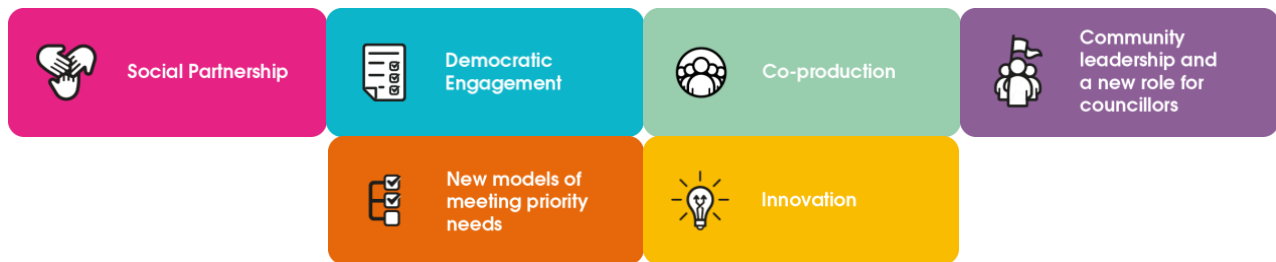


## POVERTY



## Liverpool City Council

### Liverpool's Good Food Plan

The demand for emergency food provision in Liverpool, as well as longer-term food insecurity, was increasing in Liverpool even before the arrival of Covid-19. Last year, it was estimated that 32% of adults in Liverpool are food insecure, whilst an estimated 140,000 tonnes of food is wasted in Liverpool City Region each year.

The Covid-19 pandemic stress tested the city's food system, and brought to the surface some of the challenges that exist, particularly around uneven access to good food. Support for those experiencing food insecurity in the city has generally been uncoordinated and responsive, rather than strategic, and, with many new organisations emerging during the pandemic to offer emergency and community food provision, there was a clear need for greater partnership working and coordination.



To address this issue, and as part of Covid-19 recovery plans, Liverpool City Council and its partners established a "good food" steering group consisting of council officers, public health colleagues and members of community, voluntary and faith sector organisations. The group was tasked with preparing a food plan for Liverpool which would outline a strategic and co-operative approach to tackling food insecurity across the city.

[Feeding Liverpool](#) - a pre-existing network tackling food insecurity – took strategic ownership for developing and implementing the plan. The first phase of a [Good Food Plan](#) was published in September 2021, informed by input from a wide range of organisations and the experiences of people using food banks and community food spaces.



Phase I of the Good Food Plan is about tackling the immediate and urgent challenges that the City is facing while building a framework and foundation to create real systemic change in the medium and long term. The Plan addresses key issues including acute hunger; chronic food insecurity; access to and take-up of healthy, nutritious food; and the sustainability of food supply in Liverpool. It is focused around five goals:

- Goal 1: Ensure people in crisis get access to 'Good Food' quickly and easily.
- Goal 2: Uncover the true scale of food insecurity
- Goal 3: Enable people to have the power, voice, resources and motivation to shape their local food environments and the food system as a whole.
- Goal 4: Shift policy and practice to enable 'Good Food' to flourish.
- Goal 5: Connect a community of people and organisations that have a part to play in achieving good food for all.

The work of those involved in the city-wide food alliance is guided by the following principles:

- Considering equity, diversity and inclusion in everything it does
- Balancing immediate relief with addressing the root causes of food insecurity
- Unlocking the power of people and enabling citizens to have their voice heard
- Constantly learning, adapting and innovating
- Making information, data, stories and best practice accessible
- Challenging stigma and shifting narratives.



The Good Food Plan and Feeding Liverpool's network marks a new approach to tackling this complicated issue in the City. Not only will it act a central point to help co-ordinate emergency and community food responses, but it will also provide a "voice" around food insecurity and wider food related activity - recognising the need for a collaborative, whole system approach. The continued development of the plan will be firmly based on the voices of people who are food insecure, and the experiences of those who work and volunteer in communities, organisations and businesses to provide good food.

Delivery of the Good Food Plan will make a significant contribute to Liverpool's [City Plan](#) vision to create a 'thriving sustainable, fair city for everyone', and the work of Feeding Liverpool's network will be of paramount importance in the months and years ahead, as the city seeks to coordinate a response to the cost-of-living crisis.

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