



## FOOD POVERTY – A RECIPE FOR DISASTER?

Dear Secretary

Please give this survey to members in your WI who are interested or have taken part in the recent NFWI Food initiatives such as the Food Waste Survey.

The Background to the NFWI Food Security project **The Great Food Debate** and the National Food Matters Campaign is also attached.

Please return completed surveys to Stuart Lodge for the attention of the Science and Society Sub-Committee

This survey is also available:

- electronically on-line at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RYXLS7P>;
- as a printable copy in .pdf format on request from Pat Kendell: [sciencesociety42@gmail.com](mailto:sciencesociety42@gmail.com); and
- as a download from the BFWI website at <http://www.bucksfwi.org.uk/science--society.html>

With thanks

Pat Kendell,

BFWI Science and Society Sub-Committee



## FOOD POVERTY: A RECIPE FOR DISASTER?

Get the event you want – your chance to help

*The Science and Society Sub-Committee is planning a new event in Spring 2019 to take forward the **Food Matters Campaign**.*

*Members are invited to help shape this event by taking part in this short survey.*

### 1. Food production: quality

Please select an answer adding comments / examples if you can

The quality of food being produced is:

Better than it was 10 years ago		Worse than it was 10 years ago		About the same	

### 2. Food production: quantity

Please select an answer adding comments / examples if you can

The quantity of food being produced is:

Not enough		Too much		About right	

### 3. Food retail practice

Please select an answer adding comments / examples if you can

Food retailers' displays, promotions and packaging are:

More responsible than 10 years ago		Less responsible than 10 years ago		About the same	

#### 4. The main challenges: food supply

Please rank these challenges from 1 to 5, where 1 is what you perceive to be the greatest challenge to a fair, safe and sustainable food system. Please add comments / examples if you can.

Challenges	Rank order
Over-production/ over-supply	
Irresponsible food advertising and promotion	
Under production / Not enough agricultural innovation	
Population increase	
Lack of public education about food	

#### 5. The main challenges: food poverty

Please rank these challenges from 1 to 5, where 1 is what you perceive to have the greatest effect on food poverty. Please add comments / examples if you can.

Challenges	Rank order
Inadequate measuring and reporting of food poverty	
Issues with Welfare/ Universal Credit	
Low wages and the 'gig' economy	
Lack of action from government and local authorities	
Lack of public education about food	

#### 6. What would you find the most useful format and content of the BFWI event in Spring 2019?

For example Workshops, Panel debate, Presentations, or other suggestions.

Thank you!

## BACKGROUND:

### NFWI FOOD SECURITY PROJECT

The NFWI project on **Food Security** was launched in response to the multiple threats to agriculture and food supply the world has to grapple with. These include climate instability causing frequent floods and drought, a worldwide population heading towards 9 billion by 2050, and war and civil unrest. With an urgent need to take action to ensure safe, sustainable and nutritious food supplies, WIs were urged to get involved by joining the debate. BFWI did so then and will continue to do so.

### THE GREAT FOOD DEBATE

The **Great Food Debate** was launched by the NFWI in December 2012. BFWI's Education and Current Affairs subcommittee rose to the challenge and an event chaired by Baroness Kathryn Parminter was held in a Bucks New University lecture theatre in September 2013. A keynote speech from Professor Charles Ainger launched the event, and questions from the floor were taken by members of the panel representing the NFU, Feeding 5k.org, Sainsburys, local farmers and food providers. It was well attended with some excellent contributions from the floor.

Two years later we held a workshop based event, **Feeding 9 Billion**, which addressed local to global food issues. Two inspirational contributors – Geoff Tansey from the Food Systems Academy and Dr Olga Sayanova from Rothamsted Research, initiated lively group discussion.

### THE FOOD MATTERS CAMPAIGN

Following on from events like these, the 2016 Resolution "Avoid Food Waste, Address Food Poverty" was proposed. This resulted in the Food Matters mandate, which has successfully raised awareness of food waste and led several supermarkets to make lasting changes to their practices. This campaign now moves on to the second part of the Mandate, calling for actions to address food poverty.

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