



# **Understanding Food Poverty Workshop**

**The Social Audit Network's Annual Gathering,  
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# Background

- 'Transitioning from Food Banks to Supermarkets: A Vulnerable Individual's Perspective'
- Aim
  - ✓ To gain a more nuanced understanding of the temporal experience of austerity and food access exclusion
  - ✓ To examine how vulnerable individuals navigate this period of liminality (Kimball, 1960)
- Context
  - ✓ UK food support practitioners and clients in Birmingham and Salford, two of the most deprived local authority areas in the UK (EID, 2015)
  - ✓ Today the focus is on practitioners' perspectives

# Characteristics of Support Provided

- Nature of food providers for vulnerable individuals
- Nature of food access services
- How food is obtained
- Who is using such food services
- How people are accessing supported food provision

# Transitioning from Food Support to the Marketplace?

- For providers, what helps is clear
  - ✓ Focus on solving benefit delays and jobs
- Mixed views on whether additional supporting services can really help
- Grassroots support and community building are essential
  - ✓ And so are volunteers and their social capital

# Key Messages from Our Participants so Far

- Politicians need to experience the frontline
- A variety of food access formats are needed
- Independent food banks need more support
- Supermarkets give a license to beg...
- Let's debunk myths
- Love, acceptance and hope

# Thank you!

## Any Questions?

- Wordpress: [wordpress.com/view/fromfoodbankstosupermarkets.wordpress.com](http://wordpress.com/view/fromfoodbankstosupermarkets.wordpress.com)
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