

Council – 10th December 2020

Notice of Motion

FOOD JUSTICE CHAMPION MOTION

Trussell Trust research shows that three million children are at risk of hunger during the school holidays. Here in Southend, we know that our foodbanks issue thousands of emergency food packages every year and 1 in 5 children live in poverty.

Foodbank use has dramatically increased, and the Independent Food Aid Network recorded a 59% increase in demand for emergency food support between February and March.

The government has also committed to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, which have an international and domestic commitment to ending hunger by 2030.

This council believes:

No-one in Southend or the UK should go hungry, not least children. Food justice is about taking action on the causes of hunger such as affordability and availability of good nutritious food.

Local councils and communities played a key role during the COVID-19 pandemic and continue to do so and that should be recognised.

The council resolves to:

Appoint a food justice champion, who will lead on tackling food poverty locally and support / set up a food partnership to bring together partners to develop a good action plan to address the causes of food poverty.

Proposed by:

Cllr Daniel Cowan

Seconded by:

Cllr Matt Dent