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**Good Food Lewisham Network meeting**

**18th November, 4-7pm, Ignition Brewery, Sydenham**

**Food and the cost of living crisis – part 2**

**Introduction by Ignition Brewery**

- who train and pay people with learning difficulties and poor mental health London Living Wage. Open to hosting events in the future. Ignition accept the Lewisham Local Card, they are a Lewisham Refill Station and a Community Toilet.

**Introduction to Good Food Lewisham**

What is Good Food Lewisham? A network of passionate people working to transform the local food system in Lewisham – and it’s happening!

Focus on food justice and growing this year. Quarterly network meetings. Currently a programme of foraging activities happening throughout the borough to mark World Food Day & London Challenge Poverty Week.

We have a steering group, get in touch if you’re interested to join, or how we feed information up to groups such as: London Borough Food Group

**Funding**

Lewisham Local hosts a Fundraising Development Manager who can offer bespoke funding advice for your group is focussed on equalities. Email karen@lewishamlocal.com or join a Friday Fundraising Club: [Friday Fundraising Club Tickets, Multiple Dates | Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/friday-fundraising-club-tickets-152483970661)

**Project intros**

* **FoodCycle Lewisham:** increase in numbers, worrying about numbers – nearly at capacity. Looking for funding to continue and open on another day. Great model, we can share with this
* **The Felix Project-** surplus food – would like to get more projects to come to the meetings to collaborate and share resources. Increase in requests for food and from new projects: - wants to encourage them to join forces, no more food coming through – so this will be difficult
* **Bank of Things** supports young people 11-25 years old, school supplies and toiletries – want to connect and mutually refer. Open Mon & Wed 3-6 after school
* **Lewisham Local Community Directory** coordinator- building a directory for activities and services in the borough, mapping the warm spaces in the borough – overlap with community meals. Get in touch if you have services you would like adding
* **Legendary Community Club –** provide food for young people in holidays, paid work for young adults, cook for HAF, campaign as well, need funds, shortage for funds for Christmas funds, employment opportunities for 16-24 LLW
* **Lewisham Public Health-** facilitating the development of a food justice action plan for Lewisham
* **Lewisham Local Giving –** Lewisham Refill, Lewisham Local Card, small grants programme, Community Toilets, fundraising appeals
* **ChaRt:** Given 1 million for 10 years, thinking about what we will do when it comes to an end – currently have a foodbank, how could we change the model to make it more sustainable? Provides a warm space, Felix Project has really helped bolster the food
* **Friends of Forster Park**, keen on food growing and they organise regular events in the park
* **Stanstead Lodge,** Barbara trained with GCDA healthy eating/activities – project once a month – bring and share
* **Kitchen Buddy**, nutritional therapist, foraging, wild greens – good for supporting health, organic producer, collaborating with Lee Greens for a foraging walk in Mountsfield Park, grower for Coco Collective
* **Andrea:** studies UK food systems, used to cook for LICC, used to cook for FoodCycle, GFL Steering Group, our network can have a huge impact on local food system and what we can achieve
* **Lee Greens Veg,** not for profit, community veg box scheme, keep emissions down by putting in pickup posts around the borough – they want to collaborate with as many people and projects. They donate spare food to food banks, donating veg for cook and forage. Big drop in customers after Covid, 2 veg schemes have gone out of business in London. Growing Communities support for veg schemes

ACTION: Lakhvinder to share Healthy Start details with Lee Greens to accept

**Resources**

**Where to get free food in Lewisham resource-** new version available to download and print [7db68e\_f3bc9d31335d4caa895803e408ea0cf3.pdf (goodfoodlewisham.org)](https://www.goodfoodlewisham.org/_files/ugd/7db68e_f3bc9d31335d4caa895803e408ea0cf3.pdf)

**Worrying about Money leaflet- new** version available. Online form can be shared here:

[Lewisham - Worried about Money? (worryingaboutmoney.co.uk)](https://www.worryingaboutmoney.co.uk/lewisham)

If you would like printed copies, please contact Helen, will be available to collect from PLACE/Ladywell from November 1st.

**Lewisham Winter Welcome** - Warm spaces in Lewisham: [Lewisham Warm Spaces - Lewisham Local](https://www.lewishamlocal.com/lewisham-warm-spaces/)

Find more resources on food growing, setting up a community meal and kitchens on Good Food Lewisham’s website: [Toolkits | Good Food Lewisham](https://www.goodfoodlewisham.org/resources-toolkits)

**Food Justice Action Plan**

Priority areas came from consultation, agreed it would be called a food justice plan because it’s about the right to food. LA facilitating process but the plan, belongs to everyone.

Feedback has to reflect true lived experience, and we haven’t captured case studies – any case studies to share?

Who would like to be part of the Steering Group (food justice alliance) to monitor progress on actions) one aim is to utilise what we have and bridge the projects – not much money. Email Lakhvinder@lewisham.gov.uk if you’re interested

**Notes from table discussions**

**Universal Free School Meals campaign - LCC**

Feed the Future: extension of FSM campaign, includes Food Foundation, Biteback, Sustain, Chefs in Schools – biteback2030 – YP led, 800,000 children living in poverty and not eligible for FSM, need to allow to all on universal credit to access this. Sign petition: use template to write to MP ACTION:

[Feed the Future campaign | Food Foundation](https://foodfoundation.org.uk/news/feed-future-campaign)

Could Lewisham push for universal FSM locally? FSM campaign – try and involve young mayors – feed into right to food rally – what asks could be have locally? Use young mayors voices for campaign, feed into schools, right an official open letter to council – Where is council at with right to food, ask Lewisham to fund as universal

Email Alexandra LCC if you’d like to join a working group on this

**Subscriptions and food models**

* ChArt considering transitioning from food bank to social supermarket
* Lee Greens may have Wholesaler links for food projects
* Keep the model as simple and waste free as possible
* Sliding scale: some people pay more and others less depending on income, pay what you can afford
* Also consider cooperative model
* Does a social supermarket reduce stigma?
* Also education: how it fits into bigger picture – buying into/contributing to a value system

Action: Simone to connect CHaRT to existing social supermarkets. GFL could host a meeting to discus further

**Mapping warm spaces**

* Stigma in name ‘warm spaces’ – need other reasons to go , more than just keeping warm
* Organisations and charities – need to direct people in need
* Share list in an interactive way- for organisations to know the value of the directory
* How to maintain information on there – remind groups to update
* Make directory- only look via super small neighbours, postcode
* Promote all the warm spaces opportunities at existing spaces
* Warm spaces: encourage hyper local mapping
* Feedback how warm spaces are working – which are working well and how can we learn?
* What little changes can we make to then offer more to others?

Action: Email Maria@lewishamlocal.com or Helen@lewishamlocal.com to follow up with warm spaces discussion

**Good Food Project Spotlight : Buy and Share**
Barbara from Stanstead Lodge organises a buy a share. 1 day, everyone goes to the market and buy £1, put on table, everyone talks about the food that they’ve bought- either new or loved, reminds of the family- takes an hour to talk about the food – everyone shares out the food – go home with a bag full of mixed fruit and vef– focusses on healthy eating – people share recipes – bring a plate, and finger food

Action: contact Barbara (via Helen) offered to come along and set up a buy and share at other projects

**#CookandShare Month**

16th October to 16th November, Food For Life Get Togethers, second year

Encourage people from different walks of life to come together and share food, stories behind it:

Resources on the website: planning community meals, encourage more groups to offer something

Register events on their website, and let Lewisham Local know so we can promote

[Cook and Share | Food for Life Get Togethers (fflgettogethers.org)](https://www.fflgettogethers.org/our-events/cook-and-share-month/)

**Networking and discussions continued over a Bring and Share meal**

**Next Meeting:** likely to be in January at the Evelyn Community Centre, date and time TBC