

DERBY FOOD 4 THOUGHT ALLIANCE

(version 12/3/21)

INTRODUCTION

The Derby Food 4 Thought (DF4T) Alliance was initially established to coordinate the distribution of food in Derby during the Covid pandemic. It has now progressed to being a longer-term solution supporting the root causes of deprivation and poverty. This document summarises the current processes and future plans. The main contact for this Alliance is Paul Brookhouse who can be contacted via the general enquiries email address df4ta@communityactionderby.org.uk

THE PROCESS FOR REQUESTING AND DISTRIBUTING FOOD

The current process to request and distribute food is:

- Recipients make their request for support to the Community Response Hub via 01332 640000 (option 5) or covidsupport@communityactionderby.org.uk
- If the need is short term then a referral will be made direct to a Local Food Distribution Hub (LFDH) or via the DF4T Alliance project administrator
- If the need is longer term, more complex or involves wider lockdown related issues, then a referral will then be passed to a Local Area Coordinator (LAC), who will aim to call the recipient that day to discuss needs and logistics. The LAC may also email the most convenient LFDH with details of the people in need
- The food is then distributed by one of the LFDHs (where possible there is an expectation for the recipient to collect)

The following is a summary of the agreed criteria that is used when considering a request for food:

- Individuals who are still affected by Covid financially or health-wise
- Individuals who have applied for universal credit and have not yet received a payment
- Individuals who have had a significant change in their benefits and are needing support
- Individuals who are in financial hardship and are accepting support in addressing the root causes
- Individuals who have had a situation that has led to them being short-term homeless or just rehoused
- Individuals who are a victim of a crime which has left them in a difficult situation short-term
- Individuals who have no recourse to public funds who are requesting support in addressing the root causes
- Individuals who are facing a significant life issue, which is affecting their financial situation

This is only a brief summary of the criteria, and detailed explanations are available from Paul Brookhouse

Please note that we offer Halal food and also, where possible, solutions to cater for dietary and cultural related needs and also where limited cooking facilities are not available

VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS

Volunteers are co-ordinated through Community Action Derby (CAD) via df4ta@communityactionderby.org.uk. Those who wish to donate food are advised to either deliver to a Local Food Distribution Hub or call CAD on 01332 346266 and ask for Irina Shaw/Billie Ault for latest advice due to Covid restrictions that may be in place. Any individual who would like to make a financial donation to help purchase food should email df4ta@communityactionderby.org.uk

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

The universal approach of the Alliance has been in operation for 11 months and the roll-out of support for those most in need is growing fast and providing exciting developments never delivered before in Derby. Lockdown 3, and the addition of support via the Christmas scheme, has increased demand leading to over 2000 food parcels being handed out each month. Currently over 250,000 items have been distributed via our Central Storage Unit. Numerous new partners who also distribute food across the city have aligned themselves to support individuals and families in a coordinated way and local businesses are joining force to ensure their food is not wasted. The focus remains of helping people address the root causes of their difficulties

In the coming weeks we will be rolling out a new universal referral process and a new winter support scheme. The process of establishing our first Community Shops within the city will begin, which are crucial to the development of our work and support to the most in need. We will also soon be officially launching the DF4T Alliance, a citywide food charter, and how to become a member of DF4T Alliance

Flyers are available at www.communityactionderby.org.uk/latest/news/derby-food-4-thought-alliance and social media pages have been set up to illustrate the fantastic work that is underway at www.facebook.com/df4ta and www.instagram.com/df4ta and www.twitter.com/derbyfood4ta

Please remember that the main contact for this Alliance is Paul Brookhouse. Please always contact Paul with regards to food distribution queries to ensure you get the correct information. There are exciting days ahead and most importantly tackling poverty and deprivation within our City. Please get in touch if you want any information on the above