

Food Justice Action Plan



3 years on: Impact report, May 2026

Lewisham launched its Food Justice Action Plan in April 2023 and over the past three years, the Lewisham Food Justice Alliance has been working hard to progress in our efforts to fight food injustice in the borough.

This document gives a snapshot of where we are, the improvements we've made, and what work we still need to do to ensure all our residents have access to healthy, sustainable, affordable and culturally appropriate food.

The action plan resulted in 56 actions. As of May 2026:

- 30 have been actioned
- 16 are in progress
- one is deemed not possible to complete
- nine are underway and work is ongoing

Food provision in Lewisham

Lewisham has a strong network of community food aid providers across the borough. Over the last year, more projects have been identified and dignified models of food support have increased.



50 food giving groups



8 social supermarkets



16 community meals



18 food banks across 24 sites



1 community fridge



1 new food hub opened

Priority areas

1

Taking preventative action to reduce the risk of residents experiencing food injustice

2

Ensure children, babies and young people can access nutritious, affordable, sustainable and culturally appropriate food throughout the year

3

Coordinating resources, capacity and expertise to maximise the support available to those in crisis

4

Taking a money first approach to crisis prevention and support where appropriate



Lewisham Trussel Trust Food Bank which runs five foodbanks across five days in Lewisham, has seen a slight decrease in demand since 2024.

Key outcomes from priority areas



We've invested £192,000 in community food projects to support over 20,000 residents since 2023. The latest grant programme funded organisations to reduce the need for emergency food aid and support more sustainable solutions such as food growing (CC Foundation) and cookery classes (RMUK and Lee Green Lives).



Increase in dignified food support provision in Lewisham.



Improved directories and resources to direct people to support - including free and low-cost food provision, community growing projects, worrying about money and community kitchens.



Increased access to advice and improved signposting and referral pathways for people experiencing food injustice.



Lewisham received a Silver Sustainable Food Places Award in July 2024 – one of only five London boroughs to do so.



Established a Food Justice Alliance of partners working together to reduce food injustice in Lewisham.

Food Justice Alliance

Five task and finish groups comprised of a range of local community partners have been working on the plan's delivery. 38 representatives have participated between September 2025 and March 2026.

Partners report:

- better connections between partners
- better awareness of the range of support and advice services available
- improved referral pathways

The Felix Project in 2025

- **756 tons** of food delivered – **20% more** than the previous year
- **17 tons** of non-food (multi-bank) items delivered
- **£3 million** worth of support distributed
- **2 electric vans** donated
- **2 Felix Fresh** mass distribution locations in the borough
- Increased holiday hunger provision

A huge thanks to our community partners who have supported the Task and Finish Groups in the past year.

Better Life Leisure Citizens Advice Lewisham, Catford Soup Kitchen, Coco Collective, Clarion Housing, Community Connections Lewisham (Age UK Lewisham and Southwark), Food For Purpose, Healthwatch Lewisham, Imago, Legendary Community Club, Lewisham Foodbank (Trussel Trust), Lewisham Local, Pepys Community Hub/Forum, RMUK Wellbeing CIC, South East London Community Energy, The Felix Project, Victory Care
NHS: Southeast London ICB, Health Visiting Team, Midwifery