



# ISLINGTON FOOD POVERTY ACTION PLAN 2019 – 2022

SUPPORTED BY  
**MAYOR OF LONDON**

**sustain**  
the alliance for better food and farming

Working in partnership

 **ISLINGTON**

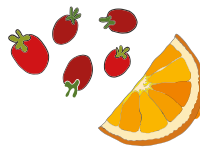


## OUR MISSION:

ensure everyone  
in Islington eats at  
least one healthy  
meal each day

Our broader vision is that everyone in Islington eats enough healthy food each day. We know however that this is far from reality for many people, and this action plan sets out targeted aims and actions to combat food poverty in the areas of greatest need over the next 3 years. The mission of this action plan over the next 3 years is to ensure everyone in Islington eats at least one healthy meal each day.

# INTRODUCTION



Food poverty can be defined as “the inability to afford, or have access to, food to make up a healthy diet”<sup>1</sup>. The causes of food poverty are complex and inter-related. Financial causes predominate, including low income and unemployment. Other important causes include poor access to affordable food and lack of budgeting or cooking skills. Wider social and economic determinants, such as welfare reforms, also play a vital role.

The consequences of food poverty have major health impacts throughout life, ranging from hunger, malnutrition and obesity to social consequences such as shame and social exclusion. Evidence shows that poor diet is related to 30% of life years lost in early death and disability<sup>2</sup>. The severity of these consequences shows that failure to act on food poverty will lead to escalating costs for individuals, employers, the NHS and government.

## THE ISLINGTON PICTURE

There is a high level of need in Islington relating to food poverty and food insecurity. Islington is the 53<sup>rd</sup> most deprived local authority in England<sup>3</sup>, with extremes of rich and poor. 47.5% of children in the Borough are living in poverty<sup>4</sup>. Estimates from research figures indicate that over 19,000 in Islington experience moderate or high levels of food insecurity (1 in 10 of the population aged 15 and over in a nationally representative survey)<sup>5</sup>. Regional research indicates that almost 1 in 10 London children report going to bed hungry, with 1 in 5 London parents reporting skipping meals so that their children can eat<sup>6</sup>. Proxy measures of food poverty, including income deprivation, fuel poverty and obesity, also indicate high levels of need in Islington.

Numbers of foodbank referrals show rising requirements for emergency food aid and Trussell Trust foodbank supplied 5080 emergency food parcels in Islington in 2017/18<sup>7</sup>. These numbers

represent only the ‘tip of the iceberg’ of true levels of food poverty, as many of those affected by food poverty never visit a Trussell Trust foodbank. Evidence from local professionals strongly supports a trend towards seeing worsening levels of food poverty and many local services have extensive experience of dealing with food poverty.

Qualitative evidence from both residents and professionals, collected during interviews throughout the food poverty needs assessment in 2017<sup>8</sup>, gave graphic descriptions of local residents’ experiences of food poverty. These ranged from long-term food insecurity to severe crisis-level hunger with food poverty, all of which have major negative impacts on health, wellbeing and quality of life. Residents’ experiences also show that it is crucial to consider the needs of residents ‘shocked’ into food poverty as well as those ‘squeezed’ into food poverty over long time periods<sup>9</sup>.



<sup>1</sup> Department of Health, 2005

<sup>2</sup> DeRose L, Messer E. & Millman S. (1998). Who's Hungry? And how do we know?

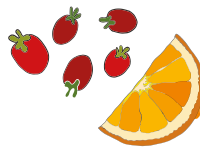
Food Shortage, Poverty, and Deprivation. New York: United Nations University Press.

<sup>3</sup> 2019 English Indices of Multiple Deprivation' (IMD)

<sup>4</sup> Local Indicators of Child Poverty, 2017/18, Juliet Stone and Donald Hirsch, Loughborough University

<sup>5</sup> Food Poverty in Camden and Islington, January 2018

<sup>6-9</sup> Ibid



The local reasons for experiencing food poverty mirrored national data, with financial reasons being most commonly cited, including poverty, low income, issues with benefits and affordability of healthy food.

Common barriers to seeking help with food were stigma, with many describing feelings of pride or shame, and problems with referrals, such as lack of knowledge of services or restrictive service criteria. The residents suggested a range of changes which would help address food poverty, including altering the food environment to enable healthier choices, and changes to services for increased support. Professionals and residents alike shared extensive insights into changes which would help to address food poverty. Common themes emerging included changes to the food environment to improve access to affordable food and to enable healthier food choices. They also emphasised the need for stronger communication and awareness raising about food poverty. Future action on food poverty must remain responsive to a complex and rapidly evolving service landscape, and accessible for organisations to engage.



**47.5%** of children in the Borough of Islington are living in poverty <sup>4</sup>



**1 in 10** of the population experiences moderate or high levels of food insecurity <sup>6</sup>

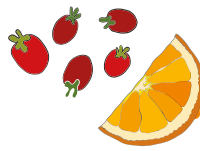


**5080** emergency food parcels were supplied by Trussell Trust foodbank in Islington in 2017/18 <sup>7</sup>

References see page 3.

# FOREWORD

Cllr Richard Watts, Leader of Islington Council,  
and Cllr Janet Burgess MBE, Executive Member for Health & Social Care



Islington Council is committed to making our Borough a fairer place for all. At the heart of this ambition is a commitment to tackling inequality and poverty. For us, there is no clearer or more damning example of the devastating impact poverty has on local people than the people we meet who are not certain where their next meal is coming from.

We have been working hard to tackle food poverty since the launch of Islington's Food Strategy in 2010, from providing Free School Meals to all nursery and primary school pupils, to pioneering projects that seek to tackle 'holiday hunger'. However, it is important to be clear that many of the root causes of food poverty sit at a national level, despite most of the interventions and action being taken to address it falling within local remits. The Islington Food Poverty Action Plan is a local plan, designed to be led and implemented at a local level. During its lifespan, there will be many contributing factors to rates of food poverty that it cannot influence.

What we are aiming to do is mobilise the resources and energy we have across the Borough to build a coordinated and effective approach to tackling food poverty within the scope that we have, to ensure that everyone in Islington eats at least one healthy meal each day.

The Islington Food Poverty Action Plan has been developed with input from a wide range of stakeholders, and will be collaboratively led by individuals and organisations from across all sectors and services. It has been designed to take into account all the research and insights we have to build evidence-led interventions, whilst also remaining realistic and achievable given an overall environment of limited resources and high need across communities and public and third sector organisations.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the development of this plan, and who will continue to do so. We hope that everyone in the Borough will find something within this Action Plan that they can contribute to, and that together, we can work to ensure that everyone in Islington eats at least one healthy meal each day.

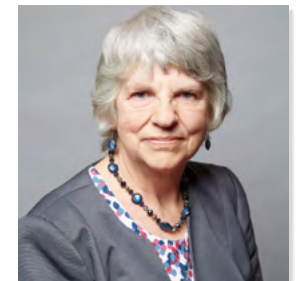
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Richard Watts  
*Leader of Islington Council*

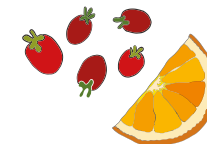


A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janet Burgess".

Janet Burgess MBE  
*Executive Member for Health & Social Care*



# DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION



Addressing food poverty has been a part of Islington's Food Strategy since its launch in 2010. The Food Strategy Steering Group and wider partnership recognised a further need to develop specific Food Poverty Action Plan so a local needs assessment was carried out in 2017 and an Islington Food Poverty Alliance (IFPA) steering group was set up to provide oversight and implementation support. Funding was received from the Greater London Authority (GLA) in January 2018 enabling Islington to host a Food Poverty Stakeholders Summit in June 2018.

## Using the needs assessment recommendations as a framework, the Food Poverty Stakeholders' Summit focused on:

- Identifying the range of existing services
- Identifying gaps in service
- Identifying priority activities
- Confirming the core values and priorities

The summit outcomes were processed in tandem with the needs assessment findings to produce a draft Action Plan. The Food Poverty Alliance steering group provided final feedback and sign off on the Action Plan.

The Food Poverty Action Plan contains existing work, work in progress and aspirational objectives that will progress given resources, both financial and in kind. Update of the Action Plan on a "RAG rating" system will take place by those leading on delivering each of the actions.

The IFPA steering group will also use the Food Strategy membership of Sustainable Food Cities and Food Power to keep up to date with national progress on similar actions and identify new ideas and new ways of working together.

The wider Food Poverty Alliance consists of members who work in areas impacting on food poverty but are not able to commit to regular steering group activities. The Alliance will be kept up to date regularly by email and web page updates as well as occasional events.

**2010**  
Current day Food Strategy launch and implementation

**2017**  
Food Poverty Needs Assessment

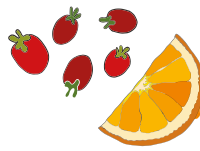
**2018**  
Food Poverty Summit and "call to action"

**2019**  
Formation of Islington Food Poverty Alliance and Steering Group

ISLINGTON FOOD POVERTY  
ACTION PLAN 2019 - 2022



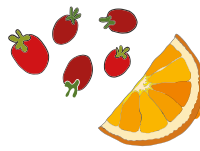
# KEY STAKEHOLDERS



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Key messages for all stakeholders can be found on pages 18 - 24

# KEY PRINCIPLES



The following key principles thread through all of the work and approaches to successfully delivering the Food Poverty Action Plan:



**Recognising that food based services and support can be used as a solution to multiple issues alongside food poverty, including:**

- Improving health and nutrition
- Addressing social isolation
- Being an identifier of broader poverty issues, and an entry point into providing further support
- Sustainability and environmental issues



**Encouraging positive and empowering messaging throughout Islington in particular presenting services and support as opportunities for:**

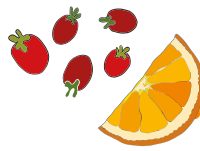
- Sharing food knowledge around growing, shopping and cooking
- Learning new skills
- Reducing food waste
- Building communities, using food as a form of sharing and cross-cultural meeting



**Ensuring all services and support are designed to tackle root causes of poverty alongside providing crisis support**



# KEY PRIORITY GROUPS



We recognise that there are groups within our communities that can be more at risk of food poverty, and can have a lack of appropriate services and support available to them. Therefore our Action Plan includes a number of tailored interventions aimed particularly at supporting the following groups:



**PREGNANT WOMEN  
AND CHILDREN  
UNDER 5**



**CHILDREN AND  
YOUNG PEOPLE**



**ELDERLY  
PEOPLE**



**REFUGEE AND ASYLUM  
SEEKING AND NEWLY  
ARRIVED MIGRANT  
COMMUNITIES**



**PEOPLE  
EXPERIENCING  
HOMELESSNESS**

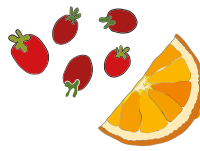


**PEOPLE RELIANT ON  
UNIVERSAL CREDIT  
AND BENEFITS AS  
THEIR MAIN SOURCE  
OF INCOME**



**WORKING  
POOR**

# ACTION PLAN SUMMARY



## AIM 1

ACCURATE IDENTIFICATION AND MEASUREMENT OF FOOD POVERTY AND ACTIONS TO MITIGATE

## AIM 2

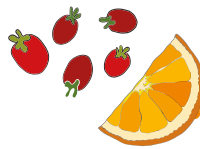
TACKLE THE ROOT CAUSES OF FOOD POVERTY

## AIM 3

ENSURE THERE IS ADEQUATE CRISIS SUPPORT SO THAT NO ONE GOES HUNGRY

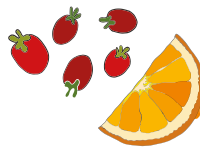
## AIM 4

IMPROVING CROSS-SERVICE COMMUNICATION ACROSS ISLINGTON

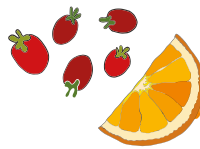


The steering group has highlighted 5 key priority goals within the 4 aims of the Action Plan. These are highlighted in orange on the following pages.

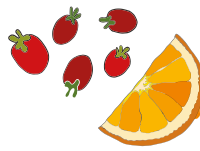
#	Measurement Area	Key Indicators
1.1	Children and young people	<p>For pregnant women and children under 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eligibility for healthy start vouchers</li> <li>• Number of local businesses accepting healthy start vouchers</li> <li>• Breastfeeding rates</li> </ul> <p>For children and young people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eligibility for free school meals</li> <li>• Take up of free school meals</li> <li>• Take up of Lunch Bunch</li> <li>• Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI)</li> <li>• Child measurement programme to map obesity</li> <li>• Children’s access to food 365 days a year</li> </ul>
1.2	Adults and older people	<p>For adults and older people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)</li> <li>• Estimated numbers in fuel poverty</li> <li>• Hospital admittances with malnutrition (MUST)</li> <li>• Eligibility for free home care services</li> </ul>



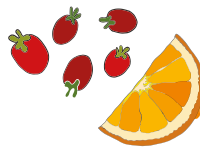
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual measure of food bank use</li> <li>• Annual value of Sainsbury's food vouchers given to residents in need</li> <li>• Measure the impact of universal credit</li> </ul>
1.3	Broad indicators	<p>Identification of residents in food poverty and in danger of food poverty:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data from Family Resources Survey</li> <li>• Adding question to residents survey and/or Seasonal Health Intervention Network (SHINE) screening</li> </ul>
		<p>Development of indicators for healthy streets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mapping of fast food takeaways</li> <li>• Food basket mapping exercise</li> </ul>
		<p>Identification of tipping points and early signs of food poverty:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of internal measures through key stakeholders</li> </ul>
1.4	Ensuring effectiveness and accountability of steering group and action plan	Set up and maintain quarterly steering group meetings
		Complete annual reporting to external bodies
		Encourage robust evaluation of pilot projects



#	Area	Goal
2.1	Income maximisation	Promote London Living Wage
		Support groups with no recourse to public funds (NRPF)
		Support local communities into work by encouraging employment and training opportunities
		Future proof against welfare reform changes
		Provision of good, solid and accurate advisory services on a range of areas that will assist in preventing poverty
		Ensure that food poverty features in the social prescribing offer
		Improve financial awareness of all residents and business owners of all ages
		Promote subsidised food in the workplace
		Promote Seasonal Health Intervention Network (SHINE)
		Tackle proliferation of bookies and pay day loan shops
Tackle the “poverty premium” in Islington		
2.2	Under 5s and maternal	Provide free school meals in early years settings
		Provide bilingual peer support group for vulnerable mothers around breast feeding, weaning and maternal health
2.3	School age and families	Provide universal free school meals for primary school aged children
		Support provision of ‘outside of lunch’ food at school
		Provide free school meals for secondary pupils in case of emergency
		Provide support to parents and families living in poverty via schools



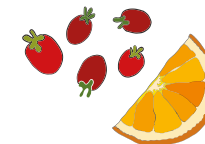
		Systematic programmes of learning around food for families as part of a universal and targeted offer to Islington families
		Increase free or low cost meals available for children, young people and their families during the school holidays
		Systematic introduction of enrichment activities for young adults across all secondary schools
		Commissioning play and youth provision that provide healthy food as part of their offer
2.4	Vulnerable groups	Develop new resources to enable vulnerable groups to develop skills around cooking and shopping
		Promote services where free white goods are available to vulnerable families
		Use food growing as an engagement tool for hard to reach and vulnerable groups
		Provide refugee and asylum seeker parent and child weekly drop in session with one stop shop for advice immigration, health care and other support services including a hot meal
		Provide support groups working with homeless people to provide crisis support, regular hot food and advice, including support to maintain hygiene and nutritional standards
		Increase referrals into services/hubs where residents can get access to support
		Continued provision of support via residents support scheme
		Older people accessing lunch time meal at local primary school
		Support for Home care service and care homes providing safe and healthy food and learning to recognise signs of food poverty
		Develop work around Malnutrition Universal Screening Tool (MUST) and hospital discharge process
2.5	Local businesses	Promote Healthier Catering Commitment to support businesses to increase the range of healthier options
		Support caterers and retailers to divert high quality, surplus food from waste stream to local projects



		Promote retail of fresh produce in Council run market
		Regulation of unhealthy foods on routes to schools and within 400m of schools
2.6	Local community	Support Islington Gro-mobile, mobile potting shed and classroom, helping transform local unloved spaces into veg patches and wildlife havens
		Run community led cook taste projects including shopping on a budget and how to prepare healthy options
		Encourage community food sharing and coordinate efforts to put in place community food hubs
		Run third sector lunch clubs for specific community groups
		Provide support for lunch clubs to achieve high food hygiene rating, implement healthy catering commitment targets and improve take up of spaces
		Encourage food waste minimisation

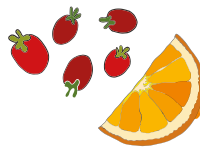
# AIM 3

## ENSURE THERE IS ADEQUATE CRISIS SUPPORT SO THAT NO ONE GOES HUNGRY



#	Area	Goal
3.1	Support provision of crisis support	Development of Islington directory to assist signposting by and to all partners
		Provide training and information tools to enable more and better meaningful referrals
		Support multiple local providers of crisis support with hygiene advice, hygiene training, nutritional advice
		Ensure accessibility of crisis support, for example by developing out of hours services
3.2	Raise awareness amongst potential service users of what is on offer and ways to empower themselves	Promotion of services and support on social media
		Work with VCS providers to develop and expand existing projects, and use existing sessions to promote other services and support
		Undertake outreach into communities through existing networks of steering group, food poverty alliance and their partners
3.3	Reducing stigma around accessing crisis support	Shape and share positive messaging, in particular presenting services and support as opportunities for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sharing food knowledge around growing, shopping and cooking</li> <li>• Learning new skills around food and cooking</li> <li>• Reducing food waste</li> <li>• Building communities, using food as a form of sharing and cross-cultural meeting</li> </ul>
		Encouraging multi-use sites to host food banks
		Include food poverty resources in multi-functional activities across the Borough and promote special events in community assets



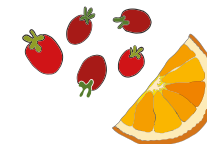


#	Area	Goal
4.1	Raise awareness of services and support across organisations in Islington	<p>Raise awareness amongst all service providers and partners, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing promotion of services through signposting, network events and shared good practice</li> <li>Opening up existing community assets for free use by VCS organisations to provide services and support</li> <li>Working with care agencies, hospitals and sheltered housing to agree what ‘one nutritious meal a day’ looks like and how they are achieving it</li> </ul>
		<p>Reduce duplication of provision, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using key VCS partners to triage enquiries about existing provision</li> <li>Mapping and sharing what is known about existing services and support</li> <li>Working with national organisations to share key information</li> </ul>
		<p>Strengthen Islington’s Food Poverty Alliance and the Council, Voluntary and Community Sector coalition, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hosting annual food poverty event to bring partners together and share best practice</li> <li>Ensuring regular e-communication to share key messages across key stakeholders</li> <li>Maintaining an up to date web page with key information and ongoing updates</li> </ul>
		<p>Raise the profile of good practice being undertaken in Islington, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintaining our membership of and fully participate in the Food Power Network</li> <li>Work with partners to develop and attain targets in any new areas of work identified in Beyond the Food Bank</li> <li>Work with lead elected Council member “champion” to raise awareness</li> </ul>

Please note, this is a summarised version of Islington’s Food Poverty Action Plan. A full version, with further details on aims, measurement and indicators, leads, partners and progress is also available.



# WHAT SUCCESS WILL LOOK LIKE



The overall aim of the Action Plan is to ensure everyone in Islington eats one healthy meal a day. We have also outlined one key overall outcome for each aim within the Action Plan, as laid out below.

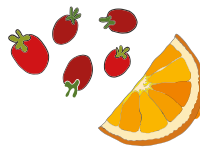
It's important to note that we are operating in a difficult national context, where levels of inequality are rising, welfare cuts and changes are squeezing more people into poverty, costs of living are getting higher, and our political future is uncertain. There are many causes of food poverty that are outside the sphere of impact that this Action Plan can have, and therefore we recognise that the impact of this plan may actually be to slow down the increase of food poverty, rather than reduce rates overall.

We also recognise that this Action Plan is being overseen and implemented by organisations with limited resources, operating in an environment of high need. We therefore are committed to ensuring we balance time spent monitoring and evaluating with time spent actually delivering on the key aims and activities.

Aim	Key Overall Outcome	Measurement and Indicators
1	There is a reduction (or slower growth) in the number of Islington residents in food poverty or in danger of food poverty	National index of food insecurity from Family Resources Survey Food poverty question within residents survey and/or SHINE screening
2	Islington is a Borough in which tackling the root causes of food poverty is embedded into all services and support	We will develop a measure to ensure tackling root causes is embedded in service provisions and activities across the Borough. This measure will include the tackling of key root causes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximising income and affordability</li> <li>• Building knowledge and skills</li> <li>• Ensuring accessibility and inclusion</li> <li>• Ensuring nutritional and healthy policies and practices across the Borough</li> </ul>
3	There is a reduction (or slower growth) in crisis food poverty support required in Islington	Food bank usage figures
4	Islington is a Borough committed to coordinating and working in partnership to tackle food poverty, having an impact that is greater than the sum of its parts	Number of member organisations of Food Poverty Alliance
		Engagement of member organisations within Food Poverty Alliance



# KEY MESSAGES FOR STAKEHOLDERS



## For businesses

In order to help to reduce food poverty in Islington, we encourage all businesses to make commitments to support aims within this Food Poverty Action Plan, and access the resources and support available to them to do so.

### We call on all businesses in Islington to:

- Join Islington's Food Poverty Alliance to support the aims of this Action Plan, and contribute to any aims that individual businesses may be well placed to have an impact on
- Commit to paying London Living Wage to all staff and contractors
- Sign up to the Sugar Smart campaign
- Promote subsidised food options in the workplace, for example providing subsidised canteens, encouraging food share clubs or offering staff discounting schemes

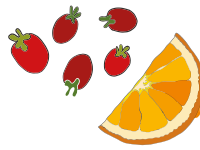
- Raise awareness of what services and support are available for those experiencing or in danger of food poverty
- Provide financial or in-kind support to local organisations tackling food poverty, including promoting services and support available to those in danger of food poverty
- Encourage learning and discussion around food and food poverty, for example by providing opportunities for staff, customers and partners to:
  - Learn and share health and nutrition skills, for example around cooking, growing and shopping
  - Use food as an opportunity to decrease social isolation, for example by holding food share activities
  - Learn on sustainability and reducing food waste
  - Support distribution of excess food to organisations working with residents

### We call on food and catering related businesses in Islington to:

- Caterers to achieve the Healthier Catering Commitment to increase the range of healthier options available in all areas of the Borough
- Retailers to sign up to accept Healthy Start vouchers
- Divert high quality surplus food from waste stream to local projects, for example Alexander Wylie Trust, FoodCycle and FEAST, and commit to reducing food waste overall



# KEY MESSAGES FOR STAKEHOLDERS



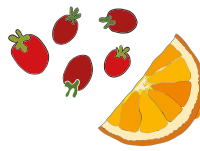
## For third sector and community organisations

The current climate is difficult for third sector and community organisations, and funding cuts are heavily impacting on organisations' ability to address every growing levels of need. We hope the scope and priorities of this Action Plan are accessible and realistic for organisations to meaningfully contribute to, without asking for large capacity commitments.

### We call on third sector and community organisation to:

- Join Islington's Food Poverty Alliance to support the aims of this Action Plan, and contribute to any aims that individual organisations may be well placed to have an impact on
- Raise awareness of what services and support are available for those experiencing or in danger of food poverty, in particular within hard-to-reach and at higher risk communities
- Work with other organisations across the Borough to provide coordinated support to beneficiaries, and reduce duplication of provision
- Design food based services and support as a solution to multiple issues alongside food poverty, including:
  - Improving health and nutrition
  - Addressing social isolation
  - Being an identifier of broader poverty issues, and an entry point into providing further support
  - Sustainability and environmental issues
- Encourage positive and empowering messaging, in particular presenting services and support as opportunities for:
  - Learning new skills around food and cooking
  - Reducing food waste
  - Building communities, using food as a form of sharing and cross-cultural meeting
- Ensure all services and support are designed to tackle root causes of poverty alongside providing crisis support
- Ensure the accessibility of crisis support, for example out of hours services
- Share best practice and expertise across organisations and stakeholders in the Borough

# KEY MESSAGES FOR STAKEHOLDERS



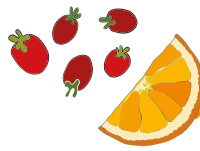
## For funders and grant makers

The members of the IFPA steering group and Food Poverty Alliance are committed to deliver on the aims set out in the Food Poverty Action Plan without any direct funding. In a difficult funding environment, even small amounts of money can sustain local projects committed to tackling food poverty, and can have a broader impact on many other key local issues, for example social isolation, sustainability, and health and nutrition.

### We call on funders and grant makers to:

- Join Islington's Food Poverty Alliance to support the aims of this Action Plan, and contribute to any aims that individual organisations may be well placed to have an impact on
- Consider providing grants and funding to organisations to tackle food poverty, in Islington and across the country
- Consider food poverty issues within relevant funds and projects, and ensure any opportunities to reduce food poverty are maximised

# KEY MESSAGES FOR STAKEHOLDERS

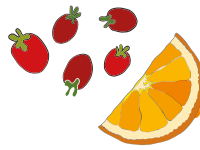


## For local government, the public sector and public sector professionals

### We call on the public sector in Islington to:

- Continue to support Islington's Food Poverty Alliance and support the aims of this Food Poverty Action Plan, and contribute to its aims
- Continue to Commit to paying London Living Wage to all staff and contractors and promote the living wage campaign
- Work with other organisations across the Borough to provide coordinated support to beneficiaries, and reduce duplication of provision
- Work with frontline staff to improve:
  - Recognition of service users experiencing food poverty or related issues
  - Awareness of what services and support are available for those experiencing or in danger of food poverty
- Awareness and accessibility of crisis support
- Design food based services and support as a solution to multiple issues alongside food poverty, including:
  - Improving health and nutrition
  - Addressing social isolation
  - Being an identifier of broader poverty issues, and an entry point into providing further support
  - Sustainability and environmental issues
- Share best practice and expertise across organisations and stakeholders in the Borough
- The local authority to continue its work on the Local declaration on sugar reduction and healthier diets
- The Local authority to continue its work on Healthy Catering Commitment and Healthy Start
- Whittington Health Trust to maintain its healthy Catering Commitment and continue to work on Sugar Smart campaign

# KEY MESSAGES FOR STAKEHOLDERS



## For schools and early year's settings

### We call on Islington schools and early years institutions to:

- To be represented at Islington's Food Poverty Alliance to support and contribute to the aims of this Action Plan
- Commit to tackling root causes of food poverty by encouraging learning by pupils and parents on topics such as:
  - Financial awareness and budgeting
  - Cooking, growing and shopping (on a budget)
  - Healthy eating and nutrition
  - Sustainability and reducing food waste
- Support provision of food outside of lunch at school, for example breakfast clubs (such as Magic Breakfast), hosting holiday time meals, family kitchen cooking clubs or family meal sharing opportunities
- Continue to promote take up of free school meals by pupils who are eligible and/or entitled to free school meals, and pupils with no recourse to public funds
- Achieve Healthy Early Years London / Healthy Schools London Bronze award
- Focus Healthy Early Years London / Healthy Schools London Silver and Gold award on promoting healthy eating / reducing food poverty within the school community
- Providing subsidised or free meals for staff, and potentially parents, alongside pupils
- Alleviate the cost of attending education and educational opportunities to ensure that all pupils are able to take part regardless of family income
- Identifying pupils who may experience poverty and providing support within the setting such as access to free breakfast club
- Refer to or raise awareness of services and support available to families experiencing or in danger of food poverty
- Consider introducing innovative programmes to tackle food poverty, for example using school kitchens to produce food to be distributed to residents in need or access excess food to feed families in danger of food poverty

# KEY MESSAGES FOR STAKEHOLDERS



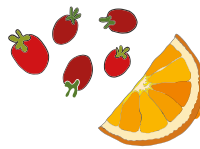
## For citizens and communities

Growing, cooking and sharing food activities are opportunities for communities to come together, get to know each other and have fun, alongside tackling the key issues highlighted in this Food Poverty Action Plan. We call on local citizens and communities to come together to grow food communally, share food and hosting local sharing meals, share and learn recipes and skills from across diverse communities, and call for healthier services and broader support in local areas.





# PARTNERS AND CONTACTS



- Age UK Islington
- Alexandra Wylie Tower Foundation
- Awesome CIC
- Bags of Taste
- Bright Start Islington
- Caterlink
- FareShare
- FoodCycle
- Greater London Assembly
- Groundwork
- Healthwatch Islington
- Help on your Doorstep
- Highbury Roundhouse
- Islington People's Rights
- Islington Play Association
- London Borough of Islington
- Manor Gardens Welfare Trust
- Nags Head Town Centre Group
- Octopus Communities
- Pilion Trust
- St Luke's Church Holloway
- St Luke's Community Centre
- Sustain Alliance
- The Felix Project
- Trussell Trust
- Wesley's Chapel & Leysian Mission
- Whittington Health Trust

## FURTHER INFORMATION

You can contact the Islington Food Poverty Alliance by emailing [IFPA@islington.gov.uk](mailto:IFPA@islington.gov.uk) or visiting our website at [www.islington.gov.uk/children-and-families/benefits-and-financial-support/food-poverty](http://www.islington.gov.uk/children-and-families/benefits-and-financial-support/food-poverty)

To receive a full version of the Islington Food Poverty Action Plan, please email [IFPA@islington.gov.uk](mailto:IFPA@islington.gov.uk)

You can download other Food Poverty Action Plans from across the country at [www.sustainweb.org/foodpoverty/actionplans](http://www.sustainweb.org/foodpoverty/actionplans)

You can read the full food poverty needs assessment report online at [Food Poverty in Camden and Islington, January 2018](#)



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