

Glasgow City Food Plan: Fair Food for All Partnership

Date: 27th August 2024, 10.00 - 11.30am

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

Attendees:

- Nick Hopkins, Glasgow South West Foodbank (Chair)
- Siobhan Boyle, Health Improvement Lead, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) Health Improvement (Chair)
- 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
- Kathleen Caskie, Glasgow Third Sector Interface Network and Glasgow's Child Poverty Pathfinder
- Ania Neisser, Glasgow Council for the Voluntary Sector (GCVS)
- Linda Morris, Public Health Programme Manager, NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde
- Louise Mackenzie, Scottish Pantry Network
- Mark Fitzpatrick, Glasgow Community Food Network
- Chris McDonough, Scottish Welfare Fund, Glasgow City Council
- Ruth Wilkinson, Glasgow SE Foodbank
- Lisa Belletty, Area Manager (South and West Scotland), Trussell Trust
- David Brownlee, Financial Inclusion Lead Scotland, Trussell Trust
- Philippa Roloff, Food For All Project Lead, Govan Community Project
- Grant McPhail, Programme Manager, Scottish Refugee Council
- Emma Österberg, Project Officer, Independent Food Aid Network
- Claire McCunnie, Development Manager, Trussell Trust SW Glasgow Foodbank
- Thalia Groucott, Team Leader, Interfaith Glasgow Food Justice Network
- Asma Abdalla, CEO, Empower Women for Change
- Jacob Strauss (representing Ekta Marwaha), Refugee Sanctuary Scotland
- Kelda McLean, Programme Administrator, Glasgow Centre for Population Health (note)

Apologies:

- Geraldine Cotter, Money Matters
- Audrey Laing, Money Matters
- Angela Martin, Welfare Rights Officer, Calvary Housing Association
- Florence Dioka, Central West Integration Network

- Angie Simpson, Glasgow City Council
- Gerry Quinn, Glasgow City Council
- James McCourt, Glasgow Helps
- Michelle Norval, Glasgow City Council
- Penny Morriss, Network Lead Scotland, Trussell Trust
- Carol McGurin, Health Improvement, Glasgow City HSCP
- Angus McIntosh, Castlemilk Law Centre
- Cheryl McDonald, One Parent Families Scotland
- Denise Ritchie, Glasgow SE Foodbank
- Traci Kirkland, Govan Community Project

1. Welcome

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

2. Update since last meeting (25th June 2024)

It was noted that Faiza's updates on the actions from the previous meeting are covered in the agenda.

3. Discuss data

Faiza presented a short summary of the data being collected by organisations across Glasgow, what the data show us about poverty and food insecurity in Glasgow and what additional data would be helpful to have access to. This summary is included in the presentation slides.

Action: Anyone in the group who has access to data being collected or routine reporting, please share with Faiza.

There was discussion around [Section 22 payments](#) and how they work; Section 22 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 sets out the local authority's duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in its area who are in need. Under Section 22, any help can be provided in cash or in kind, and payments are not subject to repayment or conditions. Section 22 is often used to make one off payment but can at times be used to make regular payments. These payments were previously only authorised by social workers; however the Glasgow HSCP and Integrated Joint Board have an agreement that these payments can also be provided by health visitors and family nurses.

This support complements the Emergency Infant Feeding Support Pathway, which has been developed to ensure that parents with children under 1 can access financial support in the form of section 22 funds (up to the value of £40 per child) from their Health Visitor or Family Nurse when they have insufficient funds to purchase infant formula or baby food. The financial support is provided directly to the family and is part of a wider

assessment of the family's needs including referral to financial inclusion services and a range of other services with the aim of addressing the issues they are experiencing.

Action: Lesley to check with colleagues if the Section 22 presentation can be shared with the group.

It would be interesting to know the following:

- What proportion of Section 22 payments are being made to people with no recourse to public funds (NRPF).
- What proportion of people accessing foodbanks were from ethnic minorities- but this is not recorded.
- What SWF crisis grants are used for-food/utilities/something else? The data are not currently able to answer this.

Lesley described the detail on geographies etc that is provided by the child poverty dashboard, however this is limited to child poverty and would therefore be of limited use to this group. She also reiterated that FISO (financial inclusion services provided in schools) can lead to families accessing many benefits they would otherwise not access.

Action: Anyone interesting in joining a sub-group to discuss what is interesting or surprising about the data to contact Faiza

4. Discuss research to commission and tests of change

There was discussion around research to commission, and it was deemed prudent to analyse existing datasets being routinely collected by organisations across Glasgow, prior to collecting additional data, to analyse what the data show and to identify gaps. It was noted that as data sharing can be problematic across organisations, if there is any capacity within Glasgow City Council to analyse existing data sets, this would be preferable as a course of action.

The importance of sharing any findings and recommendations with the providers of the data was discussed, as this would enable services to be improved and increase engagement.

A sub-group focussing on research and tests of change to commission could generate useful research questions to consider e.g. what proportion of foodbank users are not eligible for the SWF crisis grant and identify if this data is already being collected.

Plans for tests of change could identify good practice from elsewhere and try to replicate it, to understand what works and why.

Case studies of the journey of an individual (combining multiple people) navigating the SWF, using a foodbank etc could be useful to identify the best point in their journey to engage with them based on their trigger event etc.

It would also be interesting to investigate why some people travel large distances to access foodbanks when there are services closer to where they live. Some options include the opening hours, a warm welcome, suitable food (e.g. halal meat), the quality of food or the quantity of food available (especially if people with larger families can choose how much they need).

There was also discussion of the [local food services map](#) on the GCFN website, and Mark explained how this is embedded with data from A Local Information System for Scotland, [ALISS](#), which is updated by its community of users.

Asma is aware that many of the clients they support at Empower Women for Change are digitally excluded and need help filling in forms, which takes place at their offices as this is a trusted place. There is often also a need for interpreters, with translating services being provided by community members.

Action: Faiza to share the [GCFN map](#)

Action: Anyone interesting in joining a sub-group to discuss research to commission and tests of change to contact Faiza or Jill.

Action: Jill to develop a research proposal and circulate to the group for feedback and sign off at the next meeting.

5. Comms plans and planning for Challenge Poverty Week

Faiza presented a summary of the comms plans she has been working on, which include plans for a Cash First webpage and training/awareness raising sessions from October onwards. Sessions currently being planned include the following, and all webinars are being recorded and will be available for anyone unable to attend on the day.

- Changes to Universal Credit – two sessions planned: a basic overview and in-depth session, which will be delivered by Robert from the HSCP - likely to be in October
- Asylum seekers and refugees, their rights and entitlements, NRPF, what are public funds - aimed at community food organisations, which will be delivered by Susi at Scottish Refugee Council collaborating with Philippa from Govan Community Project– dates TBC, likely to be November
- A demo session of the Child Poverty dashboard-aimed at anyone working to mitigate the causes and impact of child poverty/poverty in Glasgow, which will be delivered by Neil at Glasgow City Council's Child Poverty Pathfinder team. **Update:** As Neil is running a session in October for Challenge Poverty Week, it was agreed that this would not need to be planned by us.

- Awareness and understanding of ALISS and mapping-aimed at all public sector and third sector organisations across Glasgow, which will be delivered by Amber (from ALISS team)

Action: Faiza to add the Money Counts Training webinar from Emma (IFAN)

Action: Faiza to ensure that any GCPH comms are aligned with the Glasgow Food Policy Partnership comms and ensure that all resources are available from the GFPP website.

Dundee's community food network are training volunteers to feel comfortable to have chats about money, and David Brownlee is involved in this training.

Action: David to provide any updates on this work to the group.

As small organisations may not have the time or capacity to attend any training or awareness raising sessions being offered, there was a suggestion to consider how to facilitate comms aimed at these organisations, and one suggestion was to consider a summary document for easy use.

Action: For training and awareness raising sessions, consider how to be accessible and viable for small resource limited organisations, possibly by making a summary document available.

[Challenge Poverty Week](#) will run from 7th to 13th October 2024, and as the theme for Thursday 10th is Food, plans are underway for a webinar aimed at community food organisations. This will include key messages around cash first approaches and what this means for community food organisations.

Action: anyone planning training, awareness raising events to share these with Faiza for onward sharing.

There was discussion around the resources developed by Grant and others at the SRC, and it would be helpful for these to be shared alongside any useful resources including best practice, capacity building materials or other useful resources for practitioners to be available in one place.

Action: Nick, Lisa and Grant to meet to discuss how to make these resources available.

6. Sub-groups/short life working groups

- To discuss **people with insecure immigration** status experiencing food insecurity. This has met once.

The proposed sub-groups would be to work on the following:

- To discuss **research to commission** and **tests of change**
- To discuss the **data** available across Glasgow and how it can be used
- To discuss **comms plans**, including training

Action: please contact Jill/Faiza to be involved in any of any of these sub-groups

7. Discuss Delve report

Faiza provided a summary of the [Cash First in Community Food Settings Research Report](#) from May 2024, which can be found in the presentation from this meeting. Jill, Mark and Faiza have met to discuss how to take forward the recommendations from this report, and this has fed into initial Cash First comms plans.

GCFN are continuing to work with the Delve team, and plans are underway to develop resources to destigmatise perspectives of poverty.

8. AOB

Jill and Faiza are investigating how best to engage with people with lived experience, by identifying existing groups and ensuring meaningful participation. Any updates will be shared with this group.

Date of next meeting

Date: Tuesday 26th November 2024, 10:00-11:30

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