

Food Poverty

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**Public Health
Northamptonshire**



**Northamptonshire
Health & Wellbeing Board**



**Northamptonshire
County Council**

Overview

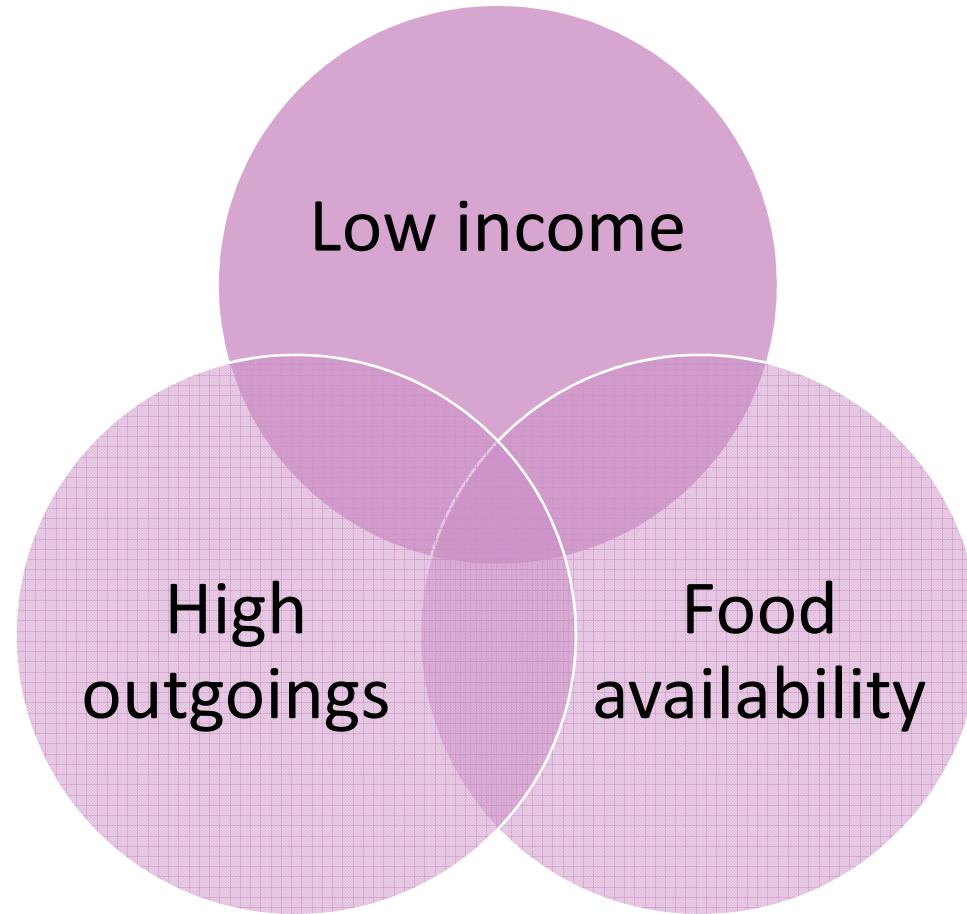
- What is Food Poverty?
- Why is Food Poverty Important?
- How can we measure Food Poverty?
- How is Northampton affected?
- What can be done to address food poverty in Northampton?

What is Food Poverty?

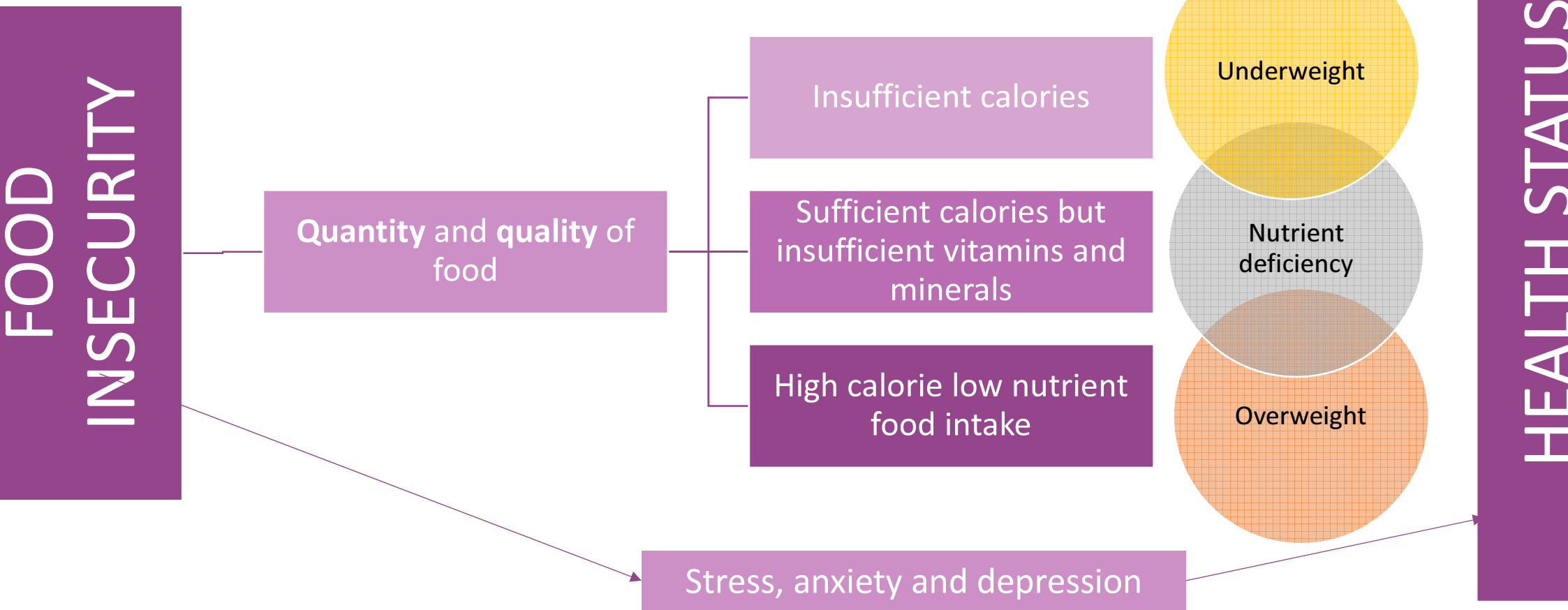
“the inability to afford, or to have access to, food to make up a healthy diet”.

Department of Health, Choosing a Better Diet: a food and health action plan, 2005

What are the drivers of Food Poverty?



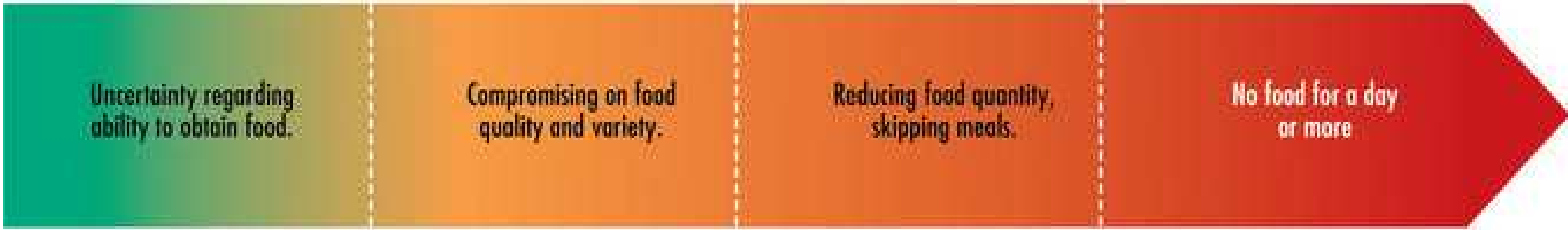
Why is Food Poverty important?



Adapted from Source: [The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World](#), Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, 2018

How can we measure Food Poverty?

Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)



FOOD SECURITY TO MILD FOOD INSECURITY

MODERATE FOOD INSECURITY

SEVERE FOOD INSECURITY



- This person has:
- insufficient money or resources for a healthy diet;
 - uncertainty about the ability to obtain food;
 - probably skipped meals or run out of food occasionally.



- This person has:
- run out of food;
 - gone an entire day without eating at times during the year.

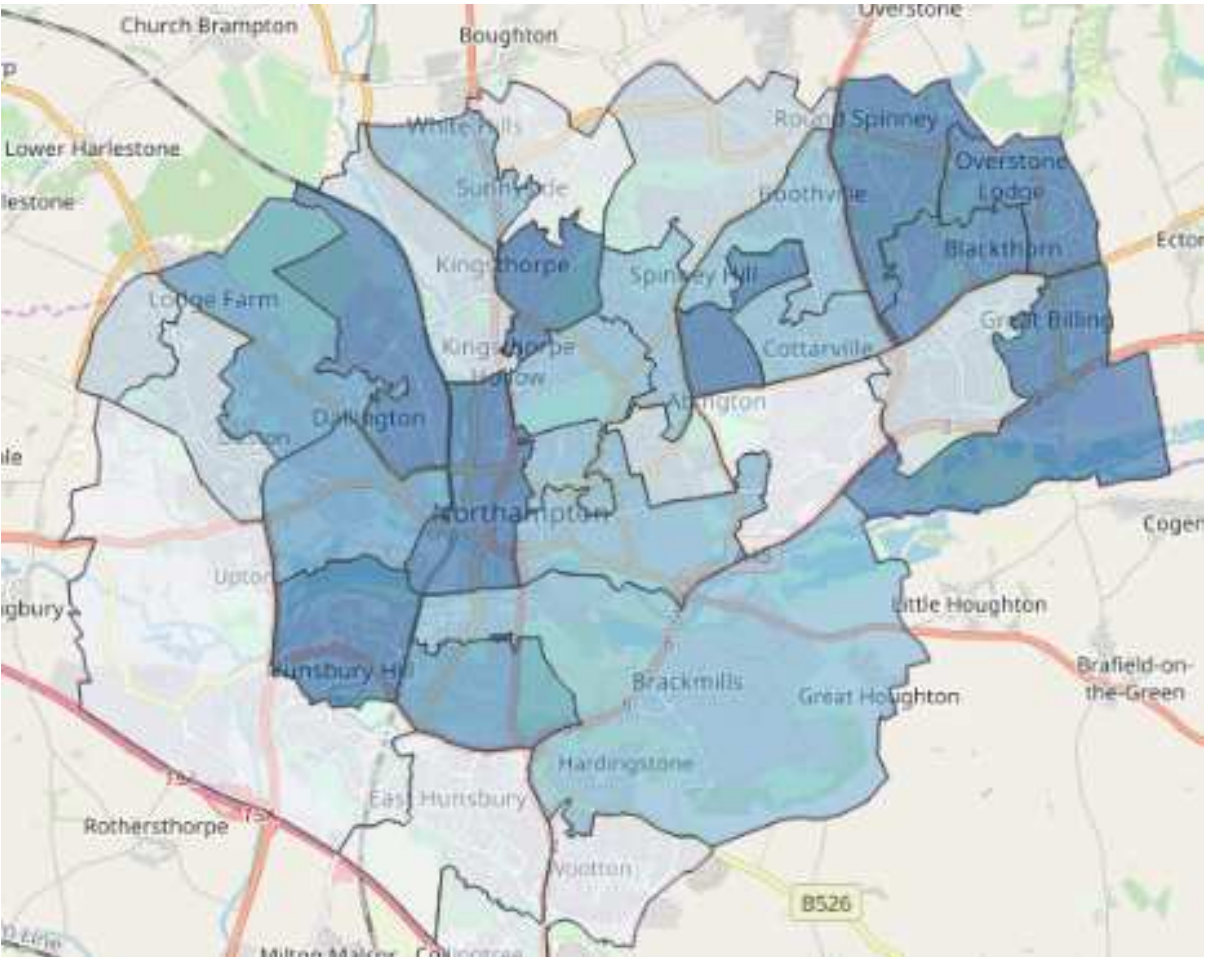


How is Northampton Borough affected?

- In 2015 the total number of people affected by income deprivation in Northampton was 27,279 (of whom 7,806 were children and 6,193 older people).
- Approximately 4,000 children in the borough are eligible for Free School Meals*
- Based on national surveys 9,000 households in the borough may be affected by some degree of food insecurity

*note that universal infant free school meals not included

How is Northampton Borough affected?



What can we do to address Food Poverty?

- Collaborative/**partnership approach**
- Tackling the **underlying causes** of food poverty including increasing incomes by improving access to training, good quality jobs and access to benefits etc.
- Improving **access to existing support** for those at risk of food poverty
This includes improving uptake of free school meals, healthy start vouchers.
- Working at **local community** level on initiatives around food growing, cooking skills etc.

Summary

1. Measuring food poverty is challenging but government are collecting data from April 2019.
2. Health impacts of food insecurity are broad and complex.
3. Causes of factors contributing to food insecurity/food poverty are multiple and complex.
4. Work to address this, therefore needs to be multi-level, multi-agency; a whole system approach.
5. National organisations can support and provide useful guidance.