

Appendix 3 Examples of Food Poverty action plan initiatives:

- Chomp, who address 'holiday hunger' with activity and lunch clubs targeted at families who get free school meals in term times, have expanded and now operate on 12 sites across the city with 700 meals served p.a. Crucially they are now working in partnership with 3 schools and are piloting in children's centres.
- A successful city-wide campaign has maintained (at 68%) the uptake of Healthy Start Vouchers, whilst take-up has fallen slightly elsewhere. Brighton and Hove now has the 3rd highest take up out of 68 regions in the South East (SE average is 60% and national average 65%) although other areas continue to do much better e.g. NE average is 74%.
- A new food poverty group led by the BHCC children's Centres and focussed on children and early years brings together public health, Welfare Reform, midwife services, health visitors, BHFP, Chomp and others.
- BHCC Adult Social Care have reconfigured services to take into account food poverty (though there is still further to go)
- BHCC Housing have integrated awareness of food poverty into their services, particularly in sheltered housing, and now ask tenants about food poverty in their biennial survey, which has revealed alarmingly high levels. [ADD NUMBERS or refer to report?]
- Building on the existing work of the Brighton & Hove Emergency food network, food banks are increasingly integrated with money and other advice services, and with BHCC welfare support and the DWP. Many food banks now have advisers visiting and both the DWP & BHCC run training for food banks.
- The uniquely positive vision of the 'City that cooks and eats together' has led to initiatives such as Casserole Club, where neighbours cook an extra portion for a local vulnerable person; and a higher profile for lunch clubs and shared meals. One of the less recognised effects of food poverty is social isolation, and these projects help to address loneliness alongside healthy food accses.
- The support available for people experiencing food poverty, including a map and referral details for all the city's food banks, is on the BHFP website and is well used.
- The growth in food bank use has steadied – though there is still a steady increase in figures every year, and we do not yet have figures following the introduction of Universal Credit.

