



Feeding  
Liverpool

# 2021 Impact Report



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# About us

**Feeding Liverpool is the city of 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.**

Our aims:

- Create arenas for practitioners to share and shape good practices in relation to good food for all
- Draw on experiences from the ground to contribute to and influence policy debates locally and nationally
- Raise awareness and develop greater public understanding of food policy and related issues

We seek to be what Bishop Paul Bayes describes as a

**"line of sight to the street and back"**

ensuring the stories of people who have first-hand experience of food insecurity, and of those who are working in our communities to tackle these issues, are heard by local and national policy makers.

Our activities include:

- Hosting events bringing together people in the city working towards good food for all
- Telling the stories of people who have experiences of food insecurity
- Campaigning with local and national partners to tackle the root causes of poverty
- Supporting and equipping projects working towards good food for all

Feeding Liverpool became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in July 2021. Charity number: 1195184



Visit our website [www.feedingliverpool.org](http://www.feedingliverpool.org)



# A message from our director

Dave's cheery face as he waited outside the gates of Our Lady Immaculate Social Club in Everton after cycling from Norris Green to help sort fruit and vegetables for the Winter Boost Project

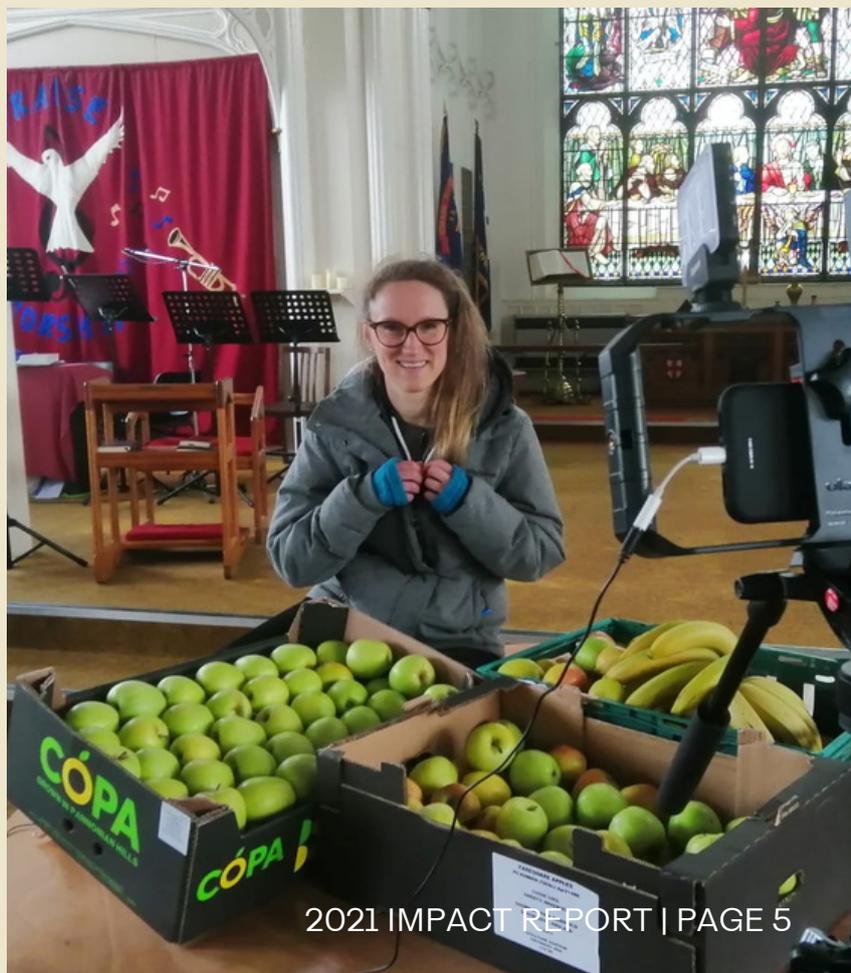
Being greeted by volunteers with a smile and a biscuit at the opening of the Dingle Pantry supported by South Liverpool Foodbank

The ping of the email arriving from Liverpool Voluntary and Community Services saying Feeding Liverpool's charity status had been approved

Posing with the GOOD FOOD FOR ALL banner alongside thirty city and community leaders, and residents with experience of food insecurity. The strong winds meant the fruit-shaped cut-outs, lovingly made by residents from Kensington Fields Community Association, blew off and scattered over the park

Councillor Abdul Basit Qadir announcing Liverpool's City's Council's pledge of £150,000 to support the development of the Good Food Plan

Just five of hundreds of highlights from what has been a year of significant change and growth for Feeding Liverpool.



# A message from our director

This report outlines the key activities Feeding Liverpool has led and supported during 2021 and reflects on the difference this has made to the city.

As Liverpool's good food alliance none of what we have achieved this year has been done alone.

The work of Feeding Liverpool is brought to life and sustained by people and organisations across the city who are united in a desire to reduce food insecurity, tackle the root causes of poverty, and become a city where everyone can eat good food.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you who have been involved in this work: the many volunteers, organisations, charities, community groups, social enterprises, funders and businesses who have shown such passion, commitment and vision, and have worked tirelessly this year in often very challenging circumstances.

In looking back my hope is that you will be encouraged by what has been achieved when we work together, and spurred on for the busy year ahead.

**-Dr Naomi Maynard, Good Food Programme Director**



# Liverpool's Good Food Plan



**Liverpool's Good Food Plan addresses key issues related to the food we eat in Liverpool including:**

- **food insecurity**
- **access to and take-up of healthy, nutritious food**
- **the impact the food we eat is having on our planet**
- **the practices by which the food we eat is produced.**

It connects to and builds on existing work in the city and nationally, including Liverpool's City Plan, Liverpool's Pandemic Pledges, the Poverty Action Group and the Food Insecurity Task Force, Food Power, Liverpool's Healthy Weight Declaration and Feeding Britain.



Residents and organisations across the city have co-produced the first phase of the Good Food Plan.

This phase has focused on four areas:

- Listening to residents and organisations across the city, exploring what good food means to them and telling the stories of residents experiencing food insecurity
- Building up a picture of food insecurity across the city, bringing research and data together to produce strategic maps and literature reviews
- Creating tools to help residents navigate their food environments
- Creating maps to help decision makers and residents navigate the current food landscape

Feeding Liverpool lead on the listening and mapping elements of this phase.

From July 2021, Feeding Liverpool has taken on the role of developing and driving forward Liverpool's Good Food Plan, in partnership with communities and organisations across the city.



# The first phase of the Good Food Plan was co-produced with residents

**Residents often have little to no influence in decisions being made about the food environment around them and the way that food they eat is being produced, distributed and consumed. We want this to change.**

We enabled the first phase of Liverpool's Good Food Plan to be co-produced with local residents by hosting focus groups and regular in person and online engagement opportunities to listen to residents' experiences of good food, the challenges they identified in their local communities and their solutions.

## Impact at a glance

- 28 residents including children shared their ideas and experiences for good food to shape the Good Food Plan at focus groups led by Feeding Liverpool
- Hundreds of families shared their views about good food at three Holiday Activity and Food events during the summer
- Three animations were created using residents' insights into food environments in Liverpool



“Stop putting food billboards and adverts. Like when you’re playing a game you have a bar that has food stuff on it and when you try to press the cross, it will say, why do you not want to see this advert? It’s so annoying.” Mudiwa, a 9 years old from the Greenhouse Project)

“We want to live in a city where everyone can access healthy local, affordable food” Debbie from St Aidan’s Pantry



# Residents, charities, and businesses pledged to join the Good Food Movement

The first phase of the Good Food Plan launched at St George's Pantry, Everton in October.

In November, in collaboration with Liverpool Cathedral, Liverpool's Metropolitan Cathedral, and Together Liverpool, we hosted a pledge event inviting organisations and residents across the city to publicly pledge their support for Liverpool's Good Food Plan.

Over 300 people attended in person and online, coming together to hear local and national leaders talk about food insecurity and how we can work towards the vision of being a city where everyone can eat good food.

## Impact at a glance

- £180,000 of funding pledged on the night for next phase of the Good Food Plan
- Trussell Trust pledged to fund a new three-year post at Feeding Liverpool to support the Good Food Plan
- 15 charities and community groups pledged support including committing to take part in Feeding Liverpool's food insecurity screening activities
- 10 businesses and organisations pledged support including committing to being a Living Wage employer



“I’ve seen the power of community-based action to tackle some of the problems that we have. Food insecurity is systemic, and we need to reconstruct that system. I believe we can create a city where everyone can eat good food.” Kevin Peacock, Chair of Food Insecurity taskforce

“Food is a very powerful tool that we have at our disposal. It brings communities together.” Councillor Abdul Basit Qadir



# Households experiencing a food crisis were given extra support

## Winter Boost Project

From November 2020 to April 2021, Feeding Liverpool led the Winter Boost Project, partnering with three of Liverpool's largest foodbanks networks: North Liverpool Foodbank, South Liverpool Foodbank and Micah Liverpool, to boost every foodbank parcel with fresh fruit, vegetables, eggs and fish. This project supported the health of households experiencing an acute food crisis during some of the harshest months of the Covid-19 pandemic.

## Impact at a glance

- 13,800 foodbank parcels boosted with fresh fruit, vegetables, eggs and fish
- 12,832 people supported including 4,321 children

## Project funders

Food Power  
Feeding Britain  
Together Liverpool  
Liverpool City Council



“The fruit has helped a lot; my son plays football so it helps him stay strong. It’s good for the kids to have vitamin C in the oranges. I’ll make lasagne and soups with the rest, and fry the carrots and potatoes together before baking them in the oven. This is the main place I am getting fresh fruit.” Kathryn, an asylum seeker from Namibia

“Whilst it is a disgrace that this project was needed, I am so very proud of the way everyone pulled together to support those in our city experiencing acute food crises during the harshest months of the pandemic. It is vital that we continue to work together, improving access to food for those in crisis whilst also addressing the reasons why so many families found themselves needing support this year” Dr Naomi Maynard, Good Food Programme Director

Thank you to our partners St Andrews Community Network, Christ Church, Pantry, St George’s Pantry, Micah Liverpool, South Liverpool Foodbank and the Archdiocese of Liverpool for providing volunteers and logistical support!



Watch videos with our partners to find out more about this project: <https://bit.ly/34NRP52>

# People experiencing food insecurity told their stories

We supported 20 residents who have recently experienced severe food insecurity to tell their stories. Their experiences, insights, and powerful messages to local and national politicians shaped the development of the first phase of Liverpool's Good Food Plan.

Six of the stories were made into animations to raise awareness of the different reasons why people experience food insecurity.

## Impact at a glance

- 20 residents who have recently experienced severe food insecurity told their stories
- 6 animations created to raise awareness of the different reasons why people experience food insecurity
- Liverpool's Good Food Plan was shaped by people who have experienced food insecurity

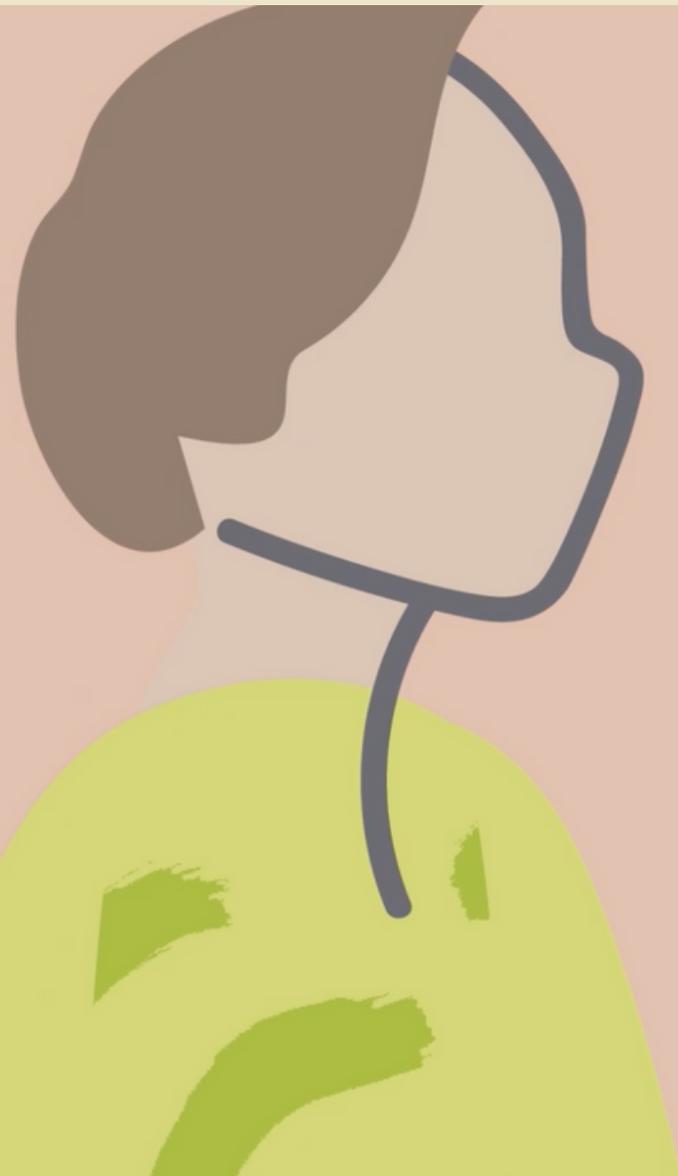


“It has been tough, there have been times when we were only having soup. I’m a good cook, but we just don’t have the money” Zaharya

“Make fresh foods more cost effective. And an increase in Universal Credit, which I know that they have been doing since April last year, but a permanent increase if you get me.” John Paul



Watch the stories here: <https://bit.ly/3HVyOf8>



**John Paul's Story**  
**“It's gone back to the usual frozen ready meals”**

## Case study: Cheryl's story

I'm Cheryl, I'm 51 and I have two daughters and four granddaughters.

I was a nurse a few years ago, but I worked as a cleaner before the pandemic. Before Covid I got some temporary work, but then it just fell on its face. I was just doing some cleaning to fill gaps but that fizzled out and we were back to square zero. One daughter and granddaughter depend on me totally, and it put me in poverty just when they had no income.

We are tossing up, do we put money in the meter or eat? I was reluctant to use foodbanks because it's all tinned food – I have multiple food allergies and I am allergic to all pharmaceuticals, I get sick, so I use my food as medicine. Food is medicine to me. When I just rely on tins I get sick really, really quickly.

The fruit and veg is the best part! Even if I am the veggie in our house, my daughter and granddaughter they both still love veg, its good nutrients. We need our immunities boosting during this season anyways, even without Covid. It's been hard, especially with the baby, she's just two and she's growing, her needs are growing. This has helped us juggle a little bit more.

I share whatever I cook with my block, I got three men who live single in my block, so I leave what I've cooked outside their doors.

# **New Community Food Spaces were established**

**Community Food Spaces are places where local people come together around good food. They are often led by local community members, have good food at the heart of what they do, with many also playing a part in tackling local food waste by using surplus food that otherwise would have gone to landfill.**

We have encouraged and stimulated the growth of community food spaces across the city through:

- Offering expert advice and support to organisations wanting to establish a new community food space
- Bringing people together to establish new local partnerships including supporting the development of the Your Local Pantry network in south Liverpool
- Securing funding for the development of new community food spaces
- Sharing best practice examples at a local and national level

## **Benefits of community food spaces typically include:**

- Making new friends
- Saving money off food bills
- Eating more fresh fruit and vegetables and less processed foods
- Reducing local food waste
- Improving mental and physical health

## Impact at a glance

- Your Local Pantry network in south Liverpool, led by South Liverpool Foodbank, was established in January 2021
- St Aidan's Pantry opened with funding secured by Feeding Liverpool
- £30,000 funding secured to support six new Community Food Spaces in 2022
- Three organisations involved in the Holiday Activities and Food Programme supported to explore how to offer year-round food provision



# Case Study: St Aidan's Pantry

St Aidan's Pantry in Speke opened in January 2021. Feeding Liverpool, working in partnership with Together Liverpool, secured funding from Feeding Britain for the setup of the pantry. We worked with the team at Your Local Pantry and St Andrews Community Network to support staff and volunteers in the months leading up to the opening and were delighted when they signed up 33 members during their first session!

The Pantry now has 160 members, with members who have visited each week able to save £780 on their yearly household food bill.

“At the beginning of lockdown, we recognised that there were lots of people in the community who were struggling with food insecurity. We have responded and helped people with food as much as we can we felt that the kind of longer term sustainable solution to that was a food pantry. We looked into another couple of other models such as St George's Pantry and we were just really excited about it, so we approached Naomi... and from there we were able to work together in partnership... to open St Aidan's Pantry in Speke.” Revd Phil Saltmarsh, Vicar of the Parish of St Aidan's with All Saints in Speke



# Growers came together across the city region

In May we brought together people and organisations interested in community growing on church land to share best practice, exchange ideas, and inspire new growing projects to begin.

Four community gardens shared their stories and offered practical advice to those interested in setting up community growing projects. Myerscough College introduced their free adult-learning courses which support residents into community growing for the first time.

## Impact at a glance

- 50 people from across the region gathered together sharing ideas and insights and forming new partnerships

This event was co-hosted with Together Liverpool and Faiths4Change



# Two new city maps were developed

## Community Food Spaces map

We developed an interactive map showing the location and details of community food spaces. This has enabled organisations to easily direct residents to their local community food space, and residents to find a community food space that meets their needs.



Visit our Community Food Spaces map:  
<https://www.feedingliverpool.org/community-food-spaces/map/>

## Community Christmas Meals map

We developed a Community Christmas Meals map in partnership with Live Well Directory which detailed organisations across Liverpool providing free Christmas meals to those who needed it.

## Impact at a glance

- 40 organisations joined the community food spaces map
- 5000+ families told how to find their nearest community food space through the Holiday Activities and Food Programme
- Feeding Liverpool website becomes a centralised hub for information about good food in the city

# Looking ahead to 2022

**Feeding Liverpool will be driving forward the second phase of Liverpool's Good Food Plan in 2022, working with residents, organisations, charities, and businesses across the city on the five goals identified in 2021.**

- Goal 1: Good Food at points of crisis
- Goal 2: Uncovering the true scale of food insecurity
- Goal 3: Enabling food citizenship
- Goal 4: Shifting policy and practice
- Goal 5: Connecting the community

We will continue to:

- Host events that bring together people in the city working towards good food for all
- Tell the stories of people who have experiences of food insecurity and support residents to shape their local food environments
- Campaign with local and national partners to tackle the root causes of poverty
- Support and equip projects working towards good food for all





Feeding  
Liverpool

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Join the Good Food Movement at  
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