

A **People's Food Policy** was a process that resulted in the publication of a 100-page report that calls for food policy and practice that puts the wellbeing of people and environment first, develops integrated food policy, and creates participatory decision-making approaches that empower those most affected by these policies.



A People's Food Policy is based on the six principles of food sovereignty



Description of the Process

- Stewarded by 8 individuals from food sovereignty organisations in England.
- From January 2016 to June 2017, involved dialogue, workshops and debates amongst civil society organisations and groups.
- Built on longer processes and work in communities and social movements.
- Based on a budget of approximately £25,000.
- Endorsed by over 100 organisations.
- Part of an active and on-going process of mobilisation.

Reflections: What was it all for?

The PFP process built on a decade of organising in social movements for food sovereignty in the UK. Both as a process and as a product, it contributes to advancing food sovereignty.



The document:

- Articulates for the first time in detail the meaning and practice of food sovereignty in the UK
- Provides concrete recommendations for policy based on food sovereignty
- Creates a framework and reference points for action

Reflections: Challenges

- When seeking endorsement and participation, some individuals and organisations whom we viewed as allies, were sometimes reticent to be involved.
- **Terminology and politics:** Some reject or avoid using food sovereignty, generally choosing less political terminology (e.g. food security).
- **Territory:** Some organisations were coordinating their own policy processes where they had more control.
- While participatory processes are often imperfect they are fundamental for a democratic society and for the realisation of food sovereignty.
- Participation is time and resources intensive. This initiative accomplished a great deal with very little funding. We need public investment to expand effective participation and to deepen democracy.

The process

- Through a participatory process, demonstrated food sovereignty in practice and that policy-processes can and must be done differently.
- Strengthened food sovereignty networks by bringing together sometimes disparate groups working on food sovereignty around a common purpose
- Responds to a political crisis-opportunity (Brexit).



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