

Norwich City Council
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Item No 6

REPORT for meeting to be held on 6 April 2017

Food poverty in Norwich

- Summary:** This meeting will pull together recommendations on food poverty based on the evidence the members have received at the February and March meetings.
- Members will find attached the table from the 23 March meeting that details suggestions around solutions.
- Conclusions:** This table provides members with suggestions on the main drivers of food poverty and sustainable responses to these as identified at the meeting on 23 March.
- Recommendation:** That the scrutiny committee considers the evidence provided at both the February and March meetings, to identify possible solutions and to consider any recommendations the committee may wish to make.
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	Understanding the Causes	Sustainable Response
Structural	<p>Insecure work</p> <p>Low wage</p> <p>Welfare system that does not always prevent crises</p> <p>Distribution/accessibility of nutritious food</p>	<p>Charitable trust funding e.g. social supermarkets/pop up shops</p> <p>Increasing roll out of discount supermarkets?</p> <p>Opportunities coming from Sustainability and Transformation Plans to engage GPs and hospitals</p> <p>Surplus food projects based around food preserving skills</p>
Organisational	<p>Benefit delays</p> <p>Benefit sanctions</p> <p>Universal credit</p> <p>Debt recovery by landlords and others</p> <p>6 week gap prior to UC claim</p>	<p>Food poverty strategy – umbrella document</p> <p>Use of vacant HRA shops for social/enterprise use</p> <p>Widening knowledge of Discretionary Housing Payments</p> <p>Widening availability of apprenticeships e.g. NPS</p> <p>Improving information on availability of advice – signposting</p> <p>Free school meals take up</p> <p>Go 4 less – encouraging take up</p> <p>Social value in procurement</p>
Individual	<p>Food literacy/skills</p> <p>Knowledge of navigating benefit system</p> <p>Low financial capability</p>	<p>Role of crowdfunding for surplus food enterprises</p> <p>Food literacy activity – cooking, shopping, community led</p> <p>After school food clubs</p> <p>Opportunity for sharing/trading surplus food on allotments – schemes in community centres</p> <p>Skills sharing between generations</p> <p>Healthy start vouchers accepted by independent retailers</p> <p>Promote access of affordable credit</p>