Liverpool’s Good Food Plan: Listening and Mapping
Feeding Liverpool, May 2021

Building local food resilience in Liverpool

Liverpool is developing a Good Food Plan: a way forward for our city to support everyone to be able to eat good food. As part of the first stage of this plan, Feeding Liverpool has led listening and mapping exercises to understand the current food landscape.

We supported twelve people who have recently experienced an acute food crisis to share their story. We also facilitated five focus groups with residents with experience of levels of food insecurity to learn about their experiences of food and begin the process of co-creating a vision for a Good Food City.

We are also developing interactive maps of emergency food provision and affordable food initiatives, to support individuals and organisations to identify provision.

Challenges and learning

We have been encouraged by how engaged residents have been in this work. We have also been reminded how important it is to facilitate safe spaces where people from all walks of life are given space to share their ideas and experiences.

We had planned to involve emergency food providers as co-facilitators in the storytelling sessions with individuals. This proved a challenge as frontline organisations were not always able to release capacity for this level of involvement.

We plan on making the tools we used available to these organisations, but may need to provide greater levels of support than anticipated to enable this storytelling to continue beyond the life of the project.

Next steps

We plan to build on the relationships with organisations and individuals we have formed through this work to ensure that the voices and insights of those who have experienced food insecurity remain central to the development of Liverpool’s Good Food Plan.

We plan to keep our new maps regularly updated and support organisations and individuals to use these effectively. We have arranged to meet with leaders of neighbouring food alliances in the Liverpool City Region to share learning and resources from this project.

“‘We’re saying, live a month in our shoes, give us the support we need. And a timeline and an action plan’”

Sue from Kensington Fields Community Association

Outcomes

- Twelve people who recently experienced an acute food crisis shared their stories and sent messages to decision makers calling for changes
- Insights and ideas from five focus groups with residents played a central role in shaping the first stage of Liverpool’s Good Food Plan
- A new interactive map was created to enable organisations and individuals to easily identify available provision