



Tackling food poverty in your city: Lessons learned from local food poverty action plans

Webinar Thursday 3rd March 2016, 10-11.15am

Q&A

Peta Curno from Stoke on Trent: I would be really interested to know more about how other areas have addressed the **redistribution of surplus food** and how successful this has been?

- Lewisham: We've not addressed it in Lewisham, but Greenwich may have done some work on this – contact Claire Pritchard GCDA Claire@gcda.org.uk – say you're following up the webinar.
- In Brighton we are keen that surplus shouldn't be seen as the 'answer' to food poverty - using one wrong to right another - however we do see it is a huge issue in itself. We have an active grassroots movement intercepting surplus including the Food Waste Collective and the Real Junk Food Cafe; at the food partnership we run a Love Food Hate Waste Campaign in partnership with the City Council; and as a city wide event we held a Feeding the 5k last year, alongside a lot of other activity. See <http://bhfood.org.uk/blog/top-10-fabulous-food-waste-projects-in-our-city>

Marzena Zoladz from London: Have any of the sustainable cities touched upon **food in hospitals and meals provision to vulnerable people**? If yes, what was your experience?

- In Lewisham (you'll know more than me!) the Unicef UK Baby Friendly initiative focuses on health professionals and will have addressed this in the hospital. Contact Gwenda Scott, Public Health Scott, Gwenda.Scott@lewisham.gov.uk. Otherwise I don't think we have here, but could!
- **Brighton:** We have included better hospital food in the food poverty action plan and it ties in with our wider work on better procurement in the city, see <http://bhfood.org.uk/blog/minimum-buying-standards>.

For more examples of how cities are transforming food procurement see:

<http://sustainablefoodcities.org/keyissues/transformingcateringandfoodprocurement/cityinitiatives>

For more examples of how cities are dealing with social food provision see:

<http://sustainablefoodcities.org/keyissues/tacklingfoodpovertyandaccesstohealthyfood/cityinitiatives>



Tara Kenny from Cork, Ireland: How was it determined that there was a greater **dependence on convenience stores** as opposed to supermarkets in Belfast?

- You might be interested in this research from Sinead Furey - <http://link.springer.com/article/10.1023%2FA%3A1015218502547#page-1>

Megan Saunders from Portsmouth: What evidence and data was presented to Public Health to fund a **holiday hunger programme**, or are most run by third sector?

- **Brighton:** Our holiday hunger programmes are third sector – see <http://dev.onechurchbrighton.org/what-we-do/chomp> but the school meals service is funding and cooking the meal part for the new pilot taking place on school premises, with the voluntary group supplying the volunteers and activities.
- Most provision nationally is in the third sector. However, schools and other public sector institutions like libraries, children’s centres, etc, have a big role to play. **Food Cardiff** has piloted an excellent model for holiday provision in schools – read a bit more about Food and Fun and watch a short video [here](#). Watch this space for more resources on holiday provision.

Tara Kenny from Cork, Ireland: How is **food poverty measured** in Belfast?

- **Belfast:** A rapid evidence review of food poverty in Northern Ireland was commissioned by the Food Standards Agency in Northern Ireland, ‘*Understanding food in the context of poverty, economic insecurity and social exclusion*’ (for more information, click on link to [research funded by the Food Standards Agency](#).) The report provides evidence that more and more people in Northern Ireland are struggling to afford to buy food. At the same time, evidence is presented that although many people in poverty or suffering economic hardship are still buying food, they are buying cheaper and less nutritious foods.

See our scoping study at:

<http://www.belfastfoodnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/Enough-is-Enough-Report.pdf>

<http://www.publichealth.ie/node/881> - for audio and videos and presentations of Enough is Enough conference 23 Mar 2015

Paola Hernández from Brussels: Good morning, I am not very familiar with the **current rate of poverty in Belfast**, but how many people will be covered by this program?

- **Belfast:** It is hard to give one answer! Belfast has 52 of the 100 most deprived areas in Northern Ireland. We will be targeting areas of greatest deprivation based on government statistics. We will also be focusing on minority ethnic groups, asylum seekers and refugees and other groups known to be at increased risk of food poverty



for example those who are on state welfare benefits and for one reason or another have had a delay in payments or decrease or temporary cessation of payments.

See also <http://www.publichealth.ie/news/event/enough-enough-building-belfasts-response-food-poverty> for audio and presentations of Second Enough is Enough conference 22 Oct 2015