



# Mapping food support in Byker

## Newcastle Food Poverty Group: Interim report

### November 2018

## Developing a signposting tool

We have been gaining a better understanding of the organisations delivering food support services in the Byker neighbourhood of Newcastle by mapping out what is being delivered and where. We are now contacting the organisations to gather more detailed information that will be incorporated into the signposting tool.

The tool aims to:

- Respond to an identified need to 'join the dots' and raise awareness of available support for people experiencing food access and affordability issues.
- Provide pathways for resilience, relief and resistance, including signposting for both prevention and crisis.
- Give local people advice and information on accessing low cost food/meals, holiday gap programmes for children, eating well on a budget, and emergency food.
- Complement other existing pathways provided by Financial Inclusion, Newcastle City Council, with the overall aim of maximising family income and supporting with navigation of the local welfare safety net.
- Have a better understanding of our local approach to addressing food poverty issues and enabling further collaboration between our multi-sector services. Helping to direct people (both self-referral and practitioner lead) to the most appropriate support according to each individual's need.

## Challenges and learning

There are many approaches to food support provision, so building our knowledge and understanding has taken some time. Linking this activity to our Food Power 'Involving Experts by Experience' programme has resulted in multiple benefits local residents have been involved in the signposting tool development right from the start.

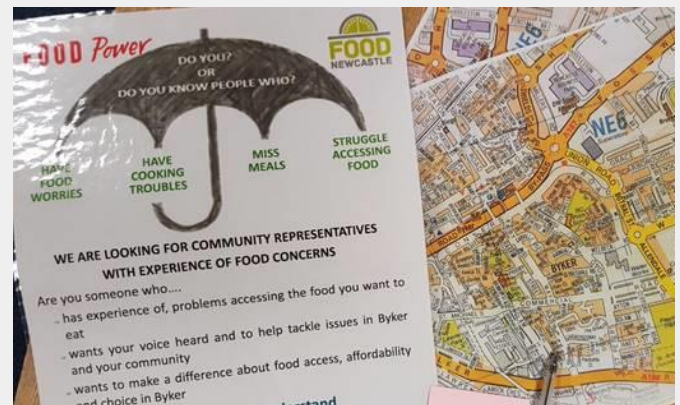
## Next steps

We will be developing our signposting tool in poster or leaflet form in early 2019. We also anticipate the development of a dedicated Facebook page by the Newcastle Food Power Experts by Experience.

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



*Food poverty issues are complex. The mapping of services is helping us to have a greater understanding of the issues, raise broader awareness and work towards better solutions.*



## Outcomes

- Local residents are helping to develop the signposting tool, which has been an opportunity to both be heard and to help others who are experiencing food poverty issues or are at risk.
- Local residents who have experience of food poverty issues are liaising with Financial Inclusion to share their opinion on how effective the current systems are for navigating the local welfare safety net.