



North Wales Food Poverty Alliance

Final report, June, 2019

Tackling food poverty in North Wales

The broad rurality and post-industrial context of North Wales makes food poverty and endemic and entrenched problem in North Wales. Tackling this problem requires individuals, groups, and services to come together to find co-produced solutions.

This [Alliance](#) is about just that. We have brought together key individuals in local authorities, health services, higher education, food production, and more to address the very real problems of finding affordable, healthy, and enjoyable food.



We recognise that the challenge of reducing the negative and harmful effects of food poverty cannot be achieved in isolation by one or two organisations; it can only be achieved through cooperation, coordination, and delivering together. Our alliance represents an important step in drawing together the actions of those organisations and agencies currently engaged in providing solutions with those considering the contribution they can make to the challenge of food poverty.

We communicate via a website ([English/ Cymraeg](#)); [Facebook](#) and [twitter](#) to promote the work of the group and encourage others to share their work and experiences. We delivered a [food poverty conference](#) in St Asaph at the end of November 2018 to raise awareness of the issues surrounding food poverty across North Wales and the impact on individuals, families, children and communities and the organisations that serve them; to gather concerned people and organisations together to sign-up to the [NWFWPA Charter](#); to share ideas and solutions; and to gain commitment and agree a collective approach drawing on all of our resources and expertise. The conference was really well attended, with speakers from a wide range of backgrounds including housing, the third sector; academia; projects; the South Wales Alliance; and Public Health Wales.

We are actively seeking out the gaps in food provision in North Wales and working hard, together, to develop ideas and innovations that will help all of us access the fresh food we need to not only survive but thrive.

“The hard work and dedication of the individuals who’ve given their time and effort to help tackle food poverty cannot be praised enough.”

Jen Griffiths, NWFWPA Chair

Our challenges and learning

- We have learnt about the power of bringing people together from different points of view, services, and backgrounds to tackle these issues.
- We have spent time discussing and attempting to understand the deeper problems around food poverty and have found that the issues surrounding food poverty are best tackled as part of a collective, rather than from an individual service model.

Our next steps

We are moving forward with a number of exciting projects including:

- New partnerships
- Improving access to healthy food
- Exploring the role of local organisations in solving problems
- Exploring an asset-based community development to tackling food poverty

“Having a group we can talk to, share our problems with, and brainstorm ideas together has meant we can really focus on the problems we face”

Anonymous



Our key achievements and impact

- Interest in making a difference has reached a real depth of cross-sector, regional interest and our alliance will develop on this basis.
- There is wide support for developing an action plan and we are confident that members will commit to taking on specific actions within the plan.
- We have delivered a successful conference bringing together over 200 people from across the region.
- We hope that more connections will be made in the future between different groups to continue promoting food poverty action.