

Coordinator Catch-ups: Local responses to Covid-19

10:00 - 11:30 every Wednesday

Agenda

- **Welcome and programme updates**
- **Local supply chains, Natasha Soares, Better Food Traders**
- **Local case study, Gareth Roberts, Regather Cooperative**
- **Good Food Movements, Vera Zakharov, Sustain/SFP**
- **What should we cover in next week's catch up?**



Good Food Movements

Growing the grassroots response to Covid

Good Food Movements

- New work strand in Phase 3 of SFP
- Strengthening grassroots networks and supporting activism

Covid Mutual Aid Groups

- 4,000 groups across the UK
- Neighbourhood and place-based networks, Facebook & WhatsApp
- Ethos of mutual support, blurring of lines between supporter and supported
- Meeting community needs not met by other orgs



Good Food Movements

Growing the grassroots response to Covid

Why link up with grassroots networks

- Mobilise quickly; volunteer; offer skills, resources, relationships
- Have lived experience of food insecurity, or supporting people that do
- Avoid duplication and improve referral pathways
- Gain feedback on the efficacy of government, council, charity-led support
- Co-design community support from the ground up



Good Food Movements

Growing the grassroots response to Covid

Activity themes in development

- Developing and supporting local food supply chains
- Support and create food production landscapes
- Influence policy and provision
- Reflect, share and support each other
- *What are your thoughts and observations on grassroots activities?*



Case Study

National Food Service Bristol

National Food Service Network

- Community social dining clubs
- Ethos of equality, sharing, justice, sustainability, no “volunteer” vs “beneficiary”
- Sheffield, Bristol, Nottingham, Manchester, Falmouth, London (x2), Glasgow



Case Study

National Food Service Bristol

Bristol hub

- >1,500 meals a week; >100 volunteers, core organising group
- No means testing
- Youth Centre/Events Venue, cooking meals, Bristol Food Union surplus meals



Good Food Movements

Next steps

Food Partnerships and Councils call to action

- Get in touch and connect
- Include grassroots in support pathway
- Funding support
- Support community planning for transition and resilience

Share your experience

- Use the comments box – your grassroots action stories, challenges
- Get in touch: vera@sustainweb.org



Any questions?

Type them into the chat box on the right



Thanks!

Please join us again next Wednesday – same time and place.

Let us know what you'd like to hear more about or share the work you're doing.

Email maddie@sustainweb.org or sofia@sustainweb.org

