

Glasgow City Food Plan: Fair Food for All Partnership

Date: 4th March 2025, 10:00-11:30

Venue: Glasgow Centre for Population Health, Olympia Building, Glasgow and online

Attendees:

- Siobhan Boyle, Health Improvement Lead, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) Health Improvement (Chair)
- Nick Hopkins, Glasgow South West Foodbank
- Jill Muirie, Programme Manager, Glasgow Centre for Population Health (GCPH)
- Faiza Hansraj-Jackson, Public Health Practitioner Specialist (Cash First), GCPH
- Lesley Haddow, Strategic Lead (Financial Inclusion & Transformation), Glasgow City Council
- Lisa Belletty, Area Manager (South and West Scotland), Trussell Trust
- Emma Österberg, Project Officer, Independent Food Aid Network
- Carol McGurin, Health Improvement, Glasgow City HSCP
- Mark Fitzpatrick, Glasgow Community Food Network
- Jackie Stockdale, Glasgow Community Food Network
- Grant McPhail, Scottish Refugee Council
- Angela Martin, Calvary Housing Association
- Chris McDonough, Scottish Welfare Fund, Glasgow City Council
- Kirsty Whiteside, No Wrong Door, Glasgow City Council
- Dawn Burns, No Wrong Door, Glasgow City Council
- Ania Neisser, Glasgow Council for the Voluntary Sector (GCVS)
- Cara-Marie Connolly, Glasgow Helps, Glasgow City
- Kelda McLean, Programme Administrator, GCPH (note)

Apologies:

- Linda Morris, Public Health Programme Manager, NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde
- Ruth Wilkinson, Glasgow SE Foodbank
- Florence Dioka, Central West Integration Network
- Geraldine Norval, Glasgow City Council
- Geraldine Cotter, Money Matters
- Audrey Laing, Money Matters
- Angie Simpson, Glasgow City Council
- Tony Quinn, GEMAP
- James McCourt, Glasgow Helps
- Michelle Norval, Glasgow City Council
- Penny Morriss, Network Lead Scotland, Trussell Trust
- Angus McIntosh, Castlemilk Law Centre
- Cheryl McDonald, One Parent Families Scotland
- Denise Ritchie, Glasgow SE Foodbank
- Louise Mackenzie, Scottish Pantry Network
- Mandy, Scottish Pantry Network
- Traci Kirkland, Govan Community Project
- Philippa Roloff, Govan Community Project

- Claire McCunnie, Trussell Trust SW Glasgow Foodbank
- Asma Abdalla, CEO, Empower Women for Change
- Ekta Marwaha, Refugee Sanctuary Scotland
- Barbara Drummond, Croftfoot Church Pantry

1. Welcome

Siobhan welcomed everyone to the meeting and all apologies were noted.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as accurate. In terms of matters arising, it was noted that these were all covered by agenda items.

3. Update from commissioning subgroup

Jill provided an update from the commissioning subgroup. She advised that a limited amount of money is available for commissioning, and they are looking to try and identify how they can best use the limited money to help inform the Cash First work. This would involve trying to use the money to build an environment where cash first approaches are more consistent across Glasgow in supporting people working at the front line to be able to signpost people to existing support. Jill advised that the subgroup had met twice now (Dec 24 and Jan 25) to discuss proposals and prioritise which ones to pursue:

- Community guiders training
- Commissioning the Centre for Civic Innovation for data analyses and lived experience input
- Dignity in Practice workshops

Jill elaborated on the **Community Guiders** training proposal, explaining that the subgroup had considered what training is available, whether community organisations are interested in training, whether community organisations have time to undergo training and whether we should provide compensation to attend any training. The next steps for the Community Guiders work will include:

- Considering making training available online with a focus on capacity building across the city and form part of the legacy of our work
- Putting together a “resource bank” and make this available on the Cash First in Glasgow webpage
- Reaching out to other organisations about training they provide
- Sending a survey to community food organisations to ask about training needs
- Using the No Wrong Door (NWD) network to send out a survey and share details of any training opportunities

In terms of commissioning the **Centre for Civic Innovation (CCI)** to carry out some lived experience work and analysing data around food insecurity, she noted that they discussed:

- Lived experience of services: Linking in with GCC service users experiencing food insecurity to understand their experiences and identify how to integrate their experiences into decision making.

- Data: Glasgow Helps and Scottish Welfare Fund are happy to share the data they collect where food insecurity is the reason for contact, which will also provide demographic data of people accessing services and experiencing food insecurity.
- Desk research: underway to identify what exists and how it can provide context to understand the data and lived experiences.

The next steps with CCI will include:

- Introducing CCI to a number of partners in Glasgow – CCI are speaking to them to build an initial picture of the people facing food insecurity in Glasgow.
- CCI sending a survey to collect some information from community organisations to identify services on offer, referral pathways, data collected etc.

In terms of the **Dignity in Practice workshops**, Jill advised that the Food for All group delivered an online Dignity in Practice workshop in January which was facilitated by people with lived experience of the asylum process and Cash First project funding is being used to run additional Dignity in Practice workshops, each of which will target a group of people or type of organisation, e.g. food banks, pantries, Glasgow Community Food Network, NHS/HSCP. It was also noted that Govan Community Project's Food for All group provided estimated costs for delivering 4 more Dignity in Practice workshops in 2025. The next steps for the Dignity in Practice work include:

- Funding and organising additional Dignity in Practice sessions (online/in person)
- Going forward we will continue promoting the Dignity in Practice resources by making them available on the Cash First webpage and providing funding for printing and distribution of the resources.

In terms of feedback on the proposals, Nick commented that in person training for Dignity in Practice might work better because there are a lot of soft skills and reflective practice being developed which may not come across as well online. Nick commented also that he would be happy to provide input into the training.

Action: Nick and Faiza to follow up around training plans

Mark advised that GCFN would also be keen to support any training and happy for there to be face to face training included in future GCFN networking events.

Lisa commented that anecdotally, she has been advised that some foodbanks have found it challenging to recruit volunteers who feel confident having tricky conversations and providing pastoral support to their service users.

It was noted that the Dignity in Practice resources are on Nourish Scotland's website and will soon be on the Govan Community Project's website, which might make them a bit easier to find.

Action: Faiza to share links to the Dignity in Practice resources with the group

Kirsty commented that the No Wrong Door Network includes the Early Intervention and Prevention working group, and Kirsty is happy to help make links between Faiza and that group. There is expertise within this partnership to feed into training plans, and this could form the basis for setting up a short life working group for anyone interested in joining.

Action: Kirsty and Faiza to follow up around training plans with No Wrong Door network

Action: Faiza to set up a short life working group to discuss training, to include Mark (GCFN), No Wrong Door, Money Matters, Lisa (Trussell) and Emma (IFAN). All welcome

4. Update from data subgroup

Faiza gave an update on the Data subgroup, who met for the first time last month. They focussed on:

- What data are being collected
- What data are available at national level but not local
- What are the gaps in the data
- What are other sources of data that might be available to us

Faiza extended an invitation to everyone who is interested in joining the subgroup. Kirsty commented that someone from their Data and Insights Team within the Child Poverty Programme could be a useful link. Kirsty commented that there may also be a useful link with the Demonstrations of Change in Govan's user voice work. Faiza confirmed that it is certainly relevant in terms of qualitative data and this will be followed up.

Action: Faiza to follow up with Mark (GCFN) and Kirsty (NWD) about joining the data subgroup

5. Other Cash First work in Glasgow

Jill provided an overview of other cash first work that is taking place in Glasgow. This included:

- Glasgow Community Food Network/Delve's Lived Experience Panel. Jill noted that Delve will provide an update at a future meeting.
- Fareshare Glasgow, who are improving signposting and support to cash first services.

Jill commented that we have been working with both of these initiatives to share learning and avoid duplication. Emma advised that she is liaising with John at Fareshare to offer training and provide leaflets.

Faiza noted of the 7 other cash first partnerships,

- Aberdeen City are focussed on improving the financial situation of men under 45 in receipt of universal credit. This group account for approximately 40-50% of total food bank users in the area.
- West Dunbartonshire are focussed on people who have experienced a trigger event which means they need support e.g. job loss.
- North Lanarkshire are using their budget to make emergency payments to bridge the 48-hour period between SWF applications and payments, to remove the need for emergency food aid.
- Fife are supporting households with cash for 6 months to build resilience and embed wrap around support.

Chris (Scottish Welfare Fund) noted that there wasn't a 48 hour gap in SWF and that emergency food aid wasn't available that quickly either.

Action: Faiza to follow up with N Lanarkshire team to find out more about their logistics around this

Lisa advised that Edinburgh Cash First Partnership have been bringing together emergency food providers in the city which has been useful. It was also noted that the Glasgow Foodbank Forum was no longer running and this was something that could perhaps be reinstated to include other emergency food aid providers. Mark advised that he will speak to his colleague Angus to discuss.

Action: Faiza to follow up with Lisa/Edinburgh cash first partnership to find out more about how they're bringing emergency food aid providers together

6. Training delivered and planned (Faiza)

Faiza provided an update on recent training events. She advised that:

- The Dignity in Practice online workshop was held in January 2025
- The ALISS online training was held in February 2025

Both of these were well attended and had positive feedback. The ALISS session included some newer features that have been added e.g. any resources that haven't been updated in the last year are pushed to the bottom of the list and the resource owner is emailed a reminder to update their resources. Siobhan also noted that it is useful to make sure that all resources such as the Cost of Living Guide are available across the various websites, including ALISS and Glasgow Helps.

Action: Faiza will find out if ALISS had any increase in usage after the training. She advised that she could also find out of specific organisations' analytics are available.

Faiza advised that future plans include:

- Updates to the Cash First Approaches in Glasgow webpage including cash first infographics from IFAN
- Providing links to Dignity in Practice resources including:
 - UK asylum process
 - Culturally valued food
 - Religious dietary requirements
- Planning webinars in line with suggestions from attendees

7. Participation compensation

Jill advised that to cover the costs of participating in this Partnership for those whose organisations are not funded to allow staff to be involved in wider work, (e.g. community sector organisations) an annual reimbursement can be made for time spent attending meetings. A paper with more information and a short form to fill in was shared with the meeting papers. This is set at £80 per meeting and applications are to be made by 31st March 2025 for the period 2024/25.

8. AOB

Mark (GCFN) advised that they are planning a survey for community food projects to find out what interest there is in Cash first work. He also advised that GCFN would be hosting an event on culturally relevant food.

Lisa (Trussell) advised that the Trussell Trust's Pathways to Advice and Cash evaluation will be published soon and includes Glasgow services. She also noted that Trussell are holding a lobby day on the 18th of June on their campaign to guarantee the essentials. They are asking foodbanks to hold community conversations and engage with community food projects.

Siobhan (HSCP HI) noted that previous meeting minutes referred to the Whole Family Wellbeing in General Practice project across the 12 GP practises in the city that the HSCP are leading on and an update on this can be given at a future meeting.

Chris (SWF) advised that the Scottish Welfare Fund team have worked with Glasgow Helps to send SWF referrals to the [Wise Group](#), a social enterprise dedicated to lifting people out of poverty using a holistic, person-centred approach and a focus on relational mentoring to help people get over the threshold. The SWF team are interested in the impact this will have on future SWF applications, as nearly 500 referrals had been made using this process in 5 days. This project has been funded by Scottish Government until the end of March 2025, and may get additional funding if able to demonstrate positive impact. It was noted that the Wise group have been offering this service for a few years and that the SG funding was to enable additional referrals to be made.

Carol (HSCP HI) provided an update on the Welfare Advice and Health Partnerships (WAHP) service, which provides, among other things, advice services which are embedded in GP practices. In Q3 of 2024, there were 1300 referrals across the city and the financial gains for clients was just under £3 million, which was an increase in that period. She noted that housing debt reduced, however they did see a rise and the non-housing debt, which could indicate growing financial pressures elsewhere. In terms of performance Carol advised that outcomes had been very positive, with 4000 referrals so far and £9.5 million pounds in client financial gain. Despite this, she noted that funding confirmation beyond the end of March 2025 had not been received.

9. Date of next meeting

Date: Tuesday 13th May, 10:00-11:30.

Venue: Room 301, Glasgow Centre for Population Health, 3rd Floor, Olympia Building, 14 Bridgeton Cross, Glasgow and online.