

# **Coordinator Catch-ups: Local responses to Covid-19**

10:00 - 11:30 every Wednesday

## **Agenda**

- **Welcome and programme updates**
- **School food trends, Fran Bernhardt, Sustain**
- **Food insecurity among the vulnerable, Zoe McIntyre, Food Foundation**
- **Local coordination in action: Liverpool, Lucy Antal, Feedback**
- **What should we cover in next week's catch up?**



# School Food: AGENDA

## Overview of how local areas are responding

- 3 trends:
  1. Most schools appear to be using the Government scheme for Free School Meals
  2. Some local areas are using a cash-based system
  3. Some school caterers are transitioning to provide a Meals on Wheels service
- What's happening where you are?
- Resources



# School Food: TREND ONE

Most schools now appear to be using the Government scheme for Free School Meals



- **Before Govt schemes kicked in:** some packed lunches and supermarket vouchers
- **During the hols:** Many committed to provide before Govt announcement
- **Currently:** small but significant proportion:
  - school caterers making food
  - voluntary groups providing food
  - Cash-based systems



# School Food: TREND TWO

Some local governments are offering a cash-based system (various forms)

## Paypoint system

- Simple confidential text message system
- Schools paying for voucher and claiming back from DfE
- Many advantages:
  - Familiar system to many FSM families
  - Can be used in local shops and markets
  - Can be issued within 30 minutes. No delays
  - Gives families agency over food choices



# School Food: TREND THREE

**Some school caterers are transforming to a Meals on Wheels service**

- Matching skilled resource with older, vulnerable people to:
  - Provide access to nutritious meals for particularly vulnerable group
  - Sustainability of school caterers
  - School caterers well placed logistically to get this up and running
  - Potential viability for Meals on Wheels services?
  - etc
- Case study: Enfield



# School Food: WHAT'S HAPPENING WHERE YOU ARE?

1. How are children receiving Free School Meals in your local area?
2. What provision is your local council making for free school meals?
3. Are any school chefs and kitchens transitioning to a meals on wheels service?
4. Are school caterers/schools doing other brilliant things to respond to the crisis?

Don't forget to tell me where you're from!

Pop it in the chat or email me on [fran@sustainweb.org](mailto:fran@sustainweb.org)



# School Food: RESOURCES

1. Enfield case study of school caterers transition to Meals on Wheels
2. Free School Meals Children's Food Campaign Webinar recording 24<sup>th</sup> April
3. CFC Twitter page - <https://twitter.com/Childrensfood>
4. Covid Vulnerable Children Sustain webpage - [https://www.sustainweb.org/coronavirus/food\\_for\\_children/](https://www.sustainweb.org/coronavirus/food_for_children/)



# School Food: UPCOMING WEBINARS

1. Meals on Wheels (including school caterers transitioning) – Sustainable Food Places webinar 13<sup>th</sup> May
2. School caterers transitioning to Meals on Wheels webinar – date TBC likely w/c 18<sup>th</sup> May

