

# MOTION ON NOTICE

City Council 24 June 2019



## FOOD JUSTICE

The Council **notes** that there are 8 million people in the UK who have trouble putting food on the table according to the UN. Over 500,000 people used food banks in the UK last year. The Trussell Trust alone distributed over 1.3m three-day emergency food supplies of people in crisis in the financial year 2017-2018. 3m children are at risk of hunger during the school holidays. Around 10% of the NHS budget goes on treating diabetes and up to 1 million people live in food deserts in the UK.

The Council further **notes** that in Plymouth,

- Plymouth Foodbank has reported year on year increases in the number of people (adults and children) receiving a food parcel over the last 4 years. In 2018/19, the foodbank provided food parcels to 8,509 recipients, including families with children.
- Over 26,000 meals were given out by the city's soup runs in 2018 – this has increased each year for the last six years with more women and children using the service than ever before.
- 14,000 people in Plymouth had Diabetes in 2016 with the number expected to grow by 6% each year.
- Our Cities of Service volunteer programme, Grow, Share, Cook has given over 40,000 free meals to over 3,000 individuals. The project delivers free fruit and vegetables at people from disadvantaged households and people at risk of developing type 2 Diabetes due to diet.
- 1 in 5 (Plymouth's recently adopted Child Poverty Action Plan) includes specific actions to increase take up of free school meals.

The Council **recognises** that the Government's commitment to the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (Global Goals) which apply internationally and domestically, through Goal 2, commits governments to ending hunger by 2030.

Therefore the Council **resolves** to:

- 1) **Commit** to food justice in Plymouth by nominating a Cabinet Member with responsibility of delivering food justice;
- 2) **Request** the Leader to write to the relevant minister (following the appointment of a new Prime Minister and any related Cabinet reshuffle) to ask the government to enshrine its existing commitment to U Sustainable Development Goal 2 into domestic legislation;
- 3) **Ask** the Scrutiny Management Board to establish a Select Committee to investigate the extent and causes of hunger in Plymouth and make recommendations about what can be done to tackle it; and
- 4) **Work** with existing partnerships in Plymouth to develop and implement a Food Justice Action Plan to eliminate hunger in Plymouth.

**Proposed by** Councillor Chris Penberthy by email 17 June 2019

**Seconded by** Councillor Sarah Allen by email 17 June 2019

**Dated:** 17 June 2019