

# GROUP COVALUATION REPORT

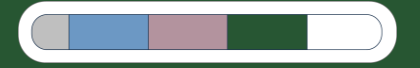
## Healthy Living Platform

December 2025



# SUMMARY

Evidence Rating  
**Robust**



## The HLP Food Hub

- ◆ This Covaluation report focusses on the Healthy Living Platform (HLP) Food Hub.
- ◆ Every week, the Food Hub supplies surplus food, stability and dignity to thousands of residents — and keeps 40+ grassroots community groups able to meet growing demand.

## What the evidence tells us

- ◆ The Food Hub reduces food stress and **protects household budgets during the cost-of-living crisis.**
- ◆ Residents feel **better connected, healthier** and more supported in daily life.
- ◆ Community Group partners rely on the Food Hub's logistics, storage and consistency to serve local communities.
- ◆ Volunteers find confidence, connection, and a path to employment.
- ◆ The Food Hub **generates at least £8 of social value for every £1 invested.**
- ◆ Evidence quality is rated 'Robust' using our [Social Impact Evidence Scale \(SIES\)](#).

## Bottom line

- ◆ If the Food Hub did not exist, food access, community connection and wellbeing across Lambeth would be weakened.
- ◆ **This is essential infrastructure for Lambeth — and worth protecting.**
- ◆ This is a model that, if spread nationally, could help surplus food reach hundreds more communities and deliver health & wellbeing benefits more widely.



# ABOUT HLP

## Who is HLP?

- ◆ A community-rooted Lambeth charity improving access to healthy food, building food skills, strengthening community connection and advocating for better food policy. HLP delivers:
  - ◆ **The Food Hub** – food distribution logistics hub, receives and sends out food.
  - ◆ **HLP Pantries** – affordable food shares, hot meals and social connection.
  - ◆ **Food Ambassador training** – supporting paid work and community cooking activities.
  - ◆ **The Community Kitchen** — a community café and professional kitchen for education, training, hire and catering supporting local food projects.
- ◆ Run by a small team with deep local ties, known for its dignity and whole-person approach.

## What is the HLP Food Hub?

- ◆ A fully equipped warehouse with chiller, freezer, kitchen facilities and efficient logistics – including pallet racking, forklift, HGV access and electric vehicles.
- ◆ Receives and redistributes surplus and purchased food to 44 Community Group Partners (CGPs), powering their food services (pantries & food shares) and social activities.
- ◆ The Food Hub underpins HLP's pantries, community activities, cooking sessions and food education – acting as the backbone of the local food and wellbeing ecosystem.

## Their challenges

- ◆ Growing community need as the cost-of-living crisis increases demand.
- ◆ Loss of core Lambeth Council funding.
- ◆ Without sustained funding, the Hub — and the ecosystem it supports — is at risk.



# THE HLP ECOSYSTEM

A collaborative partnership that ensures healthy surplus food gets to residents.

- ◆ A central **HLP Food Hub** receives supplies from The Felix Project and City Harvest, formed of donated surplus food from farms, supermarket depots & other suppliers
- ◆ The Food Hub's logistics team sorts, stores and redistributes the food safely and efficiently to 44 CGPs (37 of which are regulars) [1].
- ◆ The CGPs act as local access points across the Lambeth area, ensuring the food reaches where it is most needed within communities.
- ◆ The CGPs offer various types of **Food services** that support an estimated 2,533 households [2].
- ◆ This includes HLP Pantries that provide weekly, healthy food shops at low prices, and spaces for social connection and a range of support services.
- ◆ Residents benefit from lower costs, healthier food and stronger community ties.
- ◆ The system relies on coordination, relationships and trust built over years.

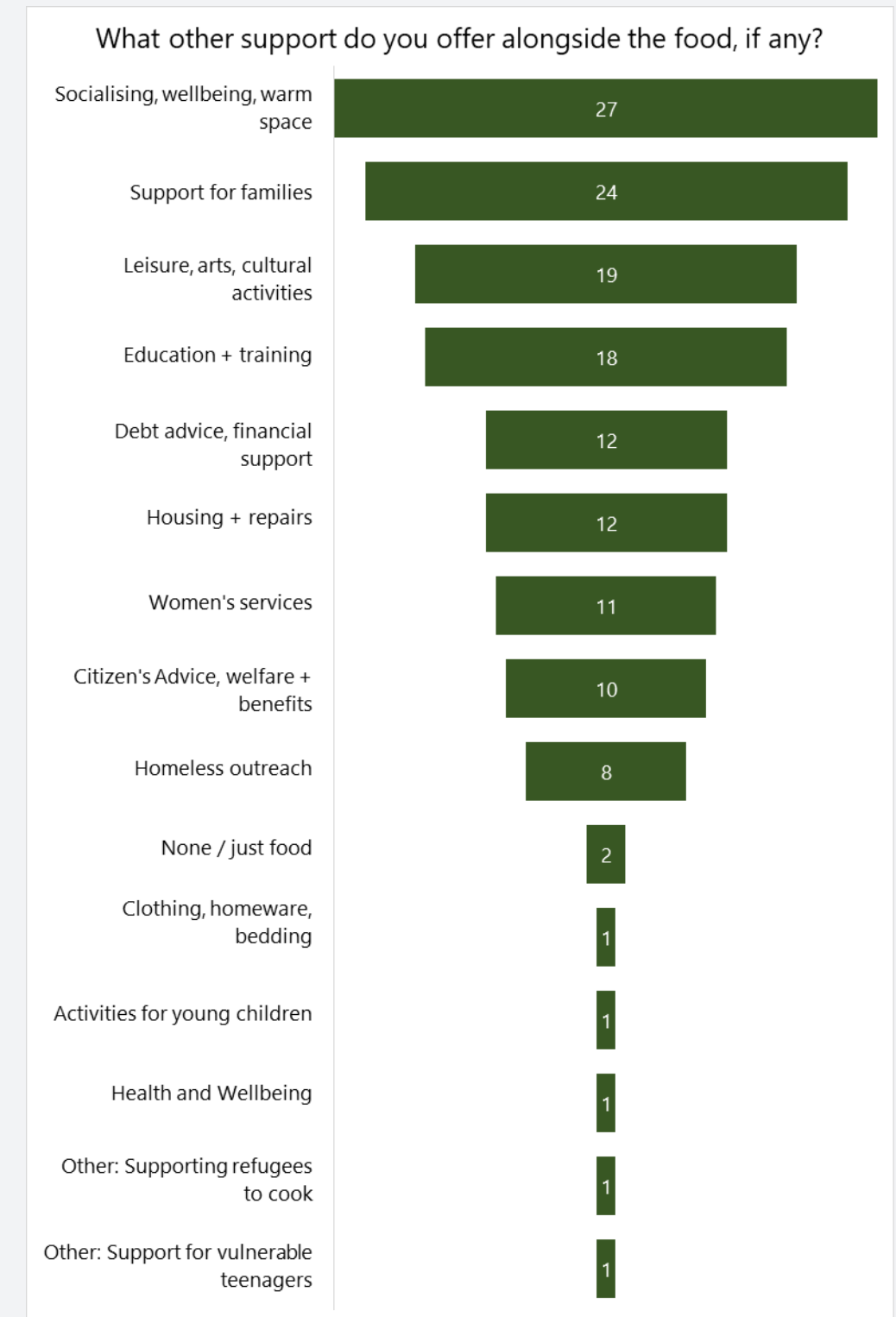


[1] 'Regular' CGPs are those that receive regular food deliveries from the HLP Food Hub. There are also some CGPs that receive ad-hoc deliveries.

[2] Figure based on estimates from 36 out of 44 CGPs we surveyed.

# COMMUNITY GROUP PARTNERS

The CGPs offer a broad range of community services in addition to food.



# WHO WE HEARD FROM

## What we collected

- ◆ We invited all CGPs to respond to a Community Group survey, 37 out of 44 responded (response rate = 81%).
- ◆ We issued a Resident survey via the CGPs and received 242 responses.
- ◆ For the volunteers supporting HLP's pantries and community activities we sent a Volunteer survey and 35 out of approximately 50 people responded.
- ◆ We conducted interviews at the Moorlands community pantry (one of the HLP Pantries), speaking with 5 residents and 3 volunteers.
- ◆ We also interviewed HLP's contacts at the two surplus food suppliers – The Felix Project and City Harvest.

## Covaluation approach

- ◆ PatchWorks delivered this Group Covaluation (*Coproduced Evaluation*) project in collaboration with the HLP leadership team.
- ◆ We codesigned outcomes for residents, CGPs and volunteers - with a focus on the impact the food service makes on local people.
- ◆ We also estimate the Social Return on Investment (SROI) taking into account the evidence produced in this report, and the food supplied to the Hub.



# WHO HLP SUPPORTS

The Hub and the CSGs serve communities who often face higher barriers to healthy food, stable income and social connection.

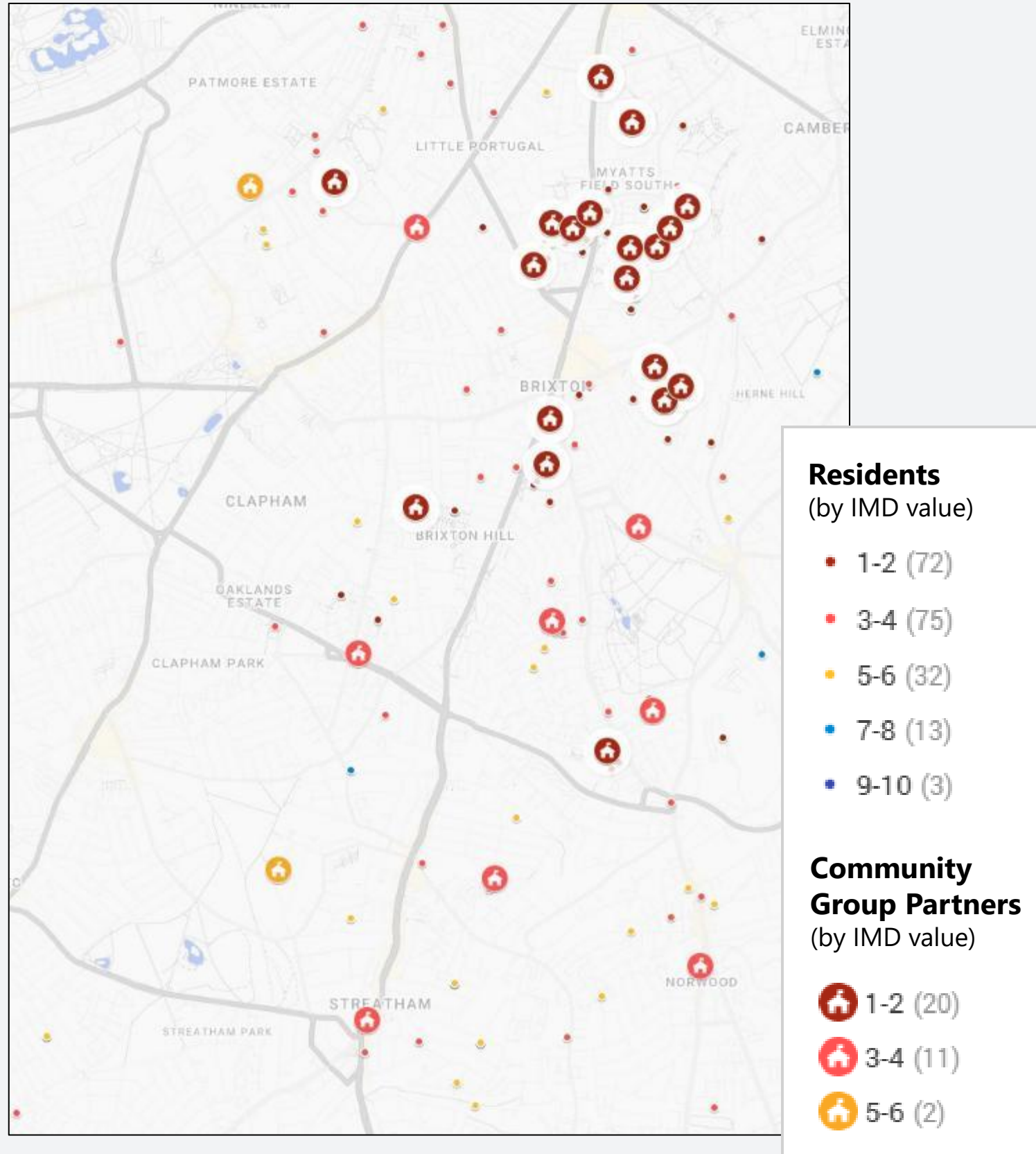
Question (N=242)	Yes
Do you have a disability or long-term health condition?	87 (36%)
Are you classed as 'NRPF'? (No recourse to public funds)	19 (8%)
Are you a 'sanctuary seeker'? (including women's refuge, sheltered accommodation, refugees and asylum seekers)	24 (10%)
Do you identify as Black or as part of the global majority?	120 (50%)
Are a Spanish or Portuguese speaker?	34 (14%)

If you are in rented accommodation, who is your housing provider? (N=242)	
Social housing	138 (57%)
Private rent	22 (9%)
Refuge	4 (<2%)
Hotel	2 (<1%)
<i>Not answered / prefer not to say</i>	<i>78 (32%)</i>

- ◆ This demographic data reflects the vital role that the Hub and the CGPs play for residents managing health conditions, financial precarity or insecure housing — and the importance of culturally relevant, welcoming spaces.



# WHERE THEY LIVE



## What areas does HLP serve?

- The Hub and the CGPs traditionally serve Lambeth – and is beginning to support groups in neighbouring boroughs
- We mapped postcode data for 195 residents and 33 of the Community Group Partners.
- The resulting map (left) shows a spread across the borough with a concentration of CGPs and residents around the Brixton area.

## What is the socio-economic profile of these areas?

- The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) is a measure used in England to rank small areas based on relative deprivation, combining domains including income, employment, crime, and barriers to housing and services. The combined scores are used to rank areas from most deprived (1) to least deprived (10).
- To understand the socio-economic reach of HLP, we ran these postcodes through the UK government's IMD postcode lookup tool [3].
- 75% (147 / 195) of the Residents and 94% (31 / 33) of the CGPs are ranked between 1-4.
- The average IMD value for Residents is 3.5 and the average for CGPs is 2.6. These are lower than the England average of 5.0.
- This demonstrates that HLP and its CGPs serve areas of high deprivation.

[3] English indices of deprivation postcode lookup [website](#).

# IMPACT

Supporting households, strengthening community ties and improving wellbeing



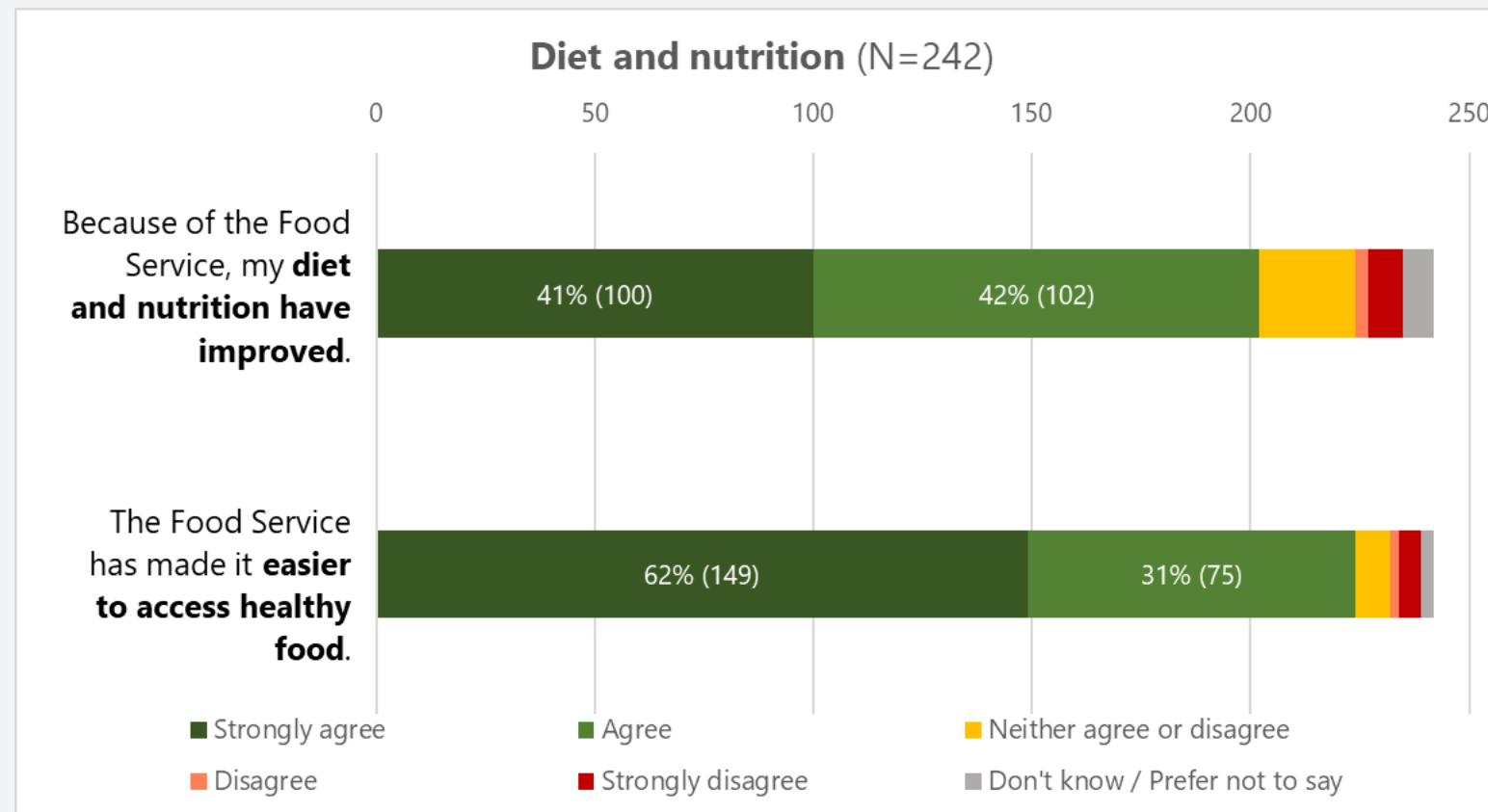
# IMPACT

Residents eat healthier, more culturally relevant food

OUTCOME

Diet and Nutrition

## RESIDENT SURVEY QUESTIONS



## Evidence from the Covaluation

- ◆ **Clear improvements in diet:** 83% (202 / 242) of residents agree that their diet and nutrition have improved because of the CGP's food service.
- ◆ **Much easier to access healthy food:** 93% (224) say the food service has made it easier to eat well, especially with fruit, vegetables and fresh food.
- ◆ **Healthy choices for specific needs:** Many residents mentioned managing diabetes, high blood pressure or special diets, and said the food service helped them get access to food that directly supports their health.
- ◆ **Culturally familiar food matters:** A large number mention the importance of West Indian and culturally relevant foods they struggle to find or afford elsewhere.
- ◆ **Better food on a tight budget:** Residents mention healthier options that would otherwise be too expensive in shops, improving both quality and variety of meals.

“ The fresh vegetables help me with my diabetes. It really makes a difference.

“ I can choose foods that are good for my health. That means a lot.

“ The healthy food is so expensive outside — here I can actually get what I need.

“ The cultural foods remind me of home. You don't see them in other places.

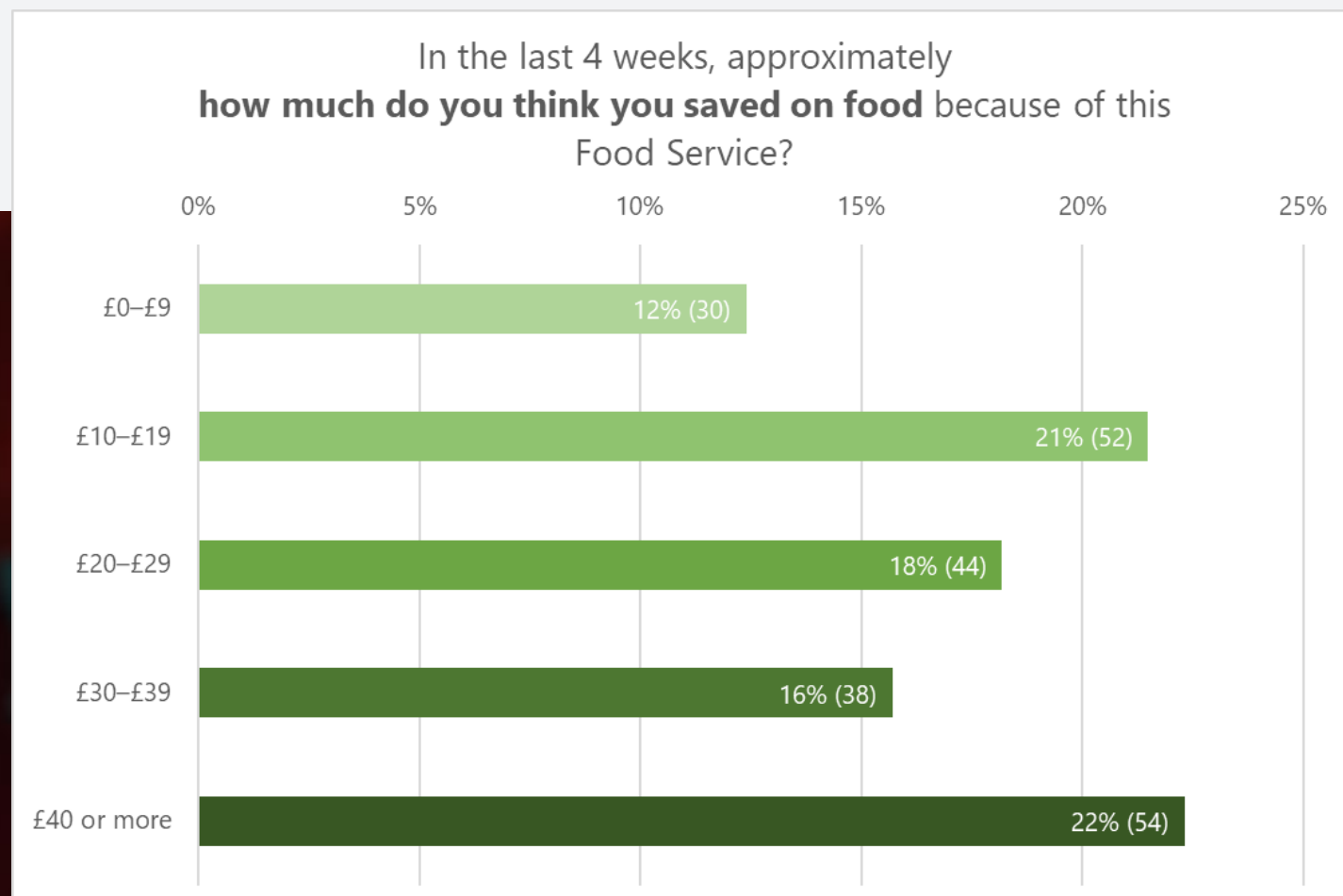
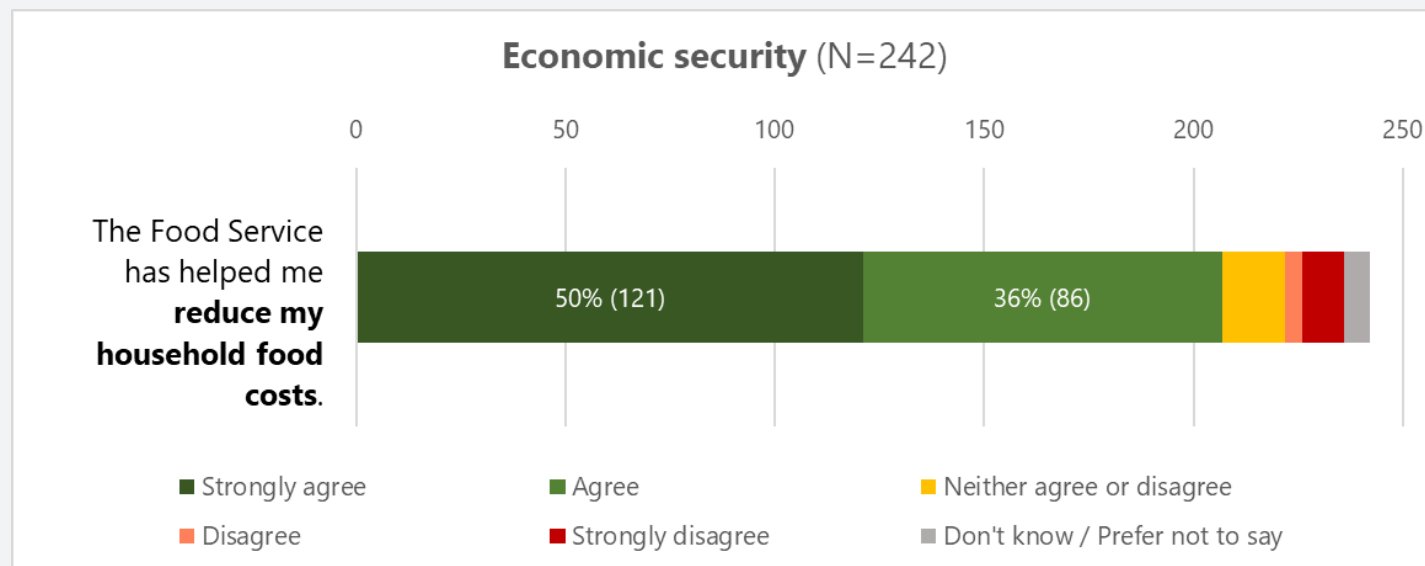
# IMPACT

Residents can stretch their budgets and worry less about food

OUTCOME

Economic Security

## RESIDENT SURVEY QUESTIONS



## Evidence from the Covaluation

- ◆ **Most reduced their food bills:** 86% agreed or strongly agreed that the Food service helped them cut household food costs.
- ◆ **Meaningful monthly savings:** Residents save around £25-£30 a month on average — over £300 a year.
- ◆ **Helping with weekly spend:** Around a third of residents described spending less on food and stretching budgets further.
- ◆ **Making money go further:** About one in five redirect savings towards rent, bills, transport and children's essentials.
- ◆ **Tackling crisis moments:** Some residents mentioned that they avoided skipped meals or food-bank use, and many feel less worried about making ends meet.

“ We are struggling with food bills and utilities — **this takes the edge off.** ”

“ We can sometimes get food I **simply can't afford in the shop.** ”

“ Without it, we would have to **skip meals.** ”

“ It helps me save money which is **essential.** ”

# STORY

Not having to worry about food gave Paul breathing space when he needed it most

Paul, Resident

OUTCOME



Economic Security

“ The fact that I don't have to think about food is a beautiful thought.

- ◆ **Paul** first came to the HLP Pantry during a difficult spell. Lockdown had hit hard and he'd lost his job, leaving him unsure how he'd manage the basics. A friend encouraged him to try it out, even though he felt hesitant — *“I've been working most of my life... I wasn't too open to coming in.”*
- ◆ What he found was a place that eased the pressure straight away. *“The fact that I don't have to think about food is a beautiful thought.”*
- ◆ Knowing he could reliably get affordable, good-quality food meant he could worry less about money and focus on getting back on his feet.
- ◆ Over time, coming to the HLP Pantry brought stability. *“Food and shelter are the basics of life,”* he said, *“and my cooking needs are met here.”* Not needing to stretch every penny or skip essentials made a real difference to how he managed week to week.
- ◆ He also speaks about the dignity of the experience — being welcomed, respected, and never made to feel like he was *“taking advantage.”* That mutual respect is what keeps him coming back.
- ◆ For Paul, the HLP Pantry isn't just a service — it's connection, dignity, and a place where he feels at home.

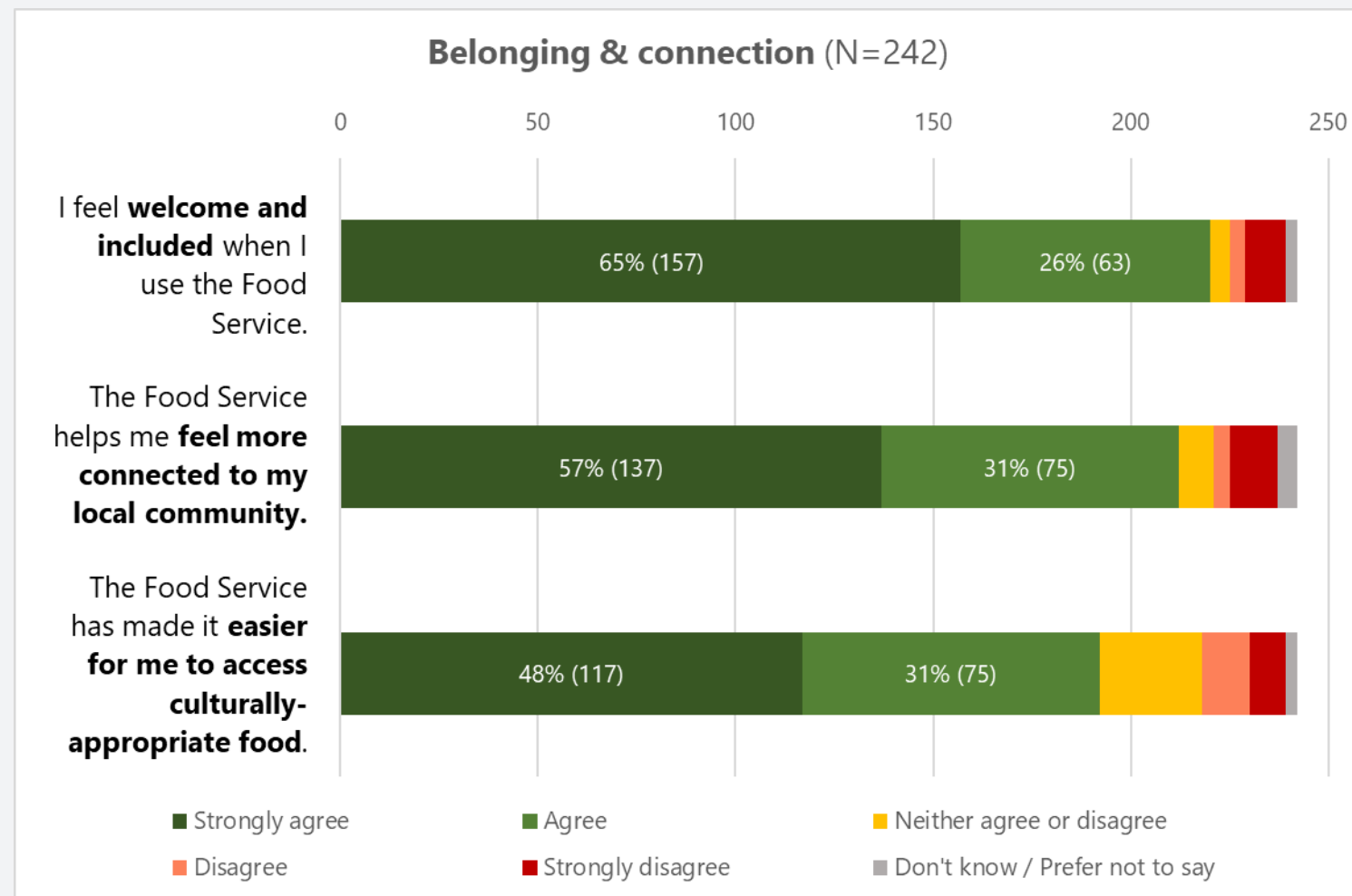
# IMPACT

More than a food service — a place where people feel they belong

OUTCOME

Belonging & Connection

## RESIDENT SURVEY QUESTIONS



## Evidence from the Covaluation

- 91% (220) of residents agree that they feel **welcome and included** at the food service, and **88%** (212) agree that they feel **more connected to their community.**
- 79% (192) reported having easier access to culturally appropriate food.
- New relationships formed:** About one in five reported meeting new people or connecting with neighbours they didn't previously know.
- A welcoming, friendly environment:** Many describe the CGP space as open, warm and respectful, helping them feel part of something rather than isolated.
- Positive relationships with staff:** Residents consistently mention the kindness, familiarity and support from staff and volunteers at the CGPs.
- Inclusive atmosphere:** a common theme that "everyone is welcome" at the food service including older residents and those isolated at home.
- Feeling part of a wider community:** Many reported that this has become a regular social touchpoint, reducing loneliness and giving structure to the week.

“ *It's not just the food — it's the people. I always feel welcome here.* ”

“ *It was nice to see how open everybody was and how friendly everybody was in the first place.* ”

“ *You don't feel judged here — it's a good community.* ”

“ *Coming here makes me feel part of something.* ”

# STORY

An HLP pantry where loneliness is replaced by company and laughter

## Three Friends, Residents

### OUTCOME



Belonging & Connection



“By the time we get home, the loneliness is gone.”

- ◆ They first came to the HLP Pantry because of a familiar face — *“It’s all down to Ms. P”* they laugh. She invited them one Monday while serving soup, and since then Thursday mornings have become their ritual.
- ◆ What keeps them coming back is the friendship. *“We talk every week... we’re like one family.”*
- ◆ They sit together, laugh, catch up on home life, and check in on each other. One says, *“If one of us isn’t coming, the others aren’t coming either,”* showing how strong the bond has become.
- ◆ The HLP Pantry that they visit is now an anchor in their week — a place where they share a meal and collect discounted healthy food supplies for the week.
- ◆ More importantly they feel seen, welcomed and understood. The familiar faces, shared stories and cultural connection make it more than a hot meal and a food shop.
- ◆ As one put it: *“By the time we get home, the loneliness is gone.”*
- ◆ For these three friends, the HLP Pantry means laughter, company and belonging — a space where connection comes first.

NB this story is based on a real interview, but the interviewees preferred to remain anonymous, therefore their names were not used, and we used an AI-generated image for the picture.

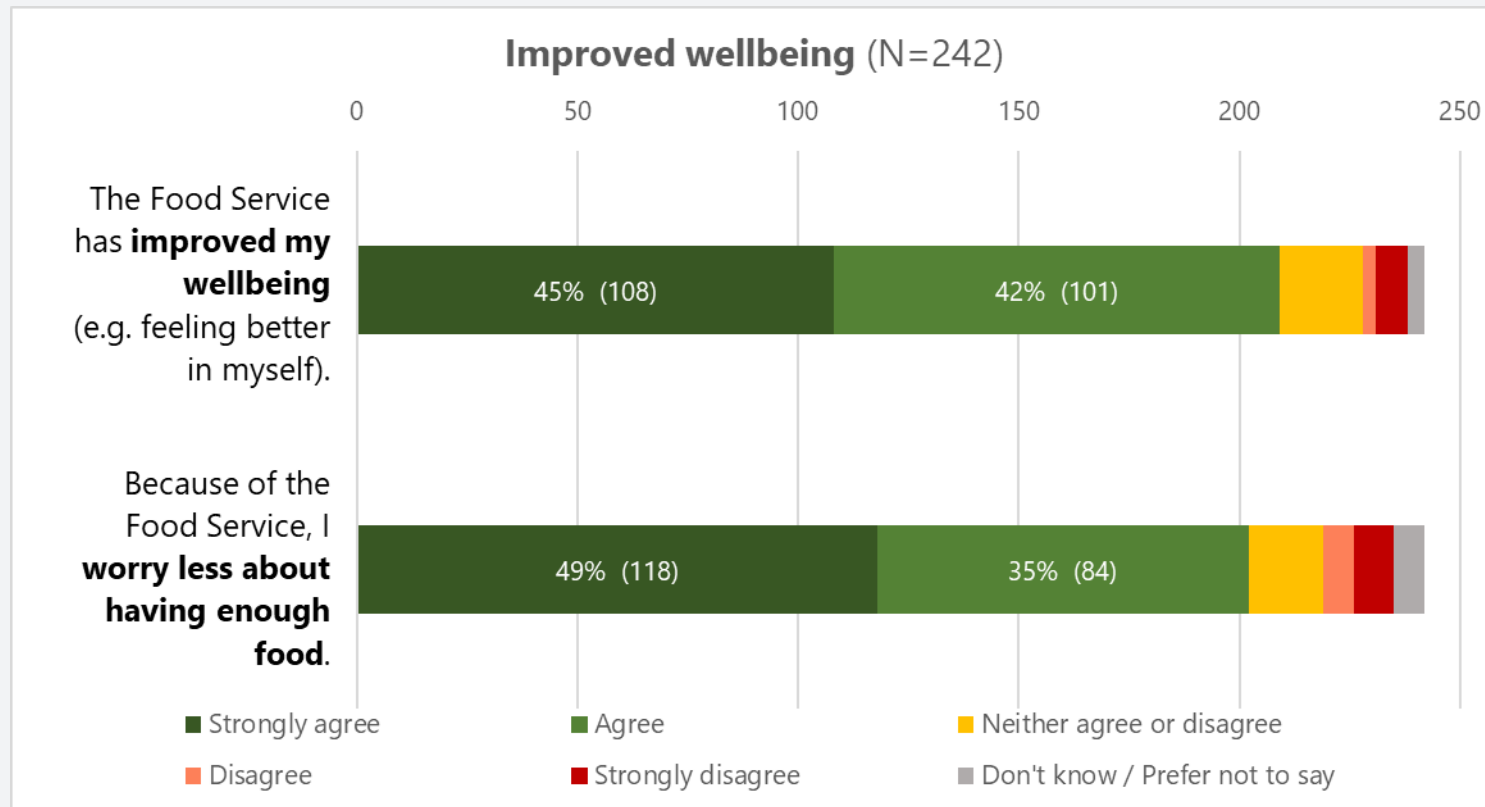
# IMPACT

Residents feel less stressed, less lonely and better in themselves

OUTCOME

Improved Wellbeing

## RESIDENT SURVEY QUESTIONS



## Evidence from the Covaluation

- Wellbeing clearly improved: 87% of residents (209 / 242) agreed that the food service has improved their wellbeing e.g., helped them feel better in themselves.
- Less worry and mental strain: 84% (202) agreed that they worry less about having enough food, easing day-to-day stress.
- Emotional uplift: Around a third of residents describe the food service as lifting their mood, giving them a reason to get out and supportive social contact.
- Reduced loneliness: Several residents, including many older people and those living on their own, mentioned that the food service takes away the loneliness and helps them feel accompanied through the week.
- Cultural familiarity and kindness matter: Residents link their improved wellbeing to familiar foods, caring staff, and a non-judgmental atmosphere — creating a sense of safety and comfort.

“ Knowing I will have enough food **takes a weight off my mind.** ”

“ It helps with the loneliness. I see people and **feel more myself again.** ”

“ **Coming here lifts my mood** — I feel better after I've been. ”

“ The staff are so kind. It makes a **big difference to how I feel day to day.** ”

# STORY

The HLP Pantry brightens her day and supports her mental and physical wellbeing.

Barbara, Resident

## OUTCOME



Improved Wellbeing

- ◆ **Barbara** has been coming to the Pantry for four years, and Thursday mornings have become a highlight of her week. She says she genuinely *“looks forward to Thursday morning”*, because the moment she arrives, the people she meets lifts her.
- ◆ *“If you leave home in a bad mood, from the minute you walk through the door it’s a different atmosphere.”*
- ◆ The warm welcome, the laughter, and the familiar faces all help her feel better in herself. *“I benefit from it mentally and physically.”*
- ◆ The social side matters deeply — she talks about chatting, joking and feeling part of *“one family”* with the people she sees each week. That sense of connection is a big part of why her wellbeing has improved.
- ◆ The food support helps too — especially as she manages diabetes — and she’s honest about the pressure it relieves: *“Sometimes I couldn’t afford to go to the shop to buy what I get here.”*
- ◆ For Barbara, the HLP Pantry is more than practical help — it’s a space that brightens her mood and strengthens her wellbeing every time she visits.

“ I benefit from it mentally and physically.”

NB this story is based on a real interview, but the interviewee wished to remain anonymous, therefore the name has been changed the image is one that has been AI-generated.



**96%** (34 out of 36) of the CGPs said they were satisfied or very satisfied with their partnership with HLP.

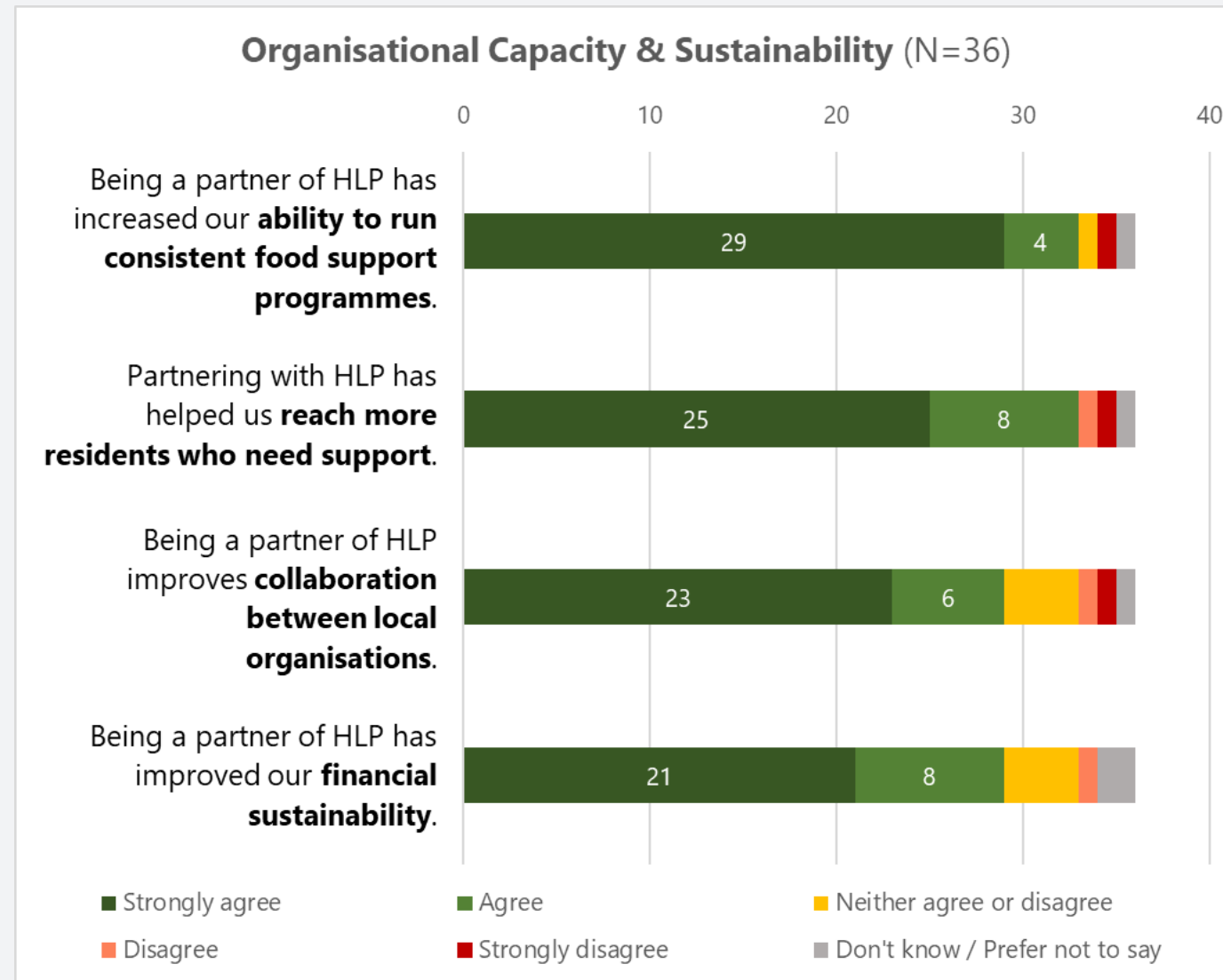
# IMPACT

CGPs say the Hub makes their services more consistent, collaborative and financially stable

## OUTCOME

Organisational capacity & sustainability

### CGP SURVEY QUESTIONS



## Evidence from our project

- **Improved service consistency:** 33 out of 36 CGPs said the Hub helps them run more reliable, consistent services. Comments describe smoother weekly operations because deliveries and logistics are more dependable.
- **Increased reach to priority residents:** 33 agree that the Hub enables them to reach more residents who need support most – older residents, carers, isolated households and families facing the highest financial pressure.
- **Stronger local collaboration:** 29 agree that the HLP partnership improves communication and coordination with other local groups, highlighting easier referrals, shared problem-solving and feeling “more joined-up” with partners.
- **Improved financial sustainability:** 29 agree that HLP strengthens their financial stability. Groups report reduced food costs, less waste, freed-up staff time and greater ability to keep activities low-cost or free.

“ Their support **takes pressure off our budget**. We simply couldn't offer this without them.

“ Working with HLP has **strengthened our local partnerships** — communication is so much better now.

“ They help us **reach residents we were struggling to engage**, especially older people and carers.

“ HLP makes our **service much more reliable** — we don't have to cancel sessions anymore.

# IMPACT

HLP gives volunteers purpose, confidence, work skills and a sense of belonging

## OUTCOME



Volunteer experience & impact

### Evidence from our project

- ◆ **Feeling more connected to the community:** 94% (33 out of 35) said volunteering with HLP makes them feel more connected and reducing isolation. Many described HLP as a “family” or a place where they feel part of something bigger.
- ◆ **Making a real difference:** 94% (33) agreed their time and skills make a difference. Comments highlight pride in helping residents, supporting the HLP Pantry, and being appreciated by staff.
- ◆ **Developing skills and confidence:** 71% (25) reported increased skills and confidence, mentioning organising sessions, talking to residents, teamwork, food handling, and leadership.
- ◆ **Pathways and experience for the future:** 54% (19) said HLP has improved their employability through experience, confidence building, and references. HLP’s Food Ambassador programme is an example pathway that has supported volunteers into paid catering roles, with accredited skills such as food hygiene.

“ HLP has given me **experience and confidence** I didn't have before.

“ It feels good to give something back and **see the difference straight away.**

“ Helping **people choose food and seeing them smile** makes it all worth it.

“ It gives structure to my week and **a real sense of purpose.**



# STORY

## The volunteer residents follow — a welcoming presence at the heart of a HLP Pantry

Ms. P, Volunteer

### OUTCOME



Volunteers feel Valued & Fulfilled



“ People follow me to whatever Pantry I’m at. They know I’ll look after them.”

- ◆ Ms. P much-loved part of the HLP Pantry where she has volunteered for years.
- ◆ What stands out most is the way residents talk about her. Many say they come on her days because she makes them feel welcome, respected and at ease. She laughs about it, but she knows it matters: *“People follow me to whatever Pantry I’m at,”* she says. *“They know I’ll look after them.”*
- ◆ She talks about the team with affection too. The friendships, the banter, the routine of working together each week have become an important part of her life. *“It feels like family here,”* she says. *“You never feel on your own.”*
- ◆ What keeps her coming back is the difference she sees in people. Helping residents choose food, checking in on them, and seeing them leave smiling gives her a deep sense of pride. *“You know you’re making a difference — that’s why we do it,”* she says.
- ◆ Another thing she loves is watching new volunteers grow: *“I like helping people find their feet. Everyone has something to give.”*
- ◆ For Ms P, HLP is about community, contribution and belonging. A place where she can be herself, support others and help create the kind of warm, dignified welcome she believes every resident deserves.

# SROI

The Food Hub generates at least  
£8 of value for every £1 invested



## Food value (surplus food redistributed)

Food from The Felix Project: £479k  
(121 tonnes at £3.97/kg)

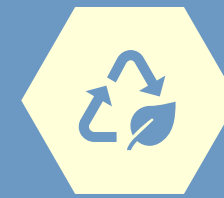
Food from City Harvest: £510k  
(143 tonnes at £3.57/kg)



## Reduced household food expenditure

£532k per year

(£25/month saving × 2,533 households, applying a 70% attribution factor)



## CO<sub>2</sub>e (carbon dioxide equivalent) avoided from surplus food received

£199k

(2,498 + 256 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e avoided × £80 per tonne)



8:1

## Social Return on Investment (SROI) value calculation

Total annual value created: £1.72M

Annual cost of running HLP Food Hub: £200k

SROI ratio: HLP Hub generates at least £8 of value for every £1 invested.

All values are conservative estimates based on audited surplus food value, household self-reported savings and Defra non-traded carbon values. Food value streams (Felix and City Harvest) and household savings are treated separately to avoid double counting. Environmental value calculated using avoided CO<sub>2</sub>e only. Avoided emissions (CO<sub>2</sub>e) calculated using figures provided by The Felix Project (2024) and City Harvest (2025). Household savings use a conservative attribution factor of 70% supplied by HLP Hub.

# WHAT COULD IMPROVE?

## Insights from residents and CGPs

- ◆ **More variety and cultural relevance of food:** Across both residents and CGPs, around a third mentioned wanting a wider range of items — especially fruit, veg, meat, eggs, baby food, tins, and more culturally familiar foods (e.g. West Indian ingredients). Some residents also highlighted quality (fresher vegetables, fewer bruised items).
- ◆ **More food overall and improved availability:** Around one in five residents simply asked for more food or larger portions, and several CGPs mentioned needing more stock, non-perishables, or support to handle surplus gluts.
- ◆ **Better access, scheduling and communication:** A recurring theme from residents was opening hours, frequency, and delivery options (especially for older or disabled people). CGPs highlighted the need for more consistent delivery times, advance notice of changes, and clearer updates on what's available.
- ◆ **Support to strengthen partner capacity:** CGPs suggested opportunities for joint planning, training, storage support, and more two-way communication to help them plan sessions, reduce waste, and reach more residents effectively.
- ◆ **Continuity and sustainability of HLP:** A surprisingly large number of residents expressed one request: “stay open”, reflecting how vital the service is. CGPs also stressed funding stability as key to long-term partnership impact.





*“ If the Hub closed, families like mine would be in real trouble. The food support keeps us going — I don’t know how we’d cope without it. Resident*

# WHY IT WORKS

The evidence in this report tells us why HLP and the CGPs are so valuable to residents

- ◆ **A consistent, reliable lifeline:** Residents, volunteers and CGPs all describe HLP's weekly food support as steady, dependable and woven into their routines — the predictability reduces stress and builds trust.
- ◆ **A highly effective logistics operation:** HLP's Hub provides the capacity and coordination needed to move large volumes of food reliably across Lambeth — turning unpredictable surplus into a stable, weekly lifeline.
- ◆ **A welcoming culture that creates belonging:** People feel respected, listened to and treated with dignity. Residents talk about feeling “seen” and valued; CGPs describe spaces where neighbours meet, friendships form and a sense of community grows.
- ◆ **Partnerships built on care and collaboration:** CGPs consistently praised Carla, Bruno and the Food Hub team for being responsive, supportive and easy to work with. The logistics, communication and problem-solving are seen as highly professional and contribute to a strong set of partnerships.
- ◆ **Practical help that improves everyday life:** From high-quality meals to access to healthy food, from reduced household pressure to volunteer skills and confidence, the service delivers real-world benefits people feel immediately.



# WHY THIS MATTERS



## Food insecurity is rising fast — and the HLP ecosystem is holding the line.

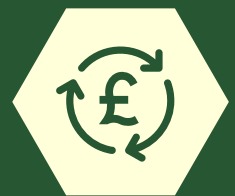
Across Lambeth, the cost-of-living crisis continues to push families into food stress. Many residents told us they would struggle to get by without the weekly food support. The service reduces food stress, protects household budgets and ensures regular access to good, healthy food.

*“ If HLP wasn't here, we'd really struggle. This service keeps my family afloat. ”*  
Resident



## The Hub does far more than distribute food — it builds community.

Residents and volunteers described the HLP Pantry and CGP food services as places where they feel welcome, respected and connected. In a time of growing isolation, these are crucial spaces that genuinely brings people together.

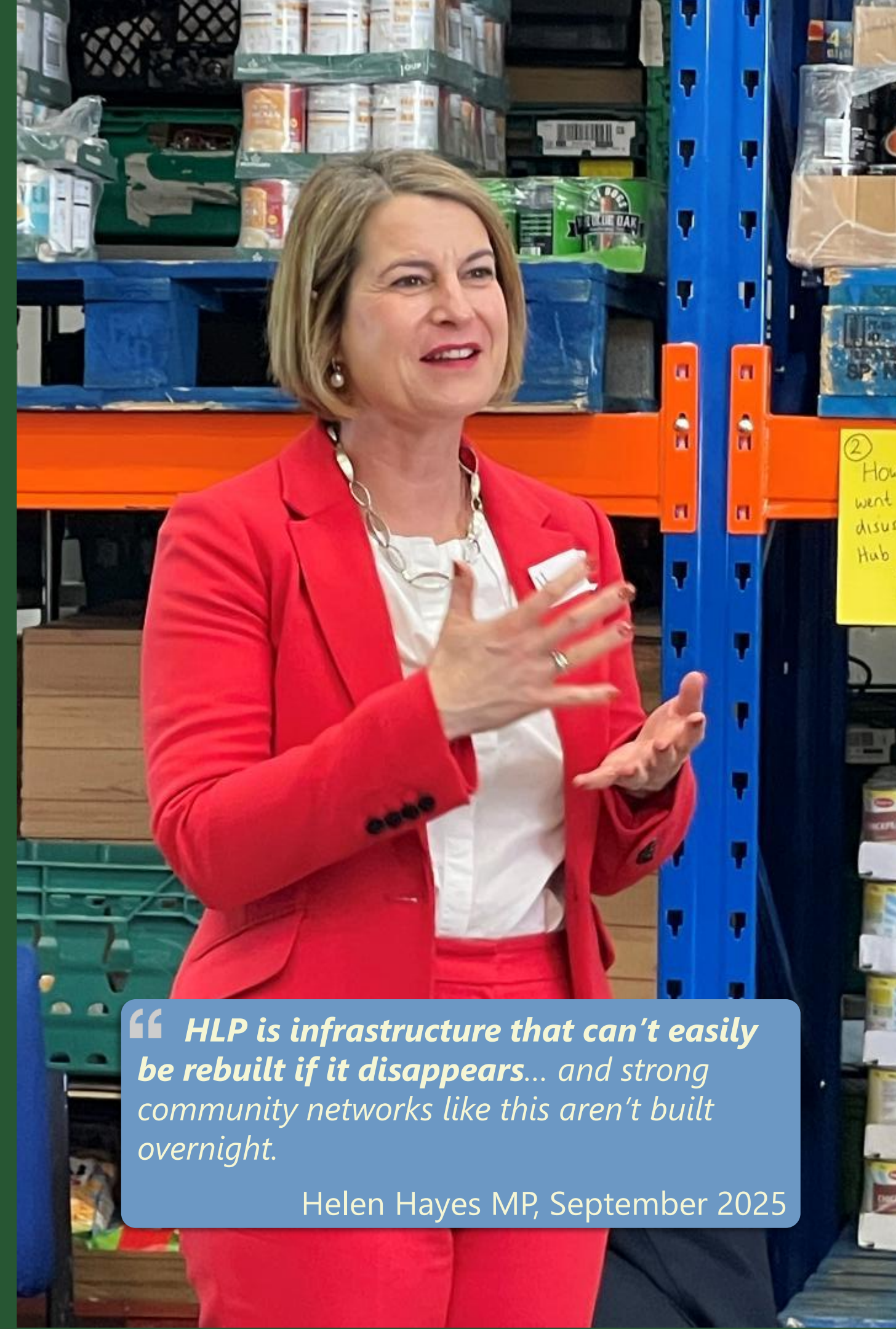


## The model is high-impact, low-cost and hard to replace.

Surplus food, partnerships with 37 local CGPs, and a committed volunteer base mean HLP delivers exceptional impact on a modest budget. The SROI analysis shows that for every £1 invested, HLP generates at least £5 of value — financial, social and environmental.

*“ HLP is infrastructure that can't easily be rebuilt if it disappears... and strong community networks like this aren't built overnight. ”*

Helen Hayes MP, September 2025



② How went disus Hub

# STORY

The suppliers' view: the HLP Food Hub is essential to London's surplus-food system



## City Harvest – Marco Torquati, Head of Community Impact

- ◆ **The Hub provides the flexibility and storage capacity** that City Harvest needs to handle unpredictable surges, e.g., frozen foods, short-dated meat, “4 pallets of fish pies”.
- ◆ **Many community groups need specific delivery times** that City Harvest cannot offer London-wide. The Hub solves this by acting as the central receiver and manager, ensuring food reaches groups in a way that works for them.
- ◆ **The Hub prevents food from being diverted to other boroughs:** *“If Lambeth Hub disappeared, Lambeth residents would get less food, because we’d have to send it where we have capacity.”*



## The Felix Project – Helen Stanley, Community Partnerships Manager

- ◆ **The Hub acts as a critical local centre** for receiving large pallet deliveries and redistributing them to dozens of small community organisations that The Felix Project are unable to reach directly.
- ◆ **Without the Hub, Felix would have to cut support to many local groups** due to limited van capacity — *“the numbers would drop dramatically.”*
- ◆ **HLP’s local knowledge and wrap-around services ensure food reaches the right people** and supports wider health and wellbeing, not just calories.
- ◆ Helen stated: *“The hub model is fundamental to what we do.”*



“ If you designed it today, you’d **build 30 hubs like this across London.** ”

“ If we were designing the system today, **this is exactly the model we would build.** ”

# WHAT NEXT

The HLP Hub should not only survive.  
It is a model that should be adopted nationally.

1

## Secure the Hub

HLP Lambeth must remain open and stable. Every resident, volunteer and partner told us that losing the Hub would have immediate and severe consequences for food access, wellbeing and community connection. Securing multi-year funding is now the single most important priority.

2

## Strengthen the model

There is clear appetite from residents and CGPs for improved coordination, fresher food, wider variety and stronger capacity-building. With modest investment, HLP can enhance logistics, introduce more culturally diverse food, and deepen support to partners who rely on the Hub.

3

## Spread the impact

The evidence shows this model works: high-impact, low-cost and essential to the surplus-food system. As the cost-of-living crisis continues, there is a strong case to replicate or expand elements of the model — additional hubs, more outreach, and stronger shared infrastructure.



# THANK YOU

Healthy Living Platform would like to thank everyone who contributed to this Covaluation and to the on-going work of the Food Hub, including:

- ◆ Our surplus food partners, City Harvest and The Felix Project.
- ◆ The residents, volunteers and CGPs who shared their experiences.
- ◆ Our HLP pantry partners — MTVH, Pinnacle and Tulse Hill TRA.
- ◆ Our Hub hosts at We Are 336.
- ◆ The dedicated HLP team of staff and volunteers.
- ◆ Local partners, stakeholders, MPs and councillors who continue to offer their support.
- ◆ Past and present funders & supporters who have helped sustain this work.

To find out more or work with us, please contact:

[contactus@healthylivingplatform.org](mailto:contactus@healthylivingplatform.org) | [www.healthylivingplatform.org](http://www.healthylivingplatform.org)

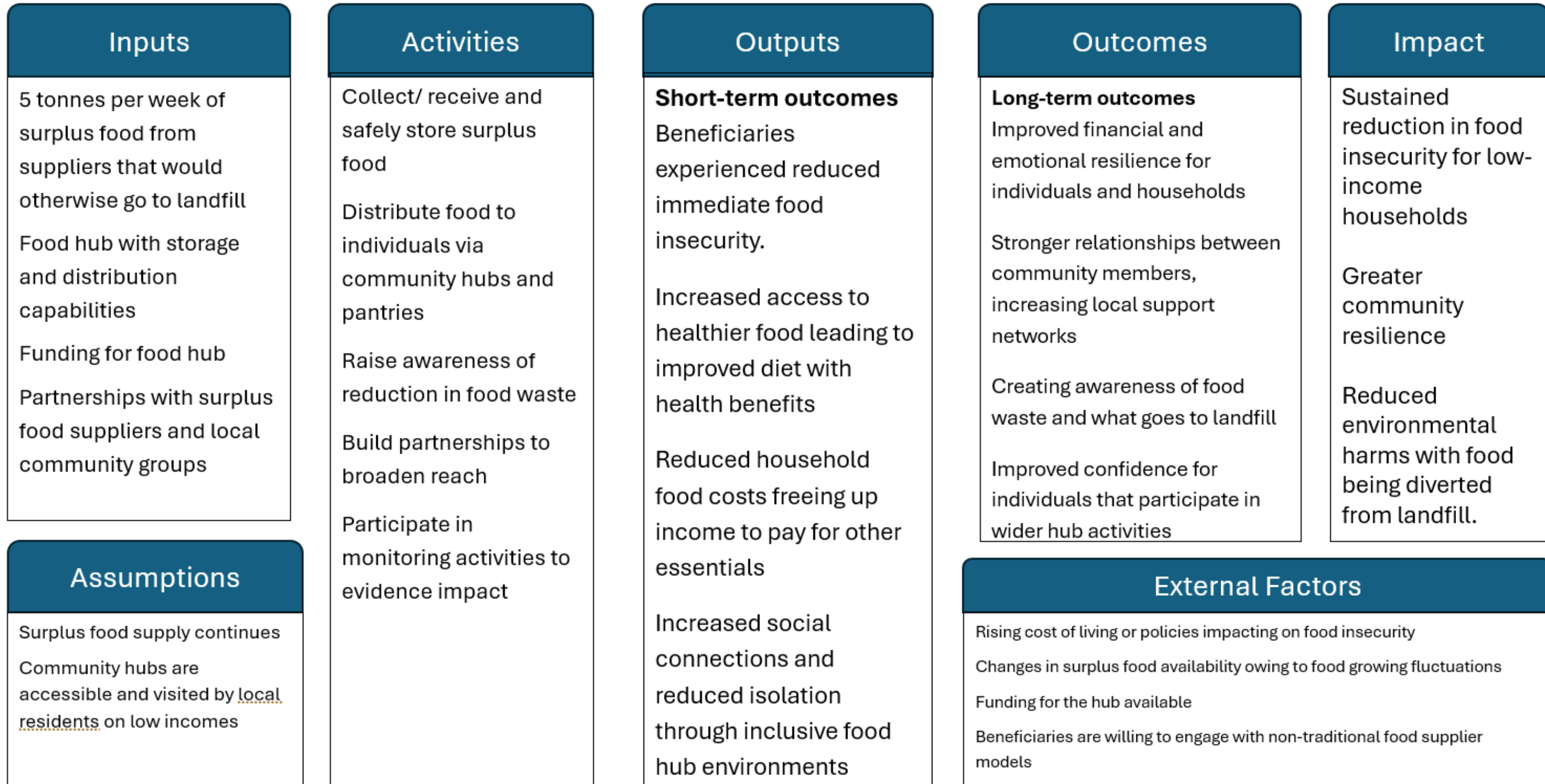
**PatchWorks** 

**Better evidence. Stronger communities.**

Would an organisation you know benefit from a report like this, and the positive change it could bring? Get in touch: [PatchWorks.org.uk](http://PatchWorks.org.uk).

# APPENDIX A | HLP's Theory of Change (August 2025)

## Theory of Change: Supporting Individuals experiencing Food Insecurity through surplus food in Community Hubs



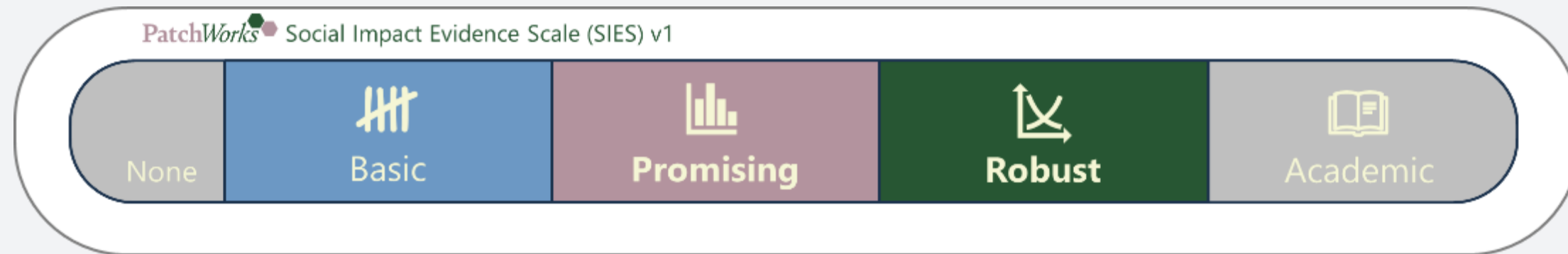
# APPENDIX B

## About PatchWorks and use of this report

### The PatchWorks Social Impact Evidence Scale (SIES)

The SIES diagram below provides a simple scale of evidence strength. Most of the community organisation partners we work with are at the start of the scale (None / Basic). Our aim is to elevate all partners we work with up to *Promising* or *Robust*, so we can support their ambitions.

This scale enables us to 'SIES' (size) up where our partners are before they start with us, and where we get them to after our Covaluation project.



### How to cite this report

PatchWorks (2025). The Impact of the Healthy Living Platform Food Hub: A Group Covaluation Report.

We welcome the use of findings from this report with appropriate citation.

	None	Basic	Promising	Robust	Academic
<b>What is it</b>	Counts, quotes, stories.	Indirect / proxy measures, smaller sample size, no comparison.	Direct measures, larger sample size, comparable data set.	Large repeated data collection, formal academic methods.	
<b>What it shows</b>	<b>Proof of delivery:</b> Demonstrates the activity happened.	<b>Emerging proof of impact:</b> indication that a change happened	<b>Clear proof of impact:</b> evidence of impact on anticipated outcomes	<b>Proof for policy &amp; scale:</b> To influence at a national level	
<b>What's it for</b>	Internal use, newsletters, early seed grants.	Pilots and smaller services, small- medium grants.	Ideal for most funders. Builds external credibility.	National bodies, influencing policy, published studies.	