



Brighton & Hove Food Partnership (BHFP) Food Use Places Evaluator Brief 2026

About BHFP

The Brighton & Hove Food Partnership (BHFP) is a hub for information, inspiration and connection around food. We help people learn to cook, grow food, access a healthy diet and waste less. We particularly support vulnerable adults and people experiencing marginalization, poverty, isolation, poor health and other life challenges. Every day, we see how food is more than just fuel, it brings people together and changes lives. We provide leadership and co-ordination for the city's Food Strategy, campaign on local and national food issues, support community food groups and work face-to-face with people on cookery and nutrition, food growing and food waste reduction. **Find out more: www.bhfood.org.uk**

About the Food Use Places project

BHFP is the lead organisation for a 4-year project (started in 2024) funded by the National Lottery Community Fund Climate Action fund. This is a place-based partnership that seeks to minimise food's impact on our climate through the creation of a new norm – a 'food use' mindset.

The partnership works across Brighton & Hove, Newhaven and Worthing and brings together 18 community organisations. Through a powerful combination of circular economy thinking and asset-based community development, we're turning everyday actions like sharing surplus food or composting leftovers into tools for climate action and social connection. We engage communities that are often left out of climate action and help people learn new skills and take simple steps to waste less and reuse more. **Find out more: <https://bhfood.org.uk/project/food-use-places/>**

A distinctive aspect of our approach is the way we are working with **Community Venues as trusted intermediaries**. Understanding the impact of this approach is of interest to the National Lottery Community Fund and to other places considering replication.

The community venue strand currently involves 10 venues including community centres, youth / older person's centres, food projects and other community-led spaces. Our community venue partners are:

- Building on their existing trusted relationships to engage audiences who haven't traditionally been engaged in climate action
- Taking a structured approach to reducing their own food and packaging waste*
- Working together because we believe that collectively we are greater than the sum of our parts

*Participating projects use the [Food Use Confidence Dial](#) as a tool to benchmark, create action plans and track progress.

The brief

We are looking for someone with experience of designing and undertaking research with community organisations to provide us with an independent review of the progress / impact of the community venue element of the Food Use Places project.

Key evaluation questions:

1. To what extent has working through the trusted community venues engaged people who would not normally participate in climate action activities?
2. What lasting changes have participating venues made to their practices, policies or culture around food and packaging waste?
3. What factors have enabled or hindered change?
4. What value (ripple effects or unexpected outcomes) has been created through the place-based partnership approach?
5. What lessons should inform the final 18 months of delivery and future replication elsewhere?

We anticipate that this process will include

- A review of relevant data collected from partners as part of project monitoring
- Interviews (either online or in person) with 6-8 project partners re impact of involvement. We only expect one interview per partner but it may be with more than one person.
- Interviews with 2-3 stakeholders
- Interviews with BHFP staff

We have outlined our minimum requirements but welcome suggestions for additional methods that would strengthen the evaluation within the available budget. The evaluator will be expected to comply with GDPR requirements and follow appropriate ethical practice when undertaking interviews.

Output: An easy-to-read report summarising the findings from the interviews / quantitative data provided. Examples and case studies are welcome. This will be shared with the National Lottery Community Fund and used to disseminate learning about the approach with other places in the UK. We are also interested in any recommendations emerging for changes to the programme that could be implemented in the last 18 months of the funding. We would welcome a short online presentation of findings to BHFP staff and key partners. BHFP will retain ownership of the final report and may use findings, quotations and recommendations in reporting to funders and in dissemination activities (with appropriate attribution).

Support from BHFP: You will have a key contact at BHFP to liaise with who can meet with you at key points in the process. We will introduce you to the partners/stakeholders and support/encourage them to participate. Partner projects are financially recompensed for their time taking part in the evaluation. We will provide you with the monitoring data in a format that suits you.

Budget: £4,200 (including any VAT) to design and undertake the evaluation and produce the report/recommendations.

Timeframes: There is some flexibility but ideally the report will be completed by mid-October 2026.

To express interest: Please send a CV alongside a short proposal outlining your approach including timeframes and budget breakdown. Please include links and attachments to examples of previous similar work. If you have any questions please contact Meli Stanley, Project Manager. Expressions of interest should be sent to meli@bhood.org.uk **Deadline for responses: 10am Monday 13th July**

We will assess proposals against: Relevant experience of evaluating community and/or place based programmes. Proposed methodology and value for money. We may undertake a brief interview / clarification process with shortlisted applicants during the week of **20th July 2026** and will appoint by Friday 24th July.