



Mapping of emergency and low cost food provision in Newcastle

Newcastle Food Poverty Network: Final report, May 2019

Joining the dots and identifying the gaps

A food-specific signposting tool for the city's Byker ward has been developed by members of the Newcastle Food Poverty Network. The tool was co-designed by the Food Power Newcastle 'Experts by Experience', who are all residents of Byker and members of the Food Poverty Network.

The purpose is to help to signpost local residents to the most relevant and appropriate support locally to help alleviate issues relating to food access and food affordability. The Food Power Newcastle 'Experts by Experience' developed the tool in a format they felt most appropriate and accessible.

The tool, in the format of a flyer, details the local support available giving people advice and information on accessing low cost food/meals, eating well on a budget and emergency food access provision. It is also to be used as an engagement tool by Food Power Newcastle to involve more local residents in our people-powered approach to tackling food issues.

"Gaining a strategic view of city-wide provision, including gaps, helps us to understand and coordinate the provision of emergency and low-cost food provision in Newcastle. It also improves connectivity between services to increase financial inclusion and work to address food insecurity."

Our challenges and learning

- The process was more complicated than anticipated, with a lack of knowledge of existing signposting systems. Further conversations were required to ensure duplication was avoided and that this tool enhanced these more complex systems.
- The intention was to create an interactive online tool, specific to Byker, identifying pathways for resilience, relief and resistance, which would be downloadable and printable. It became apparent that an online tool would require further resourcing and would also result in some duplication of the existing signposting systems. The focus shifted to ensure connections were made with the existing and permanent local signposting systems e.g. Financial Inclusion and Information NOW. The process has given everyone a better understanding of these existing resources and further opportunities to enhance the existing systems.
- The expertise and knowledge of Food Power Newcastle was put into action; the signposting tool was co-designed by people who have lived experience of food access and affordability issues. The group intend to use the signposting tool to engage with others who are experiencing similar issues.

Our next steps

We will continue to work in collaboration with partners to support Information NOW in producing a citywide signposting tool for low cost and/or free food provision; producing two versions – one for professionals/practitioners and one for public access. These will be linked to topical briefing pages based on food banks, food and friends, meals at home and help with shopping.



Our key achievements and impact

- We have a better understanding of what provision is available for people in need and what / where there may be gaps.
- We can now signpost more effectively, reducing inappropriate referrals. Getting people to the right place and quickly.
- Potentially of greater impact than the tool itself, the developmental work and platforms of conversation in creating the signposting tool have strengthened our Food Poverty Group and have led to further developments which will have a citywide reach, engaging more organisations and services, and ultimately benefitting more people.

BYKER FOOD POVERTY SOS

WHAT HELP IS AVAILABLE

<p>Safe for now – Get involved in community and plan ahead</p> <hr/> <p>OK but struggling – Looking to self-help or help and advice to avoid crisis point</p> <hr/> <p>Support - What to do if you are in crisis and urgent food is needed</p>	<p>Holiday clubs School clubs Cooking classes Growing projects</p> <hr/> <p>Social lunch clubs / Shared meals Access to low cost healthy ingredients Governments vouchers Community services Healthy Start Free School meals Breakfast clubs Holiday Provision with food</p> <hr/> <p>Food Banks – by referral only</p>
ADVICE SERVICES	
<p>Food Power Newcastle Byker Community Trust Byker Community Centre Byker Sands Family Centre Sure Start Byker Pantry Foundation Futures St Michaels Kings Castle Vinnies Cafe Information Now</p>	<p>facebook.com/foodpowernewcastle bykercommunitytrust.org bykerca.org suresstartnewcastle.co.uk facebook.com/pg/TheExtraordinaryProject foundationfutures.org.uk bykerchurch.co.uk hekingscastlechurch.org.uk svp-blackfriars.org.uk informationnow.org.uk</p>
OTHER POINTS OF CONTACT	
<p>Free School Meals Healthy Start</p>	<p>newcastle.gov.uk/education-and-learning/benefits-and-educational-grants/free-school-meals healthystart.nhs.uk</p>

FOOD POWER NEWCASTLE

OUR GOAL IS TO WORK WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY, FOOD POVERTY ALLIANCES AND NETWORKS TO TRANSFORM THE WAY THAT PEOPLE IN FOOD POVERTY CAN ACCESS SUPPORT AND CREATE LONG-TERM, SUSTAINABLE LIVES THAT ARE FREE FROM HUNGER

DO YOU HAVE FOOD WORRIES OR ISSUES?

Missing meals
Food is expensive
Limited to certain foods
Struggles accessing food
Cooking difficulties

SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES



Tackling food poverty through people-powered change
Giving people with experience of food access and affordability a voice

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

facebook.com/foodpowernewcastle

FOOD POWER

Tackling food poverty through people-powered change
foodpower.org.uk

Byker ward food signposting tool 2019 (front and back of flyer)