



London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham
HEALTH, ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND SOCIAL INCLUSION
POLICY & ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE

7th July 2015

TITLE OF REPORT: ADDRESSING FOOD POVERTY IN HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

Report of the Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion

Open Report

Classification: For Policy & Accountability Review & Comment

Key Decision: No

Wards Affected: All

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. Addressing the causes and impact of Food Poverty is a key priority for the Administration. Following the PAC discussion on Food Poverty in September 2014, a Food Poverty Statement and Action Plan have been developed, which outline a number of actions to take this agenda forward.
- 1.2. This report outlines progress on addressing food poverty in Hammersmith & Fulham, including measures to provide support, Food Bank services and further research being undertaken.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1. The Health, Adult Social Care and Social Inclusion Policy & Accountability is invited to comment on the contents of this update report.

3. UPDATE ON THE ACTION PLAN

- 3.1. A food collection point has now been installed at HTH, with information publicised through the council's internet and intranet.
- 3.2. HFCAB and HFFB identified a need for access to advice and casework support in the same place as the local food bank. The CAB submitted a funding proposal to the Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion which was agreed in March 2015, with funding agreed of £56,250 awarded for a 15 month service (equivalent £45k per financial year). The service will work in partnership with the HFFB to train their volunteers to become CAB Information and Budgeting Assistants – and provide assisted information on money, benefits, budgeting, employment and housing matters and carry out an assessment of what further advice and support is needed, and then signpost/refer accordingly. A full time CAB adviser (specialising in welfare benefits) started on 1st June.

- 3.3. At the PAC meeting in October 14, it was identified that given the higher rates of deprivation in the north of the borough, an additional H&F Food Bank site in the north of the borough would likely to be highly beneficial to residents from this area.
- 3.4. 75 Bloemfontein Road, W12 has been identified as a suitable location. H&F Food Bank's aim is for the service to be open 5 days a week, and to also provide space for other services and providers to also offer services from the site. Officers are working with H&F Food Bank to identify key local issues and needs in order to then identify the most suitable additional services to be invited to deliver from the site. Of prime importance to H&F Food Bank is to ensure additional services can be delivered at the space, whilst maintaining the informal and welcoming feel of the centre. 75 Bloemfontein Road is in need of renovations and refurbishing before it can be ready for use. We are delighted to inform the Committee that Amey, the council's contractor for property repairs and maintenance, has agreed to undertake the works under their Corporate Social Responsibility programme.
- 3.5. H&F Food Bank will need to secure funding for the centre manager, volunteer costs and premises running costs (including rent payable to LBHF from year 2 of the lease and business rates). It is currently estimated that approximately £45,000 per year will need to be secured by H&F Food Bank in order to be able to deliver a service from this site. It is proposed that is that, as the service will meet Corporate Plan and Manifesto commitments, that the council provides a grant from the 3rd Sector Investment Fund to support the service, and to provide support to H&F Food Bank to identify and apply for alternative funding sources as the service develops. This proposal will be subject to a Cabinet Member's Decision Report.

4. FURTHER RESEARCH ON FOOD POVERTY

- 4.1 [London Food Link](#) are launching the [London Food Poverty Campaign](#) to support local authorities in their efforts to address food poverty beyond the Food Bank. Local authorities were requested to complete a survey to assist research and also to gain wider recognition for the positive steps being taken by each local authority in London to reduce food poverty.
- 4.2 The LBHF response is attached as appendix 2 to this report.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000,
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS USED IN PREPARING THIS REPORT

No.	Description of Background Papers	Name/Ext of holder of file/copy	Department/ Location
1.	Cabinet Member Decision Report: CAB Advice at Food Bank	Sue Spiller ext 2483	FCS, Room 39, HTH
2.	LBHF Food Poverty Statement	Sue Spiller ext 2483	FCS, Room 39, HTH

Appendices:

Appendix 1: H&F Food Poverty Action Plan

Appendix 2: London Food Poverty Campaign survey, LBHF response