

Glasgow City Food Plan: Fair Food for All Partnership

Date: 26th November 2024, 10.00 - 11.30am

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

Attendees:

- Siobhan Boyle, Health Improvement Lead, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) Health Improvement (Chair)
- Nick Hopkins, Glasgow South West Foodbank (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
- Ania Neisser, Glasgow Council for the Voluntary Sector (GCVS)
- Linda Morris, Public Health Programme Manager, NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde
- 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
- Emma Österberg, Project Officer, Independent Food Aid Network
- Florence Dioka, Central West Integration Network
- Carol McGurin, Health Improvement, Glasgow City HSCP
- Geraldine Norval, Glasgow City Council
- Traci Kirkland, Govan Community Project in place of Philippa Roloff, Food For All Project Lead, Govan Community Project
- 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
- 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
- Angus McIntosh, Castlemilk Law Centre

- Cheryl McDonald, One Parent Families Scotland
- Denise Ritchie, Glasgow SE Foodbank
- Louise Mackenzie, Scottish Pantry Network
- Mark Fitzpatrick, Glasgow Community Food Network
- Philippa Roloff, Food For All Project Lead, Govan Community Project
- Grant McPhail, Programme Manager, Scottish Refugee Council
- 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
- Ekta Marwaha, Refugee Sanctuary Scotland

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:

- Faiza is keen to know if anyone or their organisations hold any relevant data around food insecurity and the people experiencing food insecurity for potential analyses.

Action: All to note

- The Section 22 presentation has been circulated.
- Plea for joining subgroups.
- There was discussion around the resources developed by Grant and others at the Scottish Refugee Council, 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. Nick, Grant and Susi have since met to discuss how to make these resources available.
- Jill noted that we are keen to support partners by compensating them for their time to participate in these meetings, in line with SG guidance on compensating participants for their time and expenses. For more information, contact Jill to discuss.

Action: All to note

3. Research to commission and tests of change

Jill presented slides to summarise the budget allocation for the Cash First project and advised that the £200k allocation over 2 years does not allow us to provide a cash first fund in Glasgow. Instead, we are seeking to make holistic and sustainable changes through upskilling staff, improving data and understanding, and supporting more

consistent pathways to support. In terms of commissioning, there is around £25k available. Jill advised that the main options being considered are in line with the project deliverables, which are collaborating with referral agencies to co-design cash-first pathways and deliver training, reviewing implementation and integrating into wider Glasgow Helps pathways, undertaking wider work to identify people at risk and improve access to cash-first and supporting direct experience participation.

Jill noted that we have limited time and money for commissioned work and some of the proposals will use up all available funding (e.g. SWF-equivalent fund and Smart Data Foundry). She advised that we need to identify what gives us the ‘biggest bang for our buck’ and we will establish a working group to decide this. There was a general discussion and questions.

Action: All to send any comments or feedback on the proposals discussed.

There was a reminder that the subgroup to discuss commissioning research, training and tests of change is aiming to meeting in December and all are welcome.

Action: All to note and contact Faiza or Jill if interested in joining

4. Training and webinars

Faiza gave an update on the training and webinars carried out in October and November this year, which are listed below:

- Webinar on [Cash First approaches to reducing the need for food banks in Glasgow](#)
- Webinar [Money Counts training: A cash first approach to food insecurity](#)
- Webinar on [Working with refugees and asylum seekers experiencing food insecurity](#)
- An in-person session on Universal Credit managed migration training

These were all well attended and had positive feedback from attendees, and the webinars are recorded and available online for anyone unable to attend.

Faiza noted that plans for 2025 include:

- [Dignity in Practice](#) sessions, delivered by the Fair Food for All Group who have lived experience of the asylum system and food insecurity. This would be aimed at community food organisations e.g. foodbanks, pantries etc.
- A Dignity in Practice and Cash First webinar, co-delivered with Nourish Scotland and IFAN.
- A webinar on using [ALISS](#) (A Local Information System for Scotland), a co-produced, web-based system for finding and sharing sources of support in communities
- A Glasgow version of the [Edinburgh Cash First toolkit](#) for community food organisations

David Brownlee mentioned the Community Guiders peer support training and shared a [video recording](#) with more information on this. There was also a suggestion that this and

the webinar recordings could be viewed in a group during working hours, providing these groups with protected time to watch these videos and compensating them for their time.

Action: Think about how to make training and webinars more accessible to smaller organisations with limited time and resources to watch one hour videos. This could take the form of short summaries.

5. Data

Faiza presented a slide on the data the cash first evaluators collect from the partnerships every quarter, which includes the number of foodbank users, the referrals, support and training provided.

She also summarised some of the gaps in data which include the following:

- What proportion of people accessing foodbanks/pantries have no recourse to public funds (NRPF)?
- Do people working/volunteering in foodbanks/pantries know what support is available to people with NRPF?
- What proportion of people experiencing food insecurity are from minority ethnic groups?
- What proportion of people experiencing food insecurity have disabilities?
- What proportion of people experiencing food insecurity don't use foodbanks/pantries?
- What are the barriers to access? E.g. location, stigma, shame, disability

Action: anyone who has access to data addressing these gaps to let Faiza know

In terms of people with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF), there are large data gaps across all the cash first partnerships. Contacting The NRPF forum was suggested to find out what is known about people with NRPF and Traci will send contact details to Jill and Faiza.

Action: Traci to share link to the NRPF forum

Nick commented that it would be particularly interesting to find out barriers to accessing services by asking first time users of services what stopped them coming sooner. Linda also highlighted the need to engage with people with lived experience to identify barriers to accessing support. Traci offered to share some of the data being collected by Govan Community Project.

Action: Traci to share any details of food support provided to people with NRPF

Emma shared a link to the evaluation of their Worrying About Money leaflet which covers some of these questions. The report can be viewed [here](#). Some of the barriers to accessing services include an assumption that services aren't aimed at them, lack of knowledge or previous negative experience. David also posted a short film on the work of Community Guiders which shows how services users can be signposted to available services. The film can be viewed [here](#).

There was a suggestion to try to identify single person households (who make up approximately 60% of SWF crisis grant applications) who may not be engaging with services. One option would be to use council tax reduction data for single adult households; Lesley reported approximately 148,000 people claim this in Glasgow. There was discussion around other areas sending out Worrying about Money leaflets to households accessing this council tax reduction. Lesley also highlighted the ongoing campaign to reach people of pension age who are eligible for pension credit and winter fuel payments.

Action: Follow up with Lesley around the potential to identify single adult households who are experiencing food insecurity but are not engaging with available services

There was also a suggestion to focus on one target demographic e.g. a subsection of the people with NRPF, as some other cash first partnerships are doing.

Action: Faiza to get more information on what the other cash first partnerships are focussing on in terms of target demographics

Lisa reported that Trussell data have seen an increase in 16–17-year-olds accessing emergency food aid; these have been a combination of young parents, with some living at home and some living alone. Many of these young people have been identified as looked after children transitioning to independent living, and 1 in 5 Trussell foodbank users in Scotland are care experienced. Faiza concluded by reminding everyone that all are welcome to join the data working group.

Action: All to note

David Brownlee advised that evaluation of the GAIN advice being provided through Glasgow Helps is currently being planned and that he is keen to engage with us to identify useful data and outcomes.

Action: Faiza and Jill to link in with David around the evaluation

6. GCFP annual report

Jill highlighted the recent publication of the Glasgow City Food Plan Annual Report which is available [here](#).

7. HSCP Financial Inclusion update: core and cost of living guide

Carol and Siobhan provided an update on HSCP Financial Inclusion work. Carol advised that funding for the referral pathways within the HSCP for Healthier Wealthier Children (HWC) will end at the end of January 2025 and that referrals stopped in November 2024. The HWC referral pathway was available to all NHS and primary care staff and handled approximately 5000 referrals per year, therefore losing this SG funding will have a significant impact.

In addition, there is a welfare advice referral pathway within 79 GP practices which is funded by SG on a tapered basis with the deficit topped up by HSCP funds and a 50% reduction in SG funding is expected. The loss of funding for these core services means that signposting to the [HSCP Cost of Living Guide](#) is the only way to refer to agencies which is less effective. However, it was noted that as there is some overlap between the use of the HSCP cost of living guide, ALISS and Glasgow Helps, it is worth considering incorporating the cost of living guide into either ALISS or Glasgow Helps as this would reduce duplication of resources.

Action: Lesley to find out if ALISS and Glasgow Helps have made progress on combining their resources to have one route to access the resources with the view to incorporating the HSCP cost of living guide resources in the future

Action: Emma to investigate if Glasgow Helps can be made more prominent in the 'Worrying About Money?' leaflet.

8. AOB

David advised that the Trussell and IFAN joint Cash First conference will take place on 10th March 2025 at The Studio in central Glasgow.

Date of next meeting

Date: TBC (Feb 2025)

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