



Public Health
England

Protecting and improving the nation's health

Current situation of the challenges and opportunities at place

Reflections on experience of local systems

Responses to delegates survey

- 35/25 work in public health
- Spread across 9 PHE regions- 25 responded from SE
- 22/60 LA, 16/60 academia 16/60 other, 3/60 food partnerships
- Majority this was an issue before pandemic
- Majority increased as an issue because of Covid
- Half of respondents agreed local priority- 17/60 not sure
- Practical challenges individual understanding and across the system
- Addressing issue and leadership equal challenges
- Established partnerships and networks and levels of capacity

What are the challenges?

- Lack of integrated community of practice (where they exist)
- Coherence round the programme varies by organisations and geographies
- Lack of data and national/cross-government policy
- Whose job is this at local and regional levels?
- Lots of players on this issue and 'messiness' makes it hard to progress
- What purpose is this work- types of organisations in space and no clear frame work around FI as an issue- what are we trying to do and where are we trying to get to
- Can we achieve a balanced portfolio between emergency need and a long-term sustainable approach?
- What about diet and nutrition, physical and mental health factors in FI?

What are the opportunities?

- Ability to influence from local Food bank right up to DWP and welfare system
- Explore the potential in a concordat type of approach – both overarching and sector specific
- Start with the data and then get all players to articulate at a local, regional and national level
- We can frame and shape key aims/objectives
- Develop methods e.g. whole system approach, where people see where they fit and their role in the system

Barriers- summary from free text responses

- Urban v rural issues in food insecurity
- Funding sources
- Data & intelligence – and then so what?
 - Lack of systemic approaches to collection and analysis
 - What do we want it for- measure to identify need, for lobbying local/national government, to achieve policy change?
- Poverty- who takes responsibility for the sustainability of accessible food systems at local/regional/national levels?