West Cheshire Food Partnership Charter and Terms of Reference

We are a collaborative, cross sector group which includes representation from community and voluntary sector organisations, statutory partners, businesses and individuals active across the whole food system in West Cheshire. We will work together to support residents to access affordable, healthy, sustainable and enjoyable food, by exploring opportunities, partnerships and by championing community-led solutions. The partnership will provide a repository for ongoing work across partners, helping to identify gaps and opportunities for collaboration in a system-wide approach.

CHARTER

We will work together with the core values of:

- Dignity
- Partnership and collaboration
- Championing community led solutions
- Listening to the voices of lived experience to shape strategy and projects

We commit to:

- Creating a forum for collaboration and innovation.
- Being a space to reflect and discuss collectively how our actions are working as well as identifying areas which require more focus and resource.
- Delivering a clear communications plan with a range of communication methods to suit different audiences.
- Ensuring the voice of lived experience will be heard in all we do- adopting the Local Voices
 Framework.

The Food Partnership will:

- Co-develop a Food Action Plan for the borough with Lived Experience at it's core
- Be a repository for food-related work across West Cheshire.
- Coordinate themed work streams which will set out clear actions to make local, meaningful change
- Work in partnership- by coming together we avoid duplication and can identify gaps
- Maximise resources by working together and create new partnership/ collaboration opportunities
- Play an active role in reducing Health Inequalities across the borough

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TERMS OF REFERENCE

Membership will be open to:

Voluntary Community Faith Social Enterprise organisations offering food provision in West Cheshire, statutory partners, businesses and individuals working within the food system in the area who are committed to the Partnership Charter and are willing to make an active contribution.

Declarations of Interest:

It is the responsibility for all West Cheshire Food Partnership members to declare any conflicts of interest at the relevant point at Food Partnership meetings.

Coordination:

The Partnership is facilitated and chaired by Cheshire West Voluntary Action (CWVA), we will coordinate, facilitate partnership working, manage effective communication channels, keep track of activity and will promote the Food Partnership and welcome new members. We will also provide strategic oversight and coordination of priorities identified.

Food Partnership Meetings:

Main Partnership meetings will be open to all West Cheshire Food Partnership members. These will be an opportunity to network, share information and updates.

Action group (sub-group) meetings:

The West Cheshire Food Partnership action groups will meet as decided by the group it's self. This could be one off, task-and-finish or long-term groups. All action groups will be open to all members and may be chaired by a member of the Food Partnership.

Reporting:

The group will report to the Eat Well Be Active Reference Group. The appropriateness of this arrangement will be re-considered at regular intervals. These meetings will be used to share updates but also ensure that opportunities for partnership working across agendas in explored.

Structure:

The structure chart below shows the current structure for Eat Well Be Active. It highlights the Food Partnership as one of our four sub groups in place which reports to the East Well Be Active Reference Group.

The current structure diagram for the West Cheshire Food Partnership is provided in a separate document.

Review: The Food Partnership will review these terms of reference at least every 12 months.

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August 2024