



**Food and Poverty Conference 16-17 April 2018**





# Food Power vision

More coordinated, long-term, sustainable and tailored approaches to tackling food poverty across the UK

Solutions developed and/or shared by local areas with the support of their peers from other communities across the UK

A stronger voice for those experiencing food poverty, influencing practice on the ground



# Food Power network

## FOOD POWER ALLIANCE MAP

Explore the map to find which areas are already involved, what they are up to and how to get in touch.





# Evaluating the programme



Sustainable Places Research Institute

## Core evaluation

The impact of the programme, the benefit of working collectively and the change to the local food landscape.

- Annual survey of alliances
- 'Deep dive' studies of 2 local areas
- Community researchers
- Thematic case studies

## 'Bigger picture' analysis

Overall approach and impact and opportunities beyond the programme itself.

- Application for PhD studentship in process



# Sharing learning: webinars

## Meet your hosts



• Ben Pearson, Food Power Empowerment Programme Officer



• Dr Clare Pettinger, University of Plymouth



• Dr Hannah Pitt, Cardiff University

## Why involve Experts by Experience?

- Lack of voice for people experiencing food poverty and hunger within the sector and more widely within society
- Individuals with direct experience of food poverty play an active role in identifying & advocating for long term solutions to the issues they face
- Projects, support & interventions are better designed to help the people they are intended to help



## Voices from experience - community researchers

Degree of involvement	Type of engagement	Outputs	Benefits
Light	Informing and consulting e.g. group discussion with researchers to inform research plans and ensure they reflect local experiences	Revised research plan	More appropriate design reflecting voices from experience and local context
	Shadowing researchers e.g. local alliance staff partner with researcher for case study data collection	Case study data Research training through practice	Participants gain experience and insight to evaluation processes
Medium	Peer interviewing e.g. beneficiaries record video vox pops	Audio-visual data Training by researchers	Participants gain training and experience in research skills Participants tell their stories in their words
	Research skills capacity building e.g. training sessions in interviewing	Training by researchers	Participants gain training and experience in research skills
Intensive	Independent community research e.g. volunteers design and deliver data collection, consulting with researchers as necessary	Co-produced research plan and data collection	Empowers participants

## Photo dialogue activity





# Key issues

- Needs assessment – measurement, indicators, mapping, surveys
- Crisis/ chronic h/h food insecurity, those at risk
- Lived experience – strategic decision-making
- Diverse communities – rural, BAME, disabled/older people
- Food poverty action plans – develop, implement, review
- Specific interventions – Healthy Start, 365 days access for children, physical access ‘beyond the food bank’, meals on wheels
- Root causes – social security and safety net, decent work
- Assessment of impact – health and wellbeing, education, social inclusion



# Local evaluation questions

How could we link in with universities and academics?

How can we build the evidence base to convince decision-makers?

How can we estimate the level of food poverty in our area?

How can we assess our impact both as individual organisations and as an alliance?

What is the best way to map the local support available?



# Research opportunities

## Content

- Place-based responses
- Transferable experiences and learning (where possible)
- Appropriate and sustainable roles for public, voluntary, private sector

## Presentation

- Concise findings, recommendations and how could adopt/ adapt
- Plan for filtering down of key finding(s)





# Communications

A screenshot of the Food Power website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with an "About" link. The main header features the Food Power logo and the tagline "Tackling food poverty through people-powered change" over a light blue map of the UK. Below this, the page is divided into several content blocks: a "FOOD POWER PUSH 2018" announcement, a "FIND AN ALLIANCE" section with a map, a "GET INVOLVED" section, a social media feed for "@FOODPOWERUK", a "NEWS" section, and a "FINANCIAL SUPPORT" section with an "Apply now" button. The footer contains contact information, a small "FOOD Power" logo, and the "sustain" logo with the tagline "the alliance for better food and farming".

A layout of website content for a communications page. At the top is the Food Power logo. Below it is the tagline "Tackling food poverty through people-powered change". A horizontal line separates this from the date "February 2018" and a link "Open in your browser". Another horizontal line is below. The main content area features a bold heading "Food Power welcomes five new peer mentors" followed by a paragraph: "This week we welcomed our peer mentors to the network with a two-day induction in Manchester to explore how the roles will work in each region or nation and co-produce tools to monitor impact along with our evaluation partner Cardiff University. Peer mentors will support alliances in their area to overcome challenges, build upon success and support on-going development. [Meet the peer mentors.](#)"



# Contacts



[www.foodpower.org.uk](http://www.foodpower.org.uk)



[@FoodPowerUK](https://twitter.com/FoodPowerUK)



[simon@sustainweb.org](mailto:simon@sustainweb.org)

[maddie@sustainweb.org](mailto:maddie@sustainweb.org)

[benp@church-poverty.org.uk](mailto:benp@church-poverty.org.uk)