

# Raising awareness and understanding the impact of food poverty across the North Wales Region

North Wales Food Poverty Alliance: Interim update, January 2019

### **Developing our alliance**

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 cooperative, 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 <u>food poverty conference</u> 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 <u>the NWFPA Charter</u>; 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.

### **Challenges and learning**

- Asking members to sign up to Charter has helped to engage and secure specific commitments from them
- Our conference highlighted to extent of the issues and the need to think strategically and prioritise as we develop our plan.

### **Next steps**

 We are working on a longer term action plan and have increased our core membership to include a wider cross section of organisations.





## "We are stronger together"

Jen Griffiths, Benefits Manager, Flintshire County Council

#### **Outcomes**

- 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.

