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**Feeding Liverpool** is Liverpool’s food alliance, connecting and equipping people and organisations to work towards good food for all.

Building on our work since 2015 tackling hunger and food insecurity, Feeding Liverpool is developing and driving forward Liverpool’s Good Food Plan in partnership with communities and organisations across the city.

Feeding Liverpool recently gained charitable status, becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation as a step towards building its capacity as a good food alliance. Full details of our history, activities and future plans can be found on our website feedingliverpool.org . This recruitment process is the next step towards an exciting future.

Two posts are being advertised here:

* Good Food Programme Director
* Network Coordinator

Both of these posts are permanent ones (subject to future funding). They entail a mix of home and office working. Feeding Liverpool is currently seeking office premises in central Liverpool.

Applications should include:

* An up-to date *curriculum vitae* including the names and contact details of two referees ( References will not be taken up until after the interviews)
* A letter of application indicating your interest in the post and how your knowledge, experience and competencies equip you for it, taking account of what the person specification shows to be required.
* The equal opportunities monitoring form which will be kept separate from your application form and will not be seen by the shortlisting or interview panel and should be returned separately to d.j.stirrup@btinternet.com .

Applications should be sent to the Chair of Feeding Liverpool, Dr Hilary Russell, hilaryerussell@gmail.com by close of play Friday 10th September, 2021. Please address any queries to Dr Russell either by email or telephone 07811950213.

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**Feeding Liverpool – a brief introduction**

Feeding Liverpool was founded in 2015 It was a pilot project of Feeding Britain, which was set up by a cross-party group of MPs and peers concerned about rising levels of hunger in the UK, following an investigation instigated by Frank Field and the All Party Parliamentary Group on Hunger. The findings of the subsequent report, *Feeding Britain, a strategy for zero hunger in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland*, clearly resonated with experience in Liverpool. Many churches were already involved in food banks and other food projects, so this prompted the setting up of Feeding Liverpool with the support of the Merseyside Church Leaders. Although rooted in the churches, Feeding Liverpool works with people – as beneficiaries and partners - of all faiths and none.

One purpose was to try to provide what Bishop Paul Bayes calls ‘a line of sight to the street and back’; that is, to ensure that the voices of people living with food poverty and those with experience of food insecurity are heard by national and local policy makers.

**An evolving role**

The initial aims of feeding Liverpool were to:

* Create an arena for practitioners to share good practice about emergency food provision and routes out of food poverty.
* Draw on experience on the ground to derive messages that can contribute to the policy debate locally and nationally.
* Use a variety of means, including social media, to raise awareness and develop greater public understanding of food policy and related issues.

We work with food providers, faith communities and statutory agencies. We are not a frontline delivery body but many of our partners are and, during the pandemic, our role in supporting and equipping churches and community groups to respond to food insecurity in their neighbourhoods has expanded considerably. For example, we have:

* played a key role in procuring and distributing food supplies to support over 9,453 vulnerable households in Liverpool through 20,799 food parcels with funds secured through Feeding Britain.
* supported the development of Food Pantries which mark a step on from emergency food aid to providing more sustainable solutions to food poverty
* co-ordinated a Winter Boost project using funds from a variety of sources which aims to boost vitamin and mineral intake. It began in November 2020 to last until April 2021. Through this, 13,800 food parcels of Liverpool’s three largest foodbanks were supplemented with fresh fruit and vegetables, eggs and tinned fish. 5,023 of these parcels went to households with children.

In addition, our part-time Development Worker has responded to numerous opportunities to publicise the issue of food insecurity through radio, television and national newspapers and participated in a range of webinars to share good practice and her expertise in different models of food provision.

**Looking forward**

Liverpool is currently developing a Good Food Plan to provide a way forward for the city to tackle food insecurity. Feeding Liverpool has been involved in the task group working on the Plan and led listening and mapping exercises to gain a better understanding of the current situation to inform the Good Food Plan.

Feeding Liverpool has :

* supported people who recently experienced an acute food crisis to share their stories;
* facilitated focus groups of residents to learn from their experience;
* developed interactive maps of emergency food provision and affordable food initiatives and hosted these on our website.

The public and voluntary sector partners involved regard Feeding Liverpool as best placed to act as the Food Alliance for the city to track and monitor the implementation of that Plan. Taking on this role entails developing our capacity and strengthening our governance structures. Current steps towards this include our registration as a charity, strengthening our trustee body and building our staff team. .