community that would be visible and feel accessible. There is also the challenge of bringing together so many different organisations to make action happen.

Next steps

The alliance continues to meet quarterly to discuss how we can work together on practical projects, such as holiday food provision. The action plan will be created and become part of a larger web resource that will signpost Luton residents to places, spaces and resources in Luton to help alleviate and reduce food poverty.

Outcomes

- We have learned that as a group we are all helping alleviate food poverty in very small ways and that we would have a greater impact by coming together as like-minded organisations and providers to work together to provide accessible and useable services, events and resources that will genuinely help those who face food poverty.

The LFPA celebrates the ways people are working to help with the unique challenges in the town. The LFPA has been learning from other food poverty alliances across the country, and is addressing how the alliance can most effectively impact those in need, through collaboration of organisations and positive action.

Rosie Cliffe, Project Officer, Groundwork East

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