Tackling food poverty in your city: Lessons learned from local food poverty action plans

Webinar Thursday 3rd March 2016, 10-11.15am

Timeline

- **Lewisham:** Initial interest started in 2013. Paper published in 2014. First event in 2015, after which action plan was drawn together and the food partnership was inaugurated in November, 2015.
- **Belfast:** We started Belfast Food Network in March 2014. We had first meeting of Food Poverty Working Group in August 2014. We have held 8 meetings of the FPWG in total. Process still ongoing – we presented our draft collaborative plan to Belfast City Council yesterday and plan to publish it on BFN website in April – see http://www.belfastfoodnetwork.org/

Funding:

- **Lewisham:** This is on a wing and a prayer. Public Health were able to find some money (probably less than £2k) to engage GCDA to co-ordinate the first event. VAL provided my time.
- **Belfast:** We have core funding for 3 years from Esme Fairbairn as one of the six founding cities in the Sustainable Food Cities Network and Belfast City Council to establish the Belfast Food Network. This core funding pays the salary for one fulltime co-ordinator and project running costs. We have had two small grants for different phases of the Enough is Enough project awarded by the Public Health Agency for the food poverty work.
- **Brighton:** This is part of some wider food strategy work so is not separately funded, however in terms of resources needed for developing the food poverty action plan I would say it took 1 member of staff 1.5 days per week over a year, plus core support from director/comms officer. Plus engagement events/activity plus research was helped with a funded internship. And we built on earlier work and other food poverty activity. Potentially you could need a whole team full time to do this bit of work, for us the challenge was in working out where to focus with very limited resources. Even with the resource it felt very demanding.