

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CABINET

15 JULY 2021

**REPORT OF CORPORATE
MANAGEMENT TEAM**

CABINET INFORMATION ITEM

Leader of the Council and Food Justice Champion - Councillor Bob Cook

HOW WE ARE TACKLING FOOD POVERTY IN STOCKTON-ON-TEES

SUMMARY

This report provides Cabinet with an overview of the work being undertaken by the Council to tackle food poverty in the Borough. It covers the work that is being undertaken directly as a Council and also the Council's support for the work being carried out by organisations across the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) Sector and by other partners. The Council is committed to tackling this problem and to supporting the many other organisations across the Borough who work daily to tackle food poverty through their own projects and initiatives

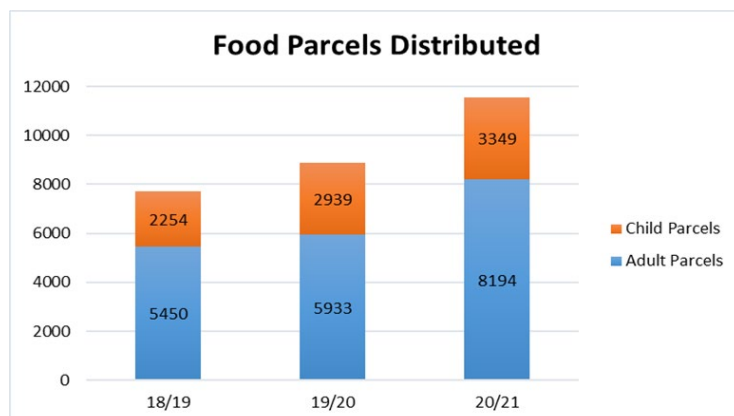
REASONS FOR PRODUCING THIS REPORT

To provide Cabinet with an overview of the work the Council is undertaking to tackle food poverty and to seek support for the new Food Poverty Strategy and actions to support the VCSE sector through the Stockton on Tees Food Power Network.

DETAIL

1. People living in food poverty either don't have enough money to buy sufficient nutritious food, struggle to get it because it is not easily accessible in their community, or both. It can be a long-term issue in someone's life or can affect someone for a shorter period of time because of a sudden change in their personal circumstances.
2. It is difficult to estimate the number of people who are suffering from food poverty in the Borough. A report issued by the House of Commons Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee in April 2021 estimated that 5.9 million adults in the UK experienced food poverty in the 6 months prior to the 9th February 2021 and 1.7 million children live in households that are food insecure. The report acknowledges that detailed data was not available but as a rough guide, if the national estimates used by the Committee are applied to the Borough, this equates to approximately 14,000 adults living in food poverty in the Borough and over 4,000 children living in houses without food security. Another estimate is provided in the Government's Family Resources Survey which collates information on income and circumstances of UK households. It introduced a new indicator in the 2019/20 survey which assessed the food security status of households. This survey indicates that 11% of households in the North East face food insecurity, if we assume that the situation in the Borough is in line with the North East average then this data indicates that approximately 20,000 people across the Borough may be facing food insecurity.

- Information collected on the use of food banks is often used as a proxy indicator of food poverty levels. Data collected by Stockton District Advice and Information Service (SDAIS) from the food banks who are part of their Help through Crisis project indicates a growing problem in the Borough. The project includes data from Billingham, Hardwick and Norton foodbanks, the Hebron project and the Salvation Army foodbanks. It shows that 11,543 food parcels were distributed in the Borough in the last year, a 50% rise from 2 years ago.



The SDAIS data show that food parcels were distributed to residents from every ward in the Borough but that 53% of the total were to people from Parkfield and Oxbridge and Stockton Town Centre wards. In addition the Thornaby food banks distributed an average of 144 food parcels per month and provided meals to approximately 244 children per month during 2020.

- Food poverty is clearly a very real problem for thousands of people in the Borough and the Council is committed to doing all it can to alleviate it. Clearly the problem of food poverty specifically is a feature of the general problem of poverty generally and there are many actions that we are undertaking across our Welfare Support team and benefits services, through our Community Partnerships in delivery of the Communities Strategy and through the work of the employment and training teams to tackle poverty in the Borough. However, the focus of this report is on the specific actions we are taking to address food poverty in particular. It focuses both on the direct action we are taking as a Council and also on the role we are playing in co-ordinating and facilitating activity across the VCSE sector.

Free School meals

- We continue to work very closely with our schools to ensure take up of free school meals for all eligible children. Analysis has been undertaken at a local authority level between HMRC figures on the expected number of children entitled to Free School Meals (FSM) and the School Census figures for those who actually make a claim. Some local authority areas have up to a 33% under-registration difference. Stockton-on-Tees is one of 16 local authorities in England with a 0% under-registration difference, i.e. at least the same number of children are claiming FSM as are expected to be eligible by the HMRC analysis. This commitment to ensuring maximum take up of FSM continued throughout the restrictions under Covid and we moved quickly to put arrangements in place in 2020 to support children who were eligible but not in school. We worked closely with schools to ensure the delivery of the national free school meal vouchers during lockdown periods and even before the national voucher scheme was established, we co-ordinated the preparation and delivery of on average 1,300 packed lunches each day, funding and delivering a scheme to support children eligible for free school meals who were not in school during the lockdown.

Healthy start vouchers

6. We continue to promote and support the take-up of the NHS Healthy Start scheme which currently provides vouchers of up to £8.50 per week for children under 4 years old and pregnant women of certain qualifying benefits. The vouchers can be used to buy cow's milk, fresh, frozen or tinned fruit and vegetables, infant formula milk, fresh, dried, and tinned pulses. Free Healthy Start vitamins are also available. We promote the scheme online and through Stockton-on-Tees News. Our Family Hubs have also been sharing information about the vouchers with families through their channels including social media and through direct work with families. We are reviewing how we can embed this further through the contacts the midwives and health visitors have with residents through our 0-19 service. We are also reviewing how we can tie the work in more closely with the Food Power Network.



The latest data provided by the NHS up to May 2021 shows that take up of vouchers in the England is **58%** and **66%** in the North East region. Take up for the same period in the Borough **67%**, this represents 1,526 of the 2,294 eligible families. We will continue to promote take up of this

Holiday Hunger programmes

7. Since 2018 we have invested £200,000 in programmes to tackle school holiday hunger. Working with partners from across the local voluntary, community and social enterprise sector, we have run holiday enrichment programmes to offer children, young people and families, healthy and nutritious food, alongside family focused enrichment activities within local communities. The latest impact report for the programmes run from Summer 2020 to Easter 2021 is attached at *Appendix 1*. The evaluation shows extremely positive feedback and shows that 1,777 children and families were provided with food and activities during the 2020/21 programme. We will continue to fund this valuable work and planning for the £960,000 2021/22 holiday programme is well advanced. A four week programme in the summer holidays and 1 week programme at Christmas will be delivered. 4,200 places will be available for 5 – 16 year olds. It will be delivered in partnership with the VCSE and the local community and will again offer rewarding and active activities alongside healthy meals.

Welfare Support crisis payments

8. Our Welfare Support team continues to provide payments for emergency food supplies for people in crisis situations through the Back on Track scheme. The payments provide short-term assistance whilst longer term solutions are put in place. Demand varies however 457 food awards were made in the last year (396 in 2019/20).

Leadership and support to the VCSE sector through the Food Partnership

9. The Council's commitment to the challenge of tackling food poverty and food insecurity is reflected in our commitment to the principles of the Food Justice campaign. The campaign promotes the benefits of:
 - a. Local Authorities identifying a lead Member for food poverty to draw together different work streams in the council, track progress and be a single point of contact for external organisations working on this issue.
 - b. The value of creating a food partnership which links up local government with local community organisations – so that food banks and other community initiatives get all the support they need.



10. The Leader of the Council, as part of his role in tackling poverty through delivery of the Communities Strategy, has taken on the role of as lead Member for Food Poverty. As can be seen from this report the work to tackle this problem covers many portfolios and there is benefit in pulling this together to track progress and to provide a primary point of contact.
11. The Stockton on Tees Food Power Network (SFPN) was established in partnership with Catalyst in January 2020. Over the last 18 months the work of the SFPN has gained momentum, which has resulted in a better coordinated and more innovative approach to tackling food poverty across the Borough. The Council and many organisations in the VCSE sector are working hard to alleviate food poverty in the Borough, but we believe that in developing a food partnership we can have a transformational effect on food poverty and can ensure that our work is co-ordinated and has maximum impact.
12. In partnership with Catalyst we established SFPN and registered as a member of the Food Power programme, a programme funded by the National Lottery Community Fund led by Sustain and Church Action on Poverty. The programme provides a network which aims to strengthen the ability of local communities to reduce food poverty, through solutions developed in partnership and with the support of peers from across the UK. Membership of the Food Power network provides access to funding opportunities and practical support and resources.
13. Catalyst has recently been appointed to take over from our Community Engagement team to act as the host organisation for the SFPN. Their appointment was made following an options appraisal and network members vote. As host they will coordinate the ongoing work and development of the SFPN. Neta Kaur- Brown (formerly of Little Sprouts) has joined Catalyst to undertake this role. The development of the partnership has been slowed by

the Covid-19 focus in 2020 but despite this it has achieved a solid foundation over the last 18 months. The SFPN has:

- a. Established a broad and active membership – the list of current members is shown in appendix
- b. Developed the 2021 – 2024 Food Poverty Reduction Strategy for the Borough – attached at *Appendix 2*. This strategy has been produced through three VCSE/SBC working groups, led by Ian Bartlett from SDAIS (food poverty), Andy Robinson from Cultivate (healthy/sustainable food) and Neta Kaur-Brown from Catalyst (community knowledge, and food procurement). The Strategy sets out an ambitious vision and aims and also a realistic framework for delivery. The Strategy is underpinned by an action plan which is attached at *Appendix 3*.
- c. Secured funding of £20k from UNICEF/Soccer Aid to provide fresh fruit and vegetable bags to families including baking bags and meal bags. This project is being delivered via Little Sprouts
- d. Secured funding of £2,500 from Sustain to develop the Eco shop model in Stockton on Tees with a specific focus on creating a sustainable model which provides culturally appropriate foods. Little Sprouts will be leading on the development of this in partnership with the Amal Project.

14. As part of our ongoing commitment to SFPN we are proposing to commit funding of £60,000 to provide essential infrastructure support which will facilitate practical collaboration across the sector. This additional funding will be used to support the sector in three very practical ways:

- a. To pay a one year subscription to the food sharing charity FareShare to secure sustainable and reliable food supplies to organisations in the Borough. FoodShare is a national network of charitable food redistributors, made up of 18 independent organisations who take good quality surplus food from across the food industry and provide it to more than 10,500 frontline charities and community groups. The North East hub is currently based in Newcastle although it is hoped that a hub to supply food for charities in the Tees Valley will be opened in September. Charities can access surplus food supplies for an annual membership fee of £1,200. Current members of the scheme estimate that this subscription delivers food worth £8,000 were they to buy it. Funding for future annual membership costs is being sought through grant applications made by SFPN.
- b. In order to register with FoodShare organisations must register with the Environmental Health Service, be equipped to safely receive, store, prepare and serve or redistribute food, have staff who hold the IEHO Basic Food Hygiene Course Certificate (or equivalent), train staff and volunteers to handle food safely and adhere to food safety legislation and current good practice. In order to support VCSE organisation to achieve this Catalyst will add the necessary training to their annual training programme for the sector and the Council will fund up to £250 start-up cost for use on shelving, fridges, storage etc.
- c. The most practical difficulty that many (particularly) smaller VCSE organisations face is access to a van to collect food deliveries. It is proposed to SBC provide a van for shared use by members of the SFPN. The fleet team are sourcing a suitable vehicle and arrangements are in hand for storage, a booking rota and insurance.

It is expected that this investment from the Council, which is based on an estimated involvement from 20 active organisations, will establish a sustainable and significant step forward in food supply for the VCSE organisations working to tackle food poverty in the Borough.

CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

There are no corporate parenting implications arising from the report

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None as a direct result of this report. The additional investment in support of SFPN is covered by the Community Engagement budget.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct legal implications arising from the report

RISK ASSESSMENT

Existing management/operational systems and procedures are sufficient to control and minimise the risks arising to low to medium status.

WARDS AFFECTED AND CONSULTATION WITH WARD/COUNCILLORS

The work takes place across all wards.

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This report presents information on the coordination and delivery of the 17 Holiday Enrichment Projects that took place across Stockton-on-Tees during the school holiday periods (summer/October half-term and Christmas) as part of Stockton's Holiday Enrichment Programme.

Background

The Holiday Enrichment Programme is in response to a growing body of national evidence of a holiday experience gap - with children from disadvantaged families more likely to experience 'unhealthy holidays' in terms of nutrition and physical health. For many families the school holidays can be a struggle with children at home and no free school meals. The daily struggle with hunger can rule out any chance children might have of going out and enjoying themselves, leading to inactivity, isolation and loneliness.

Free holiday clubs are a response to this issue. They can have a positive impact on children and young people through providing consistent and easily accessible enrichment activities and healthy nutritious food.

Stockton-on-Tees Public Health and Catalyst partnered with Children North East to bid for the Department of Education (DfE) Local Coordination of Free Holiday Provision Fund. As this DfE bid was unsuccessful, Stockton-on-Tees Public Health and Early Help allocated £72,000 for the summer and October half term 2020 holidays, and £50,000 for the Christmas and February half term 2020/21 programme.

Following the success of the "6 Weeks of Summer" programme in 2019, Catalyst were commissioned by Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council to lead on the coordination and monitoring of the Holiday Enrichment 2020 programme and produce an evaluation on the delivery process. A grant of £7,447 was given for Catalyst staff time and resources to manage the process.

Recommendations from the 2019 programme included:

- Access to funding needs to be available at an earlier date for providers to plan appropriately
- Identify ways to target children/families in particular those eligible for free school meals
- Consider ways to increase partnership working across all sectors (Public, Voluntary, Private and Health)
- Identify how we can maximise opportunities to engage with vulnerable families and signpost into other support services during the projects that avoids stigmatisation
- Other school holiday periods, especially those longer than a week need to be included in the holiday programme

These were taken into consideration when planning the 2020 programme.

Delivery Model

Catalyst continue to deliver an ambitious programme by bringing together different partner organisations that typically support vulnerable children, young people and families.

A mapping exercise for each holiday period was completed to better understand what holiday provision currently existed across the Borough. Following this providers were contacted and asked to complete an application form indicating how they will meet the requirements recommended by the DfE which includes;

- 4 hours of provision a day, for 4 days a week and for 4 weeks (4x4x4)
- Meeting the school food standards
- Meeting the physical activity guidelines

19 applications were submitted for summer, and following a judging process, 17 projects covering the most deprived Wards of the Borough and from a variety of settings including Schools, Family Hubs, Churches and Charities were awarded funding. 15 applications for October half term were submitted and all 15 were successful. 6 applications were submitted for the Christmas holidays and again all 6 were successful.

Devising the holiday enrichment plan for 2020 became a bigger challenge when the country was hit by the Covid-19 pandemic. With continuously changing Government restrictions including various tier levels and full lockdown periods, providers were asked during summer and October to provide applications covering both a “normal” and “covid” plan of activities, and complete a full Covid-19 risk assessment to cover both provision plans. This decision was made as national and local guidance was changing regularly and it was uncertain what restrictions would be in place by summer.

Later in the year it became clear that it would be the safer option to encourage digital and package delivery provision where possible due to the local Covid-19 picture. Providers were asked to only submit a “covid” plan under full restrictions for Christmas and February half term holiday periods. All clubs were provided with Public Health and National Youth Agency guidance to support them with correct and up to date restrictions on youth activity. During all school holiday periods in 2020, guidance stated that face-to-face youth provision was permitted for vulnerable children and young people following all Covid-19 safety announcements. Therefore we allowed providers to make their own informed decisions on their model of provision taking into account the safety of their staff and volunteers, capacity, venue etc.

Some providers adapted their workspace in line with safety restrictions and continued to provide face to face provision, whereas others decided to adapt their services to online provision and adopt a package delivery model. This included offering virtual sessions via Facebook Live, Zoom or Youtube, delivery of healthy breakfast/lunch food items and socially distanced sessions with reduced numbers following PHE guidelines.


The aims and objectives of the whole Holiday Enrichment Programme was to provide;

- Healthy hot or cold breakfast, lunch, snacks and drinks
- Covid safe enrichment activities such as outdoor games, gardening, virtual cooking workshops, virtual arts and crafts, drama music and dance.


- Opportunities to socialise with children of a similar age in a covid safe environment or virtual environment, such as Facebook Live.
- Opportunities to experience new pursuits and learn new skills
- A safe and supportive environment

Provider Information



Detailed below is a list of the projects funded and what provision they delivered over summer, October half-term and Christmas.

Organisation	Ward	Project Summary	Activity
BCT Aspire  Summer/October/Christmas	Billingham North and Central	Open access provision for children/young people based in Billingham and its surrounding areas.	<p>Summer/October: 'Beat the Boredom' enrichment packs (healthy snacks/games/puzzles/comics) alongside healthy lunch delivered. Virtual sessions including music, sports/fitness, navigation training and arts & crafts.</p> <p>Christmas: Combined activity box including food & activities delivered to 150+ families.</p>



<p>BELP</p>  <p>Billingham Environmental Link Programme</p> <p>Summer/October</p>	<p>Billingham South</p>	<p>Open access project funded to provide additionally to an existing popular Family Gardening Club. Aimed at families of all ages living in the Clarences.</p>	<p>Summer: BELP Community Gardens in the Clarences - Social distance enrichment activity sessions in the BELP Community Gardens for each family, using a gazebo/outdoor spaces to create family 'zones'. Themed activity packs include gardening tasks, nutrition based activities, sports/fitness and arts & crafts. Healthy packed lunch provided at each session.</p> <p>October: BELP Community Gardens in the Clarences – 'Spooky' Halloween themed walks around the Clarences. Themed activity packs to take home include gardening tasks, nutrition based activities, sports/fitness and arts & crafts. Healthy packed lunch also provided.</p>
<p>Corner House</p>  <p>Summer/October/Christmas</p>	<p>Parkfield and Oxbridge</p>	<p>Targeted programme for young people currently engaged with Corner House.</p>	<p>Summer/October: Gardening/nutritional interactive activities and creative and art based activities in social distanced sessions at the allotment. Healthy lunch provided at each session.</p> <p>Christmas: Arlington Park Allotment: 3 outdoor sessions with 2 separate bubbles of 11 young people (22 in total). Hot healthy meals provided, alongside festive hampers for young people & families.</p> <p>Port Clarence - Takeaway healthy food and festive hampers service for 20 young people & their families.</p>
<p>Eastern Ravens Trust and EPIC Teesside</p>	<p>Roseworth</p>	<p>Open access for young people from the Roseworth community.</p>	<p>Summer/October: Delivery of enrichment activity packs including growing produce, recipe cards, various activity resources and relaxation/stress busting activities alongside a healthy lunch. Potential to offer food provision and activity bag</p>

 <p>EASTERN RAVENS</p>  <p>Summer/October/Christmas</p>		<p>Open access project for children, young people and families living in the Primrose Hill area.</p>	<p>collections from Elim Hope Centre & outdoor social distanced sessions at the Multi-Use Games Area, Rochester Road.</p> <p>Christmas: Provide fresh healthy lunches each day to children/young people in Roseworth.</p> <p>Provide 2 hour group sessions following Covid-19 guidance and risk assessment, including completing the festive activity bags within the session.</p> <p>Deliver festive 'at home' activity and food packs for children/young people who are isolating or ill, who could not attend the group sessions.</p>
<p>Eastern Ravens Trust and Tilery Primary School</p>  <p>EASTERN RAVENS</p>  <p>Summer/October/December</p>	<p>Stockton Town Centre</p>	<p>Targeted programme for Young Carers already engaged with Eastern Ravens Trust.</p> <p>Targeted programme for children attending Tilery Primary School.</p>	<p>Summer/October: Activities and lunch provision at Tilery Primary School in social distanced sessions. Delivery of enrichment activity packs including growing produce, recipe cards, various activity resources and relaxation/stress busting activities alongside a healthy lunch. Potential to offer activities and lunch provision at Tilery Primary School in social distanced sessions</p>
<p>EPIC Teesside</p>  <p>Summer</p>	<p>Newtown</p>	<p>Open access project for children, young people and families living in the Primrose Hill area.</p>	<p>Summer: Primrose Hill & Charlton's Pond (Billingham) – 'Family Fun Day' outdoor social distanced activity sessions taking place at Charlton's Pond and Primrose Hill Centre garden, including sports & environmental activities and craft activity packs</p>

	Billingham North and Central		weekly collection/Delivery from the specified Family Hub. Free access to FamilyLine helpline and ongoing support for families e.g. phone calls provided by Stockton Family Outreach.
<p>Five Lamps</p>   <p>Summer/October/Christmas</p>	Stainsby Hill	Open access project funded to extend provision of the existing Breakfast Club. The project was open to all families in Thornaby	<p>Summer/October: Breakfast food parcels and enrichment activity packs available for collection/delivery including colouring, work search, quiz, cupcake decorating etc. Virtual Breakfast Club using a Facebook secured group for all attendees to share recipes, activities & crafts. Staff member available on Facebook Live for interaction/questions. Potential to deliver Urban Kaos dance classes virtually via Zoom or Youtube.</p> <p>Christmas: (In conjunction with Little Sprouts) Christmas Pop up event. Handing out hampers including Christmas crafts and cooking/baking packs.</p> <p>Virtual breakfast club for parents and young people to share activities, recipes and crafts. Two live Christmas quizzes included.</p> <p>Pick up collection point for families (30 families) to collect breakfast food and activity parcels.</p> <p>Hot chocolate van on site for families collecting packs and Santa Claus to help hand out packs.</p>
<p>Groundwork</p>  <p>Summer/October/Christmas</p>	Norton North	Open access project funded to extend provision of the existing Active Play and Grow sessions. The project was delivered in the Norton Grange	<p>Summer: Delivery of creative learning packs including weekly challenges/activities, food growing, bird box making, daily exercise challenges and pavement botany. Healthy hot/cold meal provided with this. (Potential to offer activities and food provision at Norton Grange Community Centre using outdoor/indoor social distanced sessions</p>

		Community centre	<p>October: Delivery of creative learning packs including weekly challenges/activities, making autumn wreaths, mindful colouring, pumpkin carving kits, Autumn scavenger Hunts, recipes etc. Healthy hot/cold meal provided in kits.</p> <p>Christmas: Christmas hamper delivery (includes food parcel, recipes, family activities etc) to be delivered to 35 children.</p> <p>Festive elf visit to each household to deliver local vouchers for food support (butchers/bakers/fruit/veg), 1 book & 1 present included.</p>
<p>Hardwick in Partnership</p>  <p>Hardwick in Partnership Ltd</p> <p>Summer/October</p>	Hardwick and Salters Lane	Open access project for children, young people and families in Hardwick. Range of provision offered including a new Breakfast Club	Summer/October: Breakfast food pack and enrichment activity pack including arts & crafts, gardening/wildlife and home baking. To be delivered to households or available for collection at the local Community Centre.
<p>Iron Guidance</p>  <p>Iron Guidance Unlocking potential</p>	Parkfield and Oxbridge	Targeted programme for children living in the Parkfield and Oxbridge wards	Summer/October/Christmas: Delivery of healthy food and recipes ideas alongside various craft activity enrichment packs & resources.

Summer/October/Christmas			
JPC Community Farm 	SEND	Targeted provision using Early Help referrals of children/young people with SEND needs.	Summer/October: Delivery of 'at home' enrichment activity resource packs such as sports equipment, gardening materials & crafts. Interactive sports activity sessions held via Zoom online platform. Healthy food resources for lunch & recipes provided.
Summer/October			
Mill Lane Primary School 	Stockton Town Centre	Targeted programme for children attending the school.	Summer: Collection/delivery of enrichment activity packs including gardening kits, baking kits, science packs and crafts. Advertisement of virtual fitness sessions through social media platform e.g. Just Dance sessions. Free Meal Vouchers to be included alongside activity packs.
Summer			
St John The Baptist School 	Roseworth/Ragworth	Targeted programme for children attending the school.	Summer/October: Outdoor social distancing enrichment/physical activity sessions on St John the Baptist Primary School grounds. Healthy lunch provided at each session. Package provision may be available including enrichment/physical activity packs and healthy lunch. Sporting Chance will be offering multi-sport activities such as dance/gymnastics/cheerleading sessions on certain dates.
Summer/October			
St Michael and All Angels Church 	Norton South	Targeted project for attendees of local schools including Frederick Nattrass Primary Academy and Norton Primary Academy.	Delivery of healthy food parcel and activity packs to targeted children and families

<p>Summer/October</p>			
<p>Tees Valley Wildlife Trust</p>  <p>Summer/October</p>	<p>Hardwick and Salters Lane</p>	<p>Open access provision for local children, young people and families.</p>	<p>Summer/October: Provide 'Go Wild with Wildlife Trust' packs including activity of the week and materials needed for this including plant pots/seeds, butterfly feeder, insect hotels, seed bomb, clay faces and environmental art. Interactive online activity sessions via Facebook live or instructions delivered for those without access. Healthy lunch to be delivered alongside activity packs.</p>
<p>Teesside Vineyard Church</p>  <p>Summer/October</p>	<p>Mandale and Victoria</p>	<p>Open access project funded to extend provision of the existing youth club for children and young people living in Thornaby.</p>	<p>Summer/October: Delivery of healthy food parcels with easy to cook meals and recipes alongside art & craft pack and activities, including a weekly physical challenge with prizes upon completion. Video guidance/instructions available.</p>

Extra support by way of additional funding or donations was provided by The National Lottery, Tesco Community Champion & Billingham Town Council, Lidl, "Cash4Kids" and NHS Health Centre.

Summer Evaluation

Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council were responsible for the Holiday Enrichment summer 2020 evaluation. They produced digital surveys for parent/carers and children/young people to complete, and providers were asked to distribute these to all club attendees. Surveys were issued for the Christmas period, but the uptake was too low to analyse.

Below we have compiled key summer feedback from Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council's summer evaluation report. In total they received 39 completed questionnaires from children and young people aged between 6 -14 years, and 21 completed questionnaires from parents and carers.

Highlights

- 13 electoral wards of Stockton-On-Tees were covered, including the most socio-economically deprived wards.
- Covid-19 guidance was followed throughout all stages of programme planning and delivery. Funding was awarded on the basis that provision adhered to this guidance and that activities were on a socially distanced basis for summer.
- Despite late changes in Public Health England guidance three organisations adapted their provision to include socially distanced group based activity. The remaining organisations delivered the programme by adopting a range of methods from online and virtual groups, regular food packs and a variety of activities and resources which were delivered direct to families homes.

Key feedback – Parents & Carers

- 20 out of 21 parents stated that the Holiday Enrichment programme had made a positive difference to their family.
- Parents and carers consistently rated home based resources, be it craft, food or other highly, with quality ratings of 9 and 10 been chosen by over 90% of respondents for each category.
- Parents and carers were happy to provide qualitative feedback with adults frequently stating that the provision helped build confidence, created opportunities to try new activities, help reduce isolation, anxiety and stress, whilst also encouraging physical exercise and facilitating opportunities to socialise safely.
- One respondent stated that it would be great if on-line and virtual resources could be made available all year round for families who are unable to attend activities and groups.

Key Feedback- Children & Young People

- 71% of respondents graded their experience of this summer's programme as excellent, with a further 15% stating it was good.
- 69% of children and young people stated taking part made them feel happy, with a further 23% crediting the programme with making them feel more confident.
- 92% of respondents stated that they had tried a new activity for the first time, with 64% confirming that the new activity was in relation to the outdoors and/or physical activity.
- Children and young people enjoyed trying something new, whilst having the chance to socialise and make friends.
- Where group activities weren't possible children and young people have not complained, instead they have looked at the positives, describing how the resources were of a good standard, informative and engaging, encouraging them to spend time with their families, taking what they had learnt into their own communities and gardens.

The Impact on Families

Catalyst were then asked to take over the programme evaluation following the October half term period.

We asked providers to submit fact reports for October half term & Christmas provision periods. We received 11 reports in total. These included qualitative feedback from an organisational point of view on what worked and what challenges were faced. These also included quotes, messages and feedback from their attendees.

Detailed below is the feedback received from the providers.

Meeting the DfE Standards

Feedback from providers indicated that the requirements set out of by the DfE restricted flexibility and did not take into account the complex needs of the children, young people and families in Stockton, or the Covid-19 restrictions around social distancing. The number of weekly sessions and the length of each session had to be reduced in some cases to ensure the safety of those involved.

All projects provided healthy food to children, young people & families including:

- On site healthy packed lunch
- Home delivery of both hot & cold breakfast/lunch food items and recipes
- Food hampers with a variety of ingredients
- Local food vouchers e.g. butchers, bakeries
- Takeaway food & drink vans

All providers were asked to complete attendance registers to help identify those on free school meals as well as if children, young people and families were accessing numerous activities. Collecting data this time around was easier than the previous year as families understood the need for the monitoring and were glad of the school like structure to the sessions.

Those providers who participated in more than one holiday period noted that they were able to build up stronger relationships with the children and their families and by increasing their knowledge they are now able to more accurately identify those in greatest need of support. Similarly the families who participated in more than one holiday period felt less isolated and stated they knew more about the services and support available in their local area.

What worked?

- Improved mental and physical health and well being
- Increased exercise and improved eating habits
- Increased confidence
- Increased engagement in community projects

There was a general consensus from all the providers and families who attended the holiday sessions that there should be future holiday programmes. Providers have indicated that they would like to continue to collaborate with Catalyst to identify additional funding to ensure the holiday programme can continue to grow and develop.

Challenges

The providers and families have identified a number of challenges within the holiday programmes, these have been grouped under 4 key headings.

Covid-19

- Difficulties in planning and organising activities to meet ever-changing restrictions and Government guidelines
- Lack of capacity for staff & volunteers due to illness, self-isolation periods and furlough
- Maintaining social distancing when with friends
- Overcoming anxiety around Covid-19 and going outside to join in activities
- Ensuring that families with no internet access could join in with activities
- Unable to offer hot drinks to parents during sessions

Implementation

- Ensuring online engagement
- Unable to collaborate with other VCSE organisations
- Reduced variation of activities
- Unable to offer indoor activities

Attendance

- Need for schools to get more involved with identifying children to access the programme
- Restrictions around safe number of people allowed on site
- Not able to plan to move indoors if the weather was bad
- Unable to provide transport to children meant some were unable to attend

- Difficult to choose which children to invite to attend, would have liked to invite more

Others

- Short turnaround to arrange funding for Christmas programme
- Increased food cost due to providing individual packs
- Individually pre-packed lunches meant unable to cater for specific dietary requirements such as allergies
- Some staff & volunteers became fatigued by Christmas and needed a break

Reach and Engagement: A Virtual Approach

A total of 898 children/families took part in summer holiday activities and/or were provided with food, a total of 489 children/families took part in October half term activities and/or were provided with food and a total of 390 children/families took part in Christmas holiday activities and/or were provided with food.

Some providers reported an increase in engagement due to virtual sessions, children who had not previously accessed the projects took part in online activities such as: discovering nature, bird watching and garden crafts. Packs were delivered by staff and volunteers or collected by attendees in a Covid-19 secure manor using a set schedule. Packs included contents such as enrichment activity materials, food items, recipe cards, gardening equipment and quizzes/games which were completed together in a group session online or with parents as homework style activities.

Advantages of Virtual Sessions

- Increased engagement
- Covid-19 safe activities
- Educational
- Able to see and talk to friends
- Increased confidence in virtual learning & socialising

Disadvantages of Virtual Sessions

- Not all of the children have internet access or digital equipment
- Parents may not have the space for physical activities in the home or have no outdoor/garden space
- Technological issues e.g. sound quality, feedback
- Harder to socialise virtually versus face to face

The infographics on the following pages highlight some of the key achievements from the Holiday Enrichment Programme.

Holiday Enrichment Programme

Success

A total of **1777** children/families provided with food/activities.



17 VCSE Providers engaged in the programme.



Improved mental and physical **health.**



Increased engagement in community projects.



Volunteers **delivered food and activities** to children across the Borough.

0% food wastage.



Holiday Enrichment Programme

Feedback

"Massive help during the half term for activities and food."



"Thank you so much for the support over these last few months you don't realise how much it has helped my family."



"It has helped with my mental wellbeing."



"It encouraged my daughter to spend more time outside."



"The children liked the activity pack thought they were fun and the packed lunches they enjoyed."



"We were totally overwhelmed with the Christmas packs. They were absolutely amazing, you went above and beyond, thought of everything."

"The work you're doing is really important, engaging young people has never been more important."



Recommendations

We've collated feedback from summer, October half term & Christmas to conclude the below recommendations:

- Feedback from children/families showed the majority would prefer activity/food packs to be delivered rather than group provision in the current covid-19 circumstances
- Take into account appropriate adjustments for vulnerable attendees who may require face to face provision where possible due to barriers to accessing digital provision
- Take into account staff & volunteer capacity due to covid-19 issues e.g. self-isolating, furlough and increase in workload
- Much easier to feedback via individual reports versus surveys
- Take into account staff & volunteer fatigue after numerous holiday periods offering provision

Conclusion

The report shows an overall success with the aims and objectives set out being achieved across the programme in 2020. The partner organisations were committed to delivering a range of enrichment activities with the provision of free healthy food during school holidays, focussing on areas of Stockton-on-Tees with high number of children eligible for Free School Meals.

The added challenge of Covid-19 further highlighted the growing need for holiday programmes and support for children and families in Stockton-on-Tees. Catalyst and their VCSE partners delivered a full programme of activities within Government guidelines and ensured that families were provided with healthy food options throughout the holiday periods.

The move to virtual activity sessions was a big challenge for some providers and families but we can learn from these challenges to improve the quality of the programme going forward. The creative response from providers in finding ways to modify and adapt their provision had a huge impact on the success of the project and kept children and young people engaged through holiday periods.

The primary focus now is to act on the feedback and recommendations set out above and to continue to grow and develop a collaborative approach to tackle the wider issues associated with school holiday hunger. For further information about the Holiday Enrichment Programme 2020 please contact, Alice Robinson by email: alice.robinson@catalyststockton.org or call: 01642 733906.

This programme was funded by Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council and coordinated by Catalyst Stockton-on-Tees

**Stockton-on-Tees
Food Power Network**

**Sustainable Food Strategy
2021 - 2024**



Supported by



Stockton-on-Tees
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Introduction

This is the first **Sustainable Food Strategy** within Stockton-on-Tees and it builds on the work already delivered within the Borough to tackle food poverty. Within Stockton-on-Tees we have a thriving VCSE sector and a supportive Local Authority, all with a commitment and desire to strengthen the ability of local communities to reduce food poverty. The SFPN uses solutions developed in partnership to transform the way that communities experiencing food poverty access support so they can create long-term sustainable lives that are free from hunger.

This strategy sets out the shared vision and hopes for our communities and specifically addresses the following three key principles:

1. Produce and promote healthy and sustainable food, reducing waste and the ecological footprint of the food system
2. Build community knowledge, skills and resources that promote healthy lifestyles and financial stability and security
3. Improve catering and food procurement so that more people can access healthy food choices

We are confident that there is a passion and desire within Stockton-on-Tees and its communities to work together to tackle food poverty. We know that there are many groups and organisations that are already undertaking this work, and we recognise that this challenge cannot be met by anyone organisation on its own. This strategy aims to bring greater integration of organisations and partners to collectively ensure that within Stockton-on-Tees we maximise resources and avoid duplication.

This strategy provides a framework to bring everyone together to provide dignified food support and a holistic approach to supporting and empowering our communities to be cohesive and resilient.

We want to provide innovative user-led services, which have an eco-friendly bias that moves communities away from food aid and dependence towards dignified and affordable initiatives by creating a healthier food culture that brings people together and improves the health and wellbeing of residents within Stockton-on-Tees.

What do we mean by Food Poverty

Food poverty is commonly understood as 'the inability to afford, or to have access to, food to make up a healthy diet' (Department of Health and Social Care). Food poverty, or household food insecurity, can be triggered by a crisis in finance or personal circumstances, but may also be a longterm experience of not being able to access a healthy diet or afford to eat well. Food poverty, or household food insecurity, has a myriad of faces. It can affect children who lack free school meals during the holidays; parents on low incomes going without food so that their children can eat; working people whose low wages leave them struggling to buy healthy food; or older people unable to prepare meals without support.

The Family Resources Survey introduced a new indicator in 2021 and released data on food insecurity within the United Kingdom, with the North East showing the highest level of food insecurity.

Table 9.1: Households by region/country¹ and household food security status², 2019/20, United Kingdom

Percentage of households

Region/Country	Household food security status				Food secure	Food insecure	All	Sample size
	High	Marginal	Low	Very low				
United Kingdom	87	6	4	4	92	8	100	19,041
Country								
England	87	6	4	4	92	8	100	13,503
Wales	88	6	4	3	93	7	100	764
Scotland	85	7	4	4	92	8	100	2,711
Northern Ireland	88	4	3	4	93	7	100	2,063
Great Britain	87	6	4	4	92	8	100	16,978
Region								
North East	82	7	4	6	89	11	100	748
North West	83	7	5	5	90	10	100	1,894
Yorkshire and the Humber	86	5	4	4	92	8	100	1,514
East Midlands	88	5	4	3	93	7	100	1,266
West Midlands	85	7	4	4	92	8	100	1,445
East	91	4	2	3	95	5	100	1,531
London	86	6	5	3	91	9	100	1,580
Inner London	85	6	5	4	92	8	100	566
Outer London	86	5	6	3	91	9	100	1,014
South East	89	5	3	3	94	6	100	2,073
South West	89	5	2	4	94	6	100	1,452

¹ See Guidance tab for Region and Country codes.

² Data in this table should be presented as "87% of households in the United Kingdom have high food security".

Source: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/family-resources-survey-financial-year-2019-to-2020>

Delivery of the strategy

This strategy will be underpinned and delivered by the Stockton-on-Tees Food Power Network (SFPN) whose purpose is to bring partners together to:

- **Tackle food poverty**
- **Promote health and sustainable food**
- **Build community food knowledge, skills and resources**
- **Reduce food waste**
- **Create a network of members to share up to date information and areas of good practice**

The membership of SFPN consists of organisations or individuals with a current involvement and interest in tackling food poverty within Stockton-on-Tees. The SFPN is structured with three tiers of membership:

1. 'Members' – open to anyone who signed up to the overall principles and agreed to work towards the ambitions of SFPN.
2. 'Project Partners' – partners who want to support the partnership with delivery of action plans. It includes businesses, organisations and community groups.
3. 'Partnership Board' – elected by other members on a one member, one vote basis with a minimum of three and maximum of five members elected. The Board oversees the SFPN, guides delivery, monitors action plans and secures funding.



Current Members of SFPN

- Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council - Community Engagement Team, Public Health, Welfare Support, Revenue and Benefits Team, and Family Hubs
- Thirteen Housing Group
- Little Sprouts
- Catalyst
- Cultivate Tees Valley
- Stockton District Advice and Information Service
- Moses Project
- Amal Project
- St. John the Baptist School
- Away Out
- Step Forward Tees Valley
- Five Lamps
- Eastern Ravens Trust
- The Forge
- Party Décor
- Family Action
- Epic Teesside
- St. Michaels Church
- Billingham and Stockton Food Bank
- Billingham Environmental Link Project
- Yarm Business Forum
- Norton Business Forum
- Stockton Baptist Church
- Co-op
- Christchurch Stockton
- Community Partnerships

Partnership involvement

SFPN is part of a wider structure within Stockton-on-Tees and is represented at the seven community partnerships:

In the Borough of Stockton-on-Tees, we are proud that even during the most difficult of times community cohesion is strong, and there is a real desire and commitment to be part of the delivery of Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council's new Communities Strategy.

There are seven community partnerships, one for each of the communities within the Borough of Stockton-on-Tees, and each partnership is made up of many different people from across the community. These groups then work to identify and tackle the individual issues in the area relating to poverty, isolation and loneliness to make the community an even better place to live.

The Community Partnerships



The three key principles

Principle 1: Produce and promote healthy and sustainable food, reducing waste and the ecological footprint of the food system

Food is responsible for 20-30 per cent of emissions globally. Combined with habitat loss, our food system is probably the single biggest risk to the health of our planet. At the moment, our diets contain too much meat and not enough fruit and vegetables, pulses and oily fish – this is bad for our health and bad for the planet. At the same time unsustainable farming and fishing are the key drivers of species extinction across the world.

Our diets aren't just about personal choice – the food we eat depends on the options presented to us every day, how much they cost and how attractive they are. Local and national leaders have an enormous opportunity to shape the food we eat and how it is produced, starting with the food served in public sector institutions and the food grown and produced in the UK.

A climate-friendly diet is also very good for our health – high in fruit and vegetables and low in meat and dairy, and low in ultra-processed food like sugary drinks.

We want to create a food system that will nourish communities and allow nature to recover, making food in a way that matches a sustainable diet and enables good, real food to be accessible, affordable and promoted.

We believe that to drive a shift towards healthier and more sustainable food requires high public awareness of food issues and widespread participation in food-related activity, by both individuals and organisations.

We believe by changing what we as individuals and institutions choose to eat, we can transform what, how and where food is produced and thus help to minimise any negative impacts on climate and biodiversity. At the same time, by tackling the tragedy of food waste we can balance the need to feed a growing global population while remaining within planetary boundaries.

We want to reduce, redirect and recycle food, packaging and related waste through partnership work to campaign, challenge and influence local policies, strategies and services to support long term healthy and sustainable food businesses and food economy.

We want to create confident and connected communities through the power of growing food, with a vision to achieving edible town status in the future.

Key to achieving these goals are:

- Communications and events that can inspire people about the role, importance and joy of growing good food;
- Providing opportunities to create community growing areas in unused community spaces;
- Practical engagement opportunities such as growing, cooking and sharing food in every community;
- A facilitated network through which groups and organisations can be part of a local good food movement.

Principle 2: Build community knowledge, skills and resources that promote healthy lifestyles and financial stability and security

Currently, 8.4 million people in the UK struggle to get enough to eat. People experiencing food poverty need adequate incomes and we all need healthier food environments where good food is easily accessible and affordable, and which meets diverse cultural and nutritional needs.

In Stockton on Tees we believe healthy and good food is a right not a privilege and that everyone should be able to eat healthily every day, no matter who they are, what they do or where they live.

We want to work together across sectors to support and empower our communities, ensuring all those in danger of going hungry or suffering malnutrition are able to access nutritious food while working to address the underlying causes of food poverty. We will do this by raising awareness of what constitutes a healthy diet and giving people the skills, resources and support needed to feed themselves well; and change people's food environment – from institutional settings to high streets – to ensure affordable healthy food is available and accessible to all.

We want to draw on the lived experiences of people affected by food insecurity to identify and tackle the issues that contribute to food poverty in a joined up and strategic way, ensuring we provide an holistic approach to supporting our communities from food aid, and providing dignified and affordable options whilst building resilience. Within Stockton-on-Tees we want to ensure we provide high quality, culturally appropriate social food provision and ensure take up of Healthy Start Vouchers, Free School Meals and holiday enrichment.

We want to educate professionals and workforces within the public, private and VCSE sectors so they can effectively support and direct those experiencing food poverty and welfare support to emergency food aid at times of crisis.

We want to provide and promote a range of healthy eating initiatives including cooking skills, social prescribing and training at a grassroots level.

Principle 3: Transform catering and food procurement

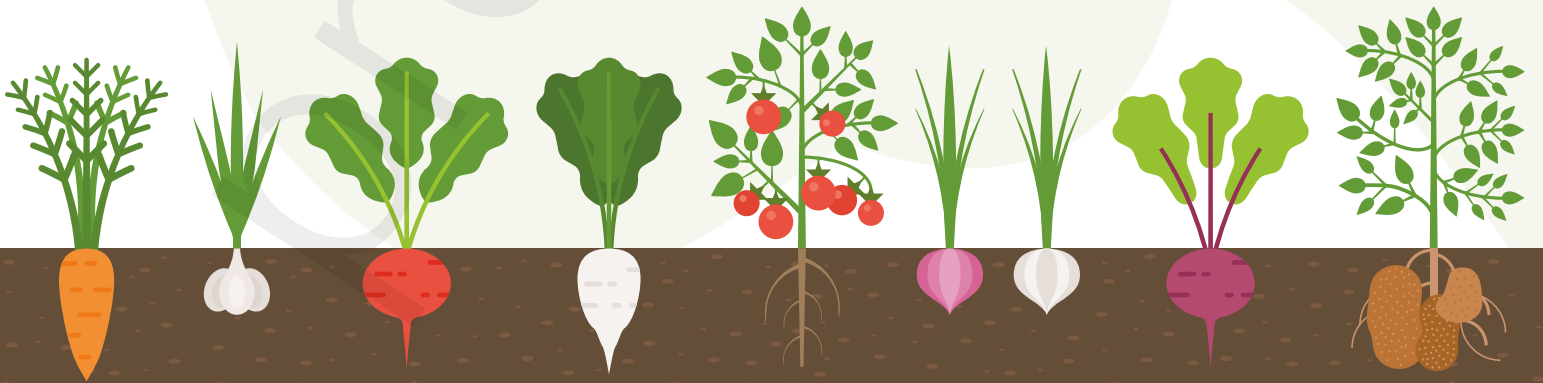
SFPN aims to review the Stockton-on-Tees approach to food, looking to develop a more sustainable and secure food future – not just for residents but for its businesses too.

We want to create a local cross-sector sustainable food procurement group to bring together caterers, suppliers and other decision-makers to drive, track and promote better catering and procurement policy and practice.

We want to enable procurement officers and catering businesses to source more of their ingredients locally and sustainably through using local supplier directories.

We want to hold and support local food events across the Borough, and support and promote healthy and sustainable food entrepreneurs and independent businesses by identifying training and support to help food businesses improve their sustainability across all aspects of their business.

We want to see local businesses signed up to the SFPN food charter pledging to make small (or large) changes that will help to address locally important priorities.



SFPN – ACTION PLAN 14.04.21

Principle 1: Produce and promote healthy and sustainable food, reducing waste and the ecological footprint of the food system

Lead Organisation: Cultivate TV

Outcome	Action	Success Measures	Responsibility	Update	Date
Reduce food waste	<p>Collection and distribution of surplus food to hubs locally or centralised base in Stockton</p> <p>Set up a local distribution centre and vehicle sponsored by Supermarkets / local businesses</p> <p>Educate people on better use of food</p> <p>Community composting scheme</p>	Reduction in food waste to landfill sites	All	<p>Little Sprouts currently working with Ragworth Community Message who have a van to look at how it can be utilised to support the VCSE sector and surplus food in the borough</p> <p>Cultivate working to develop community composting scheme with a pilot to be carried out in Norton as part of Norton Green project</p>	Review May 2022
Reduce the food miles in Stockton	<p>Working with more local Fareshare & similar providers</p> <p>Work with local businesses and business</p>	Use of the proposed Middlesbrough based warehouse	All	Fareshare food hub to be created in Middlesbrough to enable Stockton-on-Tees based groups the opportunity to subscribe. Will enable eco shops or community shops to be sustainable.	June 2021

	forums to increase surplus food donations			Hoping to be created in May awaiting confirmation.	
Increase in amount of locally produced food	Map local food producers Develop surplus food festival & Run community/Farmers markets Identify further community growing spaces	Mapping of provision by Autumn 2021	Catalyst All	Catalyst recruit worker who will undertake a mapping exercise as part of their role and coordinate the development of a surplus food festival/markets etc. Community Partnerships working on planters across the borough Cultivate Tees Valley working on several growing sites across the Borough	Ongoing
Increase in community composting	Education campaign Vermiculture and wormeries at community growing spaces and schools Work with suitable compost partner	Increase in spaces and agreement in place with compost partner and rolling programme with schools	All	Developing pilot project as part of Norton Green Project	Autumn 2021
Improve mental health and wellbeing through food growing activities	Gardening activities to improve mental health and wellbeing (Teesside suicide hotspot) Volunteering opportunities	Connections to mental health VCSE organisations and access to Volunteers	Catalyst & VCSE	Cultivate Tees Valley working on several growing sites. BMBF have their own allotment in Thornaby	Autumn 2021

				Norton Green project includes growing site at St. Marys and St. Michaels Church	
Stockton recognised as an Edible Town	Map/Identify green spaces suitable to grow food – Baptist Church, Petch Street, South Thornaby) Encourage people to grow at home	Mapping complete by new worker at Catalyst	Catalyst	As above	Autumn 2021

Principle 2 : Build community knowledge, skills and resources that promote healthy lifestyles and financial stability and security

Lead Organisation: Little Sprouts and SDAIS

Outcome	Action	Success Measures	Responsibility	Update	Date
Strengthen the SFPN and increase ownership of members	Agree 'Project Partners' – partners who want to support the partnership with delivery of action plans. It includes businesses, organisations and community groups. Elect a 'Partnership Board' – elected by other members on a one member, one vote basis with a maximum of 9 and members elected. The	Project partners identified and delivering on action plan Partnership board fully elected	SBC / Catalyst	To be completed at next SFPN meeting in May. SBC still providing support to the SFPN until 1 st June	June 2021

	Board oversees the SFPN, guides delivery, monitors action plans and secures funding.				
Full mapping to take place to provide a clear picture of the number of families suffering from food insecurity and to identify gaps in provision	Funding to be secured for a worker to support the SFPN to include: Co-ordination of the SFPN Development of the SFPN Mapping Secure additional funding	Funding in place and Worker recruited by Catalyst	Catalyst	Catalyst identified as host organisation. Potential funding bids to be investigated to support the work of the SFPN	Autumn 2021
Cooking and Food Education Workshops	Upskill and increase nutrition to residents through localised inclusive programmes with multiple partners	Programme running across the Borough	VCSE	Current Covid restrictions preventing community cooking sessions at this time	Autumn 2021
Moving residents from food aid to alternative retail (e.g eco shops, community grocery etc)	Create a tool kit and programmes of support and training for the VCSE sector around alternative retail models, ensuring they are fit for purpose, sustainable and meeting a need within communities	Creation of Eco Shops or Community Grocery shops created within the borough, with at least one focussed on providing culturally appropriate food	Little Sprouts	Funding secured from Sustain to develop Eco shop with a culturally diverse food offer. Working with MEC to look at potential to include Stockton Eco Shops within the Middlesbrough branding and have access to their new dashboard providing support and advice on setting up Eco Shops. Little Sprouts taking the lead on the funding	Summer 2021

Provision of good food 365 days a year working with data from public health priorities	School holiday / after school provision	Rolling programme of provision	Catalyst	Holiday Enrichment Programme currently managed through Catalyst	Ongoing
Co-ordination of food access to people during crisis	Monthly updates on foodbanks/community shops/holiday programmes	Regular updates from SDAIS	SDAIS	Food bank stats provided by SDAIS. Mapping is needed to help pull together the current offer and levels of support for residents.	Ongoing
Signposting and communicating information to communities	Ensuring up to date information and support is available to residents and available through community venues, groups and charities working in communities	Social Media/Doorstep promotion	All	Regular posts via social media with any updates	Ongoing
Supporting good food for all (not just families, elderly, BAME communities etc)	Mapping to be carried out to identify gaps in provision and investigate funding to help fill gaps	Mapping exercise complete and actions to fill gaps	Catalyst	Catalyst applying for funding for worker	Autumn 2021
Households have long term increased income to buy food	Support clients accessing food banks or food provision with a full	Welfare Benefit assessment for 100 families who have accessed Food Banks	SDAIS	Awaiting easing of restrictions on 17 th May 21	Autumn 2021

	welfare benefit assessment				
Households have long term increased income to buy food	Encourage VCSE organisations working with families to make referrals to SDAIS for a family welfare benefit assessment	Welfare Benefit assessment for 50 families working with other FPN partners	SDAIS	Awaiting easing of restrictions on 17 th May 21	Autumn 2021
100 households who are in or at risk of food poverty are better informed on how to avoid diet related ill health	Working with VCSE organisations, Family Hubs, Public Health and schools to provide information on the health benefits of eating nutritional food	Provision of Healthy eating information to 100 households who are accessing debt advice services	SDAIS	Awaiting easing of restrictions on 17 th May 21	Autumn 2021
500 Household have information about where to access financial advice to avoid food poverty	Produce “Worrying about Money” leaflet Distribute to 30 agencies working with families at risk of fuel poverty	Leaflet to be shared to 30 VCSE agencies working with families at risk of fuel poverty	SDAIS	Awaiting easing of restrictions on 17 th May 21	Autumn 2021

Principle 3 Transform Catering and Food Procurement

Lead: SBC

Outcome	Action	Success Measures	Responsibility	Update	Date
Local businesses signed up to the SFPN food charter and making the pledge to make small (or large) changes that will help to address locally important priorities.	<p>Official launch of the Charter and social media channels</p> <p>Reaching out to local businesses through Business Forums</p>	50 local business signed up to the SFPN food charter	Catalyst & All	No work has been carried out due to the closure of many eateries due to Covid-19. Work to commence once all establishments are open after 17 th May 2021	Autumn 2021
Support local food events across the Borough, and support and promote healthy and sustainable food entrepreneurs and independent businesses by identifying training and support to help food businesses improve their sustainability across	<p>Hold one off events and training.</p> <p>Encourage more businesses to work together and support each other</p> <p>Provide a platform for independent businesses and sustainable food entrepreneurs to showcase their work</p>	To be included in local Business Forums and create a “business” arm of SFPN to start to look at networking and partnership work		No work has been carried out due to the closure of many eateries due to Covid-19. Work to commence once all establishments are open after 17 th May 2021	Autumn 2021

all aspects of their business.					
We want to create a local cross-sector sustainable food procurement group to bring together caterers, suppliers and other decision-makers to drive, track and promote better catering and procurement policy and practice	Work with SBC Licensing and Procurement, Catalyst and Sustain to develop training and support for local businesses to become more sustainable Develop a package of support	Creation of a “business” arm of SFPN to look at networking and partnership work Creation of a toolkit to better support local businesses to be more sustainable, buy local and reduce plastic packaging		No work has been carried out due to the closure of many eateries due to Covid-19. Work to commence once all establishments are open after 17 th May 2021	Winter 2021
Healthy food available within workplaces	Work with businesses to develop a support package to enable them to provide health food within their workplace.	Creation of a toolkit to better support local businesses to provide a healthy offer within the workplace		Awaiting appointment of worker to further develop	Winter 2021