



# Southwark Food Map: Joining the dots

## Southwark Food Action Alliance: Interim report, Oct 2020

### The Southwark Food Map

We have developed the [Southwark Food Map](#), in collaboration with Community Mapping, to display all the essential food services in Southwark. As a part of the *Fairer Food Southwark* action plan, our *Joining the Dots* basket identified where people facing food insecurity were and where key organisations can signpost at-risk residents. During Covid-19, this map has been tailored to suit the needs of the community to include local delivery services and parcels in this difficult time.

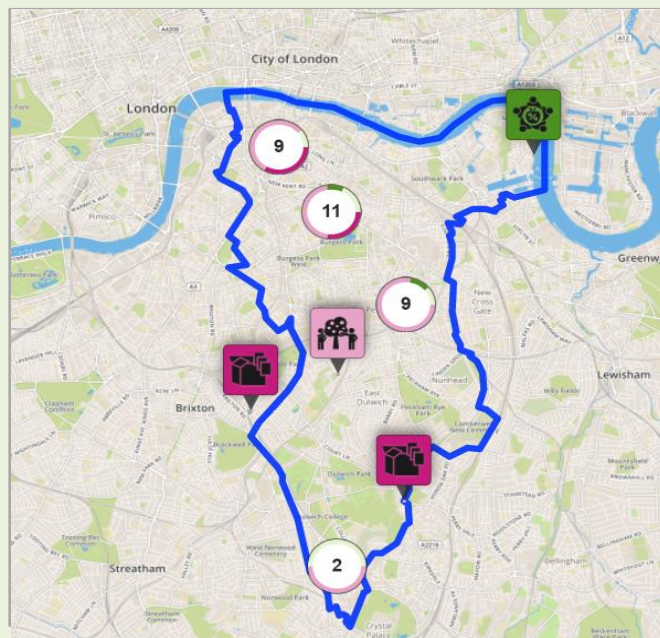
### Challenges and learning

One of the challenges we are facing is keeping up to date with map entries given the everchanging climate we are in. The changes in Covid-19 restrictions have made it difficult for some communal meal spaces to stay open and opening times change regularly. We have overcome this by suggesting that people call the organisation with the details provided on the map beforehand. Additionally, organisations have the option to add and change their own entries by signing up as a user. The map is updated on a monthly basis to make sure that all information is as accurate as possible, but we realise that as the map grows, this may become increasingly difficult.

### Next steps

We are in the process of developing an online directory, where users can easily identify the service that they want access to, e.g., free food, low-cost meals or fresh veg delivery services.

We aim to create a printable poster for circulation amongst key organisations in Southwark, as well as places of worship and GP practices. This is in line with our *Joining the Dots* baskets, linking in with organisations that are not food based to make sure that people at risk are effectively signposted.



***“The Southwark Food Map makes it clear where to locate free food in the borough, it is great for signposting clients.”***

Citizens Advice, Southwark

### Outcomes

- Our map has helped organisations signpost individuals effectively, by showing opening hours, referral methods and contact details. This has been particularly important during Covid-19.
- In the future, we hope to ensure local people have the tools, skills and options to maintain a healthy lifestyle. We aim to have affordable and healthy food available in all parts of the borough and have free food provisions in place for those at most risk.