

Annual Report & Financial Statements for the Year Ended October 31st 2024.

www.exeterfoodbank.co.uk

Restoring dignity, reviving hope

1



Throughout our report these green boxes are used to share the voices of clients of Exeter Foodbank who have shared their experience with us.

10,538
**Food
parcels
given out**

3,588
**Food parcels
given out to
local children**

98,800
**kilograms of
food donated**

168
volunteers

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"Reading the messages in this book opens up a whole new understanding of the journeys people are on and the gratitude they share for the support offered by the foodbank.

I was recently diagnosed with cancer. A billion words have been written about cancer but despite that, nothing prepares you for how much it affects your life. I am unable to continue my business and benefits go only so far. Like many, I was initially apprehensive of coming here; the shame, the stigma, ridicule, the judgement of others.

I could not have been proved more wrong any more than I was. Such care and kindness and the empathy.

My cancer journey is so much easier with such kind people providing such an invaluable service. Thank you, x"

(Entry in our Visitor's Book - Oct 4th 2024)

The aim of Exeter Foodbank is
"to ensure that nobody in our city goes to bed hungry"

The motto of Exeter Foodbank is
"restoring dignity, reviving hope"

The dream of Exeter Foodbank is
"to see a United Kingdom without the need for foodbanks"



1) Exeter Foodbank - letter from our Trustees

The first Trussell Foodbank opened in UK in 2000. It was very simple project, opened at the home of a couple called Carol and Paddy Henderson. They received a call from a mother in their hometown of Salisbury and decided to do something to help this lady - and then for other people who were struggling to afford food.

It must have seemed unthinkable that by 2024 not only would there still be a need for any foodbanks, but that the Trussell network of foodbanks should have increased to almost 1700 venues across the country.

Like many foodbanks, Exeter Foodbank opened in response to the financial crisis of 2008. The charity has genuinely hoped to not be needed for as long as it has existed. It was established to serve people while it was essential but the hope was that this would be short term. Sadly, 16 years later we have moved from our home in a local church and have felt the need to rent a venue of our own as the work is busier and more complicated than ever.

To wish that there was no need for a foodbank does not fail to recognise all of the good about such an organisation. Foodbanks across the country bring together a vast group of people who believe in a different way and a better world. It brings together staff and volunteer teams who desire to do good in their local community, to share their time and resources and to make a positive impact. When we see all of these people working together it is humbling and inspiring. In Exeter, while we wish that people did not need to depend on donated food, we see the very best of human nature working together to support friends and neighbours in their most vulnerable moments. That is why we have worked so hard with Trussell to ensure that our new venue can be as accessible and can offer as much support to as many people as is possible. And we are delighted to see this support making a difference.

At this time Exeter Foodbank is part of a national project called 'Pathfinder' which is run by Trussell. A small number of foodbanks across the country are working with Trussell to see how they can best support households who are in need. This learning and experience will then be shared with the wider foodbank network so that each foodbank can be inspired and learn ways to combat local food poverty. Sadly, Pathfinder has come at a time of economic challenges for so many charities, councils and agencies. However, in the middle of all of this - we have still seen a positive difference as people across the city have worked together to support their clients in creative and collaborative ways. We have always known that foodbanks are not the only people trying to make a difference. The last couple of years have really underlined how agencies and charities can all do so much more if we work together.

Our Community Hub, staffing structure, partnership with Citizens Advice Exeter and our Financial Inclusion Project has been the first part of our Pathfinding journey. We have been very pleased to see how this has developed in our new venue, how the learnings have impacted the charity and how it has helped people to need foodbank support less often. We have already passed a lot of our experience on to other foodbanks in the region and have been able to offer support and knowledge to them.

Our story this year is not one of building a larger charity. It is one of building collaboration to ensure that we are working with other groups, charities, churches and organisations to make as much difference as we all can. Every person who no longer needs us is a 'win'. We know that there is more to do, but our Pathfinder journey so far has set us on a positive course and has seen a real impact made.

When a person comes in to Exeter Foodbank, if they choose to work with us and our partners, we will generally be working with an agency in the city that will be able to help them tackle some of the root causes of their time of crisis. For us, the collaborative path has been the better path.

As a trustee board, we have been very pleased to see the early impact made by Pathfinder. We have put in place all of the governance and structures to help our staff and volunteers to make as much positive difference in the city as they can. We are grateful to Trussell for their support and passion - and to the people of Exeter who continue to support us and affirm this work.

Thank you.

2) STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

2.1 Governing Document

Exeter Foodbank was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee on 8 June 2008. It registered as a charity with the Charities Commission on 25th March 2009 under charity number 1128795.

2.2 Organisational Structure

Trustees: Exeter Foodbank is directed by a board of trustees drawn from local churches, who also serve as directors for the purpose of company law. Trustees are appointed at the charity's Annual General Meeting. The board takes responsibility for all policy decisions and the charity's finances. The minutes of board meetings constitute the formal record of proceedings and decisions taken and approved by the trustees.

Financial Oversight: The treasurer of the charity is also a trustee and reports regularly to the trustees as to the charity's ongoing financial status. A trained volunteer carries out much of the day-to-day financial management of the food bank, under the close supervision of the treasurer and a second designated trustee.

Employees: The Foodbank employs six part-time staff; a Strategic Director, an Operations Manager, an Administrator, an Advice Worker, a Store Manager and a Logistics Worker who undertake the day-to-day running of the charity.

Staff Team: The trustees have delegated the day-to-day running of the charity and operational decisions to the Staff Team. Staff Team meetings take place monthly (generally with a trustee also present); minutes are kept as a formal record of proceedings.

Volunteers: The Foodbank benefits from the service of almost 170 volunteers, who are recruited from all sections of the local community. Voluntary team leaders oversee specific areas of operation.

Related Organisations: Exeter Foodbank is affiliated to Trussell, a charity based in Salisbury, which is registered in England and Wales under charity number 1110522.

2.3 Risk Management

Risk Register & Policies: The trustees give consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed via a risk register when updating its annual plan. These include internal and external risks that, if occurring, would be likely to affect finance and resources and other aspects of the work of the charity. The trustees are satisfied that procedures and systems are in place to monitor and control these risks and to mitigate any impact that they may have on the charity and in its future operations.

Exeter Foodbank has an appropriate manual for staff, volunteers and clients of the charity which is reviewed annually. This includes policies covering Data Protection, Equal Opportunities, Health & Safety, Safeguarding (Vulnerable Adult and Child Protection) and Complaints.

Financial Procedures: The trustees have ensured that comprehensive insurance cover is in place to cover risks. A Financial Procedures Policy has been implemented, and finances are kept under regular review. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out below and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, and in accordance with applicable accounting standards, and with the requirements of the Revised Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in 2005, and with the Companies Act.

GDPR: Exeter Foodbank takes Data Protection very seriously. We ensure that all of our online and office practice is in line with the General Data Protection Regulations which were implemented in May 2018. We review all of these policies annually and update them with guidance from Trussell.

Quality Assurance: Trussell carries out reviews of Exeter Food Bank, including in areas of statutory compliance, working practices, volunteer roles, public relations and communications, fundraising, safeguarding and sustainability

"I seriously do not know what I would have done without these guys. I'm so heart warmed at the gratitude these people hold, the lengths they go to make you feel welcome and the coffee is great too. Many thanks."



Above: The Exeter Foodbank Store - based in Kennford.

Below: The Cranbrook Food Hub. This is based at Cranbrook Education Campus and opens on Thursday evenings. It is run by a team of wonderful, local volunteers.

"My partner and I both work yet still struggle to make ends meet most months. It's incredibly disheartening when we work so hard, just about cover the bills but are left with nothing to fill the cupboards. The foodbank has meant that we can continue to eat when our cupboards are bare. Always welcomed with a kind smile and instantly made to feel at ease at an emotionally difficult time. We will always be so grateful for all of the staff at the foodbank and everything they do. Thank you so much."



3) OBJECTIVES, AIMS & ACTIVITIES

3.1 Charitable Objectives

The objective of the charity, as set out in the charity's governing trust deed, is to relieve persons in the United Kingdom and elsewhere in the world who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress in such ways as the trustees from time-to-time think fit.

3.2 Aims

Emergency Food Provision: Exeter Foodbank seeks to alleviate food poverty in and around Exeter by providing short term, emergency food for families or individuals in crisis via a voucher referral scheme. Beneficiaries come from a broad cross-section of the local community; they include families, young people, and both the unemployed and those in work. Anyone can be referred to Exeter Foodbank, regardless of background, belief, race or creed.

Contextual Support: Through Advice Work, close partnership working and effective sign-posting, the Foodbank aims to relieve the immediate physical and psychological pressures caused by food poverty, whilst ensuring that more long-term support is put in place.

Raising Awareness of Food Poverty: Additionally, Exeter Foodbank aims to raise awareness of the complex issues that surround food poverty and to contribute to research into its causes. In doing so, we aim to improve public understanding of the causes of food poverty, engender greater community cohesion and contribute constructively to public debate.

Collectively, these measures aim both to meet immediate local need and to address the wider causes of food poverty, in order to promote long term change.

3.3 Public Benefit

Each year, our trustees review our activities and strategies to ensure that we are effective in reaching those most in need of assistance in the local area, and in meeting our longer term aims. In carrying out this review, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular its supplementary public guidance on the Prevention of Relief of Poverty for the Public Benefit.

3.4 How the Foodbank Works

- Non-perishable food is donated by members of the public from a prescribed list
- Food is transported to our warehouse, where it is sorted by date and by type.
- Clients in crisis are assessed by one of our authorised referral agencies and are issued with a foodbank voucher.
- Clients bring their voucher to one of our food distribution sessions where it is exchanged for nutritionally-balanced food
- Clients are encouraged to access further sign-posting and support services, as required.

3.5 Objectives for the Year

Our objectives for this year are a continuation of work that we have already begun. They are based upon the objectives that we have agreed Trussell as part of The Pathfinder Project. This project is aimed at helping to reduce the need for clients for come to foodbanks by offering alternative resources. These objectives will continue until the end of the Pathfinder Project in 2025:

- a) Develop Participation
- b) Develop Referral Pathways
- c) Develop our Financial Inclusion Project
- d) Develop volunteer skills and experience
- e) Develop our Operations

3.6 Strategies for Achieving the Objectives

a) Participation

We have increased the input of clients with a lived-experience of food poverty. We are doing this with a variety of methods including surveys, interviews and dialogue with referrers. Ultimately, we hope to bring together a group of people with lived experience so that they can share their stories and utilise their experience to help the foodbank adapt to the needs of its users. We hope that this will enhance both the experience of visiting a foodbank and also the support that is available.

b) Referral Pathways

We are working most closely with our largest referral partners across the city to not only understand who is coming to us and why, but also to see how we can create collaborative systems across the city to offer the very best support to clients who are in need – and offer this help at the earliest opportunity

c) Financial Inclusion

We have developed collaborative, multi-agency work within our Community Hub. We are now able to offer clients far greater support in areas like Benefits advice, debt advice and employment skills. We will continue to work with agencies who can offer support with general cost of living and cost of utilities.

We have entered into a partnership with Citizens Advice, Exeter and currently pay for an advisor to be present at sessions three days each week. This advisor is a specialist in benefits advice and debt. However, at this time most of their work is done on benefit claims and appeals.

d) Volunteer skills and experience

Throughout the Pathfinder Project, we aim to continue to develop our volunteers by offering training (in areas like valuable conversations, de-escalation, conversations with vulnerable clients and in areas of signposting). We hope that by being part of Exeter Foodbank that our volunteers are learning new skills, are able to participate in their community more deeply and build friendships. Our aim is that volunteering for us is a fulfilling experience which also bringing positive change to our community.

Our *Exeter Foodbank Volunteer Forum* is comprised of a volunteer Representative from each team at foodbank and enables all volunteers to be able to feed back ideas, comments etc so that their voices can be heard as we continue develop the charity.

e) Operations

The significant change that we have seen this year has been opening our new venue in Cowick Street. It had become necessary if we were to work collaboratively, have an accessible service and offer the wraparound support to help clients out of poverty. After much work, we opened our new venue on May 1st 2024 and we did not miss a single session in doing so.

During the previous year we had expanded our staff team so we have the capacity to run our store, our venue, our office and our financial inclusion & advice work. During this reporting period we have seen all of this work beginning to bear fruit. While we have the capacity to collect food from almost 20 local supermarkets and distribute over 100 tonnes of food in a year, we can also offer advice work and build collaborative working relationships with agencies, charities, schools, churches and community groups across the city.

The battle against poverty is multi-faceted and far from simple. However, our experience this year of developing our operations across three venues with over 150 active referrers has seen people released from poverty and freed from needing to access donated food. There is much work still to do. However, the strategies and direction that we have taken is beginning to see an impact.



"Thank you everybody for your help, support and kindness. You made me feel like a human being again."

Left: Emma at the Beacon Distribution Centre.

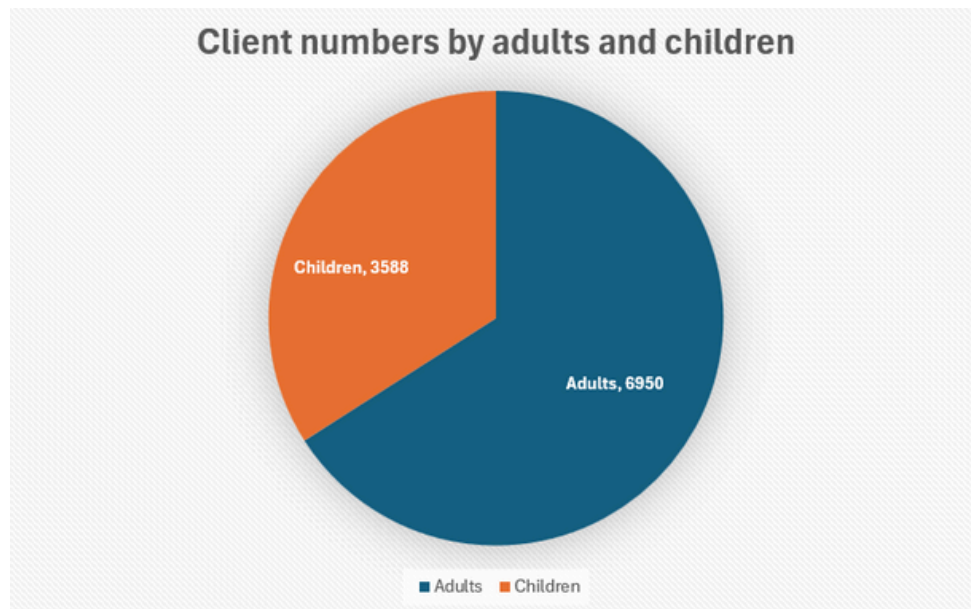
Emma spent a week on Work Experience at Exeter Foodbank. During this time she participated in many aspects of the life of foodbank including collections, sorting, distribution - and she even wrote an article for our website to explain what she had learned about the charity: <https://exeterfoodbank.co.uk/2024/07/22/my-work-experience-at-exeter-foodbank/>

"I have fallen on hard times – loss of job, marriage and house. Former addict but luckily not using anymore. Ex forces and being supported by various charities and organisations. Looking forward to the future while building myself back up. Just wanted to say a big thank you to all the staff here at the foodbank. I wish you all well."

"Thank you to the very beautiful good people here. A long story short, I have been working in healthcare for 4+ years and it has been a rollercoaster of being absolutely fine or on the other hand having terrible seizures. This is by far the worst my health has become. Inflation hits harder and if not for the help received here I would be in a very bad position."

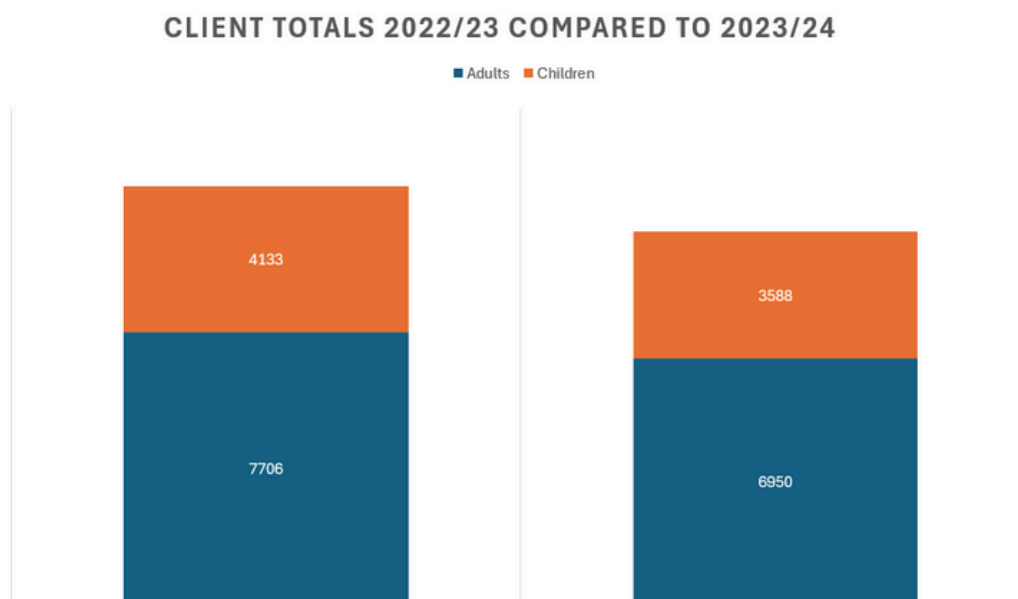
4) Statistics

All of our data is recorded on the Trussell Data System. We can see how many referrals are made, how many people live in those households, the reason for referral, the number of first time or frequent foodbank users there are etc. All of this data gives us real insight into the situation in the city.



Our records show that food was given to 10,538 clients during the year. Of this number, 3,588 were given to local children. While this is a large number of food parcels, there were encouraging signs too. The total number had reduced from 11,778 the previous year. This is a reduction of approximately 10%.

While we are still in a cost-of-living crisis we may have expected client numbers to increase. However, much emphasis has been placed on Financial Inclusion work at Exeter Foodbank. By helping households with Benefit issues, Debt, Utility Tariffs and Budgeting etc, we have seen clients needing to access donated food less regularly. This affirms the approach that we have taken and underlines the importance of solid advice work.



Additional Data

The number of referrals to Exeter Foodbank this year was also reduced as fewer clients needed less donated food. Whereas we received **5697** referrals in 2022/23, this number reduced to **5,201** in the latest period. Our hope has always been that if we could offer appropriate levels of Financial Inclusion support, that clients who engage with us would need less food support. All of our data seems to indicate that this is happening.

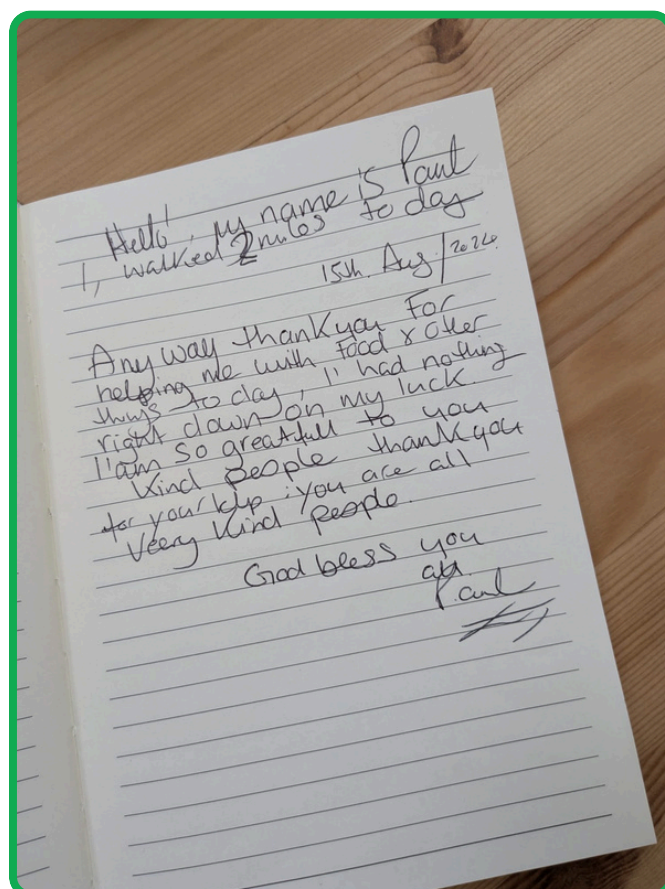
The frequency of visits per household to Exeter Foodbank also decreased. On average we saw each client **2.47** times this year and this had reduced from **2.68** the previous reporting period. These are small steps for a project that is still developing - but we are very encouraged to see it moving in a positive direction.

One troubling statistic that we have seen this year is that clients of 'no fixed address' have increased from **275** to **360** 'households'. This is a significant increase of over 30%. While it may seem like a small number, this means that 360 individuals or families who have come to Exeter Foodbank are either homeless, sofa-surfing, in temporary accommodation or in short-term emergency housing. It underlines the housing crisis that we are currently facing; affordable and secure housing remains one of the key drivers in situations of poverty. The increase in this number is of great concern.

In a meeting of our major referrers in February 2023 we asked the question: 'What would it take to reduce the need for foodbanks in the city?'. The first answer that we heard from every referrer was 'affordable housing'.

The final piece of data in this report is that in this period we saw **953** households who needed to access support from Exeter Foodbank for the very first time. Basically, this means that for every single week of the year we saw 18 families who needed to rely on donated food and had to call a foodbank for help having never needed to do that before. That is a shocking state of affairs for a city like Exeter.

"An incredibly stressful and unsafe job broke me and I left. I was very worried about having no income but my situation was certainly helped by the Foodbank and the community support info packet they gave me. Just feeling supported has helped a lot! Thank you!"



Right: a page from our Guestbook in our Distribution Centre in Cowick Street

5. Main Activities & Achievements in 2023/24

The focus of much of our effort during this year was moving to our new venue in Cowick Street while trying to ensure that the service to the clients was uninterrupted. The Mint Methodist Church had been our 'home' for approximately 15 years. Exeter Foodbank had a very good relationship with the church and felt very supported by their team. Moving to a new venue did bring many challenges and required changing all of our existing systems. However, the benefits to the clients outweighed the complications and costs of the move.

The new venue has allowed us to offer a more holistic service for our clients. We now have all of this in an accessible space which does not involve them needing to find their way around a very large building.

We were fortunate to receive two substantial grants to carry out the necessary renovations to the building. This meant that the donations that the public had given towards the general running of the charity were not impacted. Having been handed the keys early in 2024, we opened at Cowick Street on May 1st thanks to the efforts of many people, especially the team at UK Property Service.

Our partnership with Citizens Advice Exeter had been one of our main drivers for the move. The new venue allowed not only a space for hospitality and welcome for clients, but also private meeting rooms for advisors to work with clients to discuss issues like Benefit problems or debt. In the first six months in our new home, our own Advice Worker and our CA Advisor worked at length with approximately 100 households. Many of these families will not need to access foodbank again as they have received the correct support to help them to move on from situations of crisis.

For other clients, the opportunity of having a cup of coffee and a chat cannot be overlooked. Many people are in situations of serious social isolation and this becomes one of the drivers leading to poverty. Our amazing volunteers offer such a welcome that this becomes a very important part of our work and offers hope and support to very vulnerable people. While raw data and statistics show that our move has been worthwhile, it is often some of this 'soft' data that makes the biggest difference to people.



Left: Some of our staff, volunteers and team from Citizens Advice Exeter get ready for our first morning at Cowick Street, Exeter.

3) Other news

- We received amazing support from the local community as a total of 98.8 tonnes of food was donated. This has seen a significant decrease of over 20% from the previous year as the cost of living impacts both our clients and our donors. Fortunately, there has been enough to go around and our shelves have always had food to offer.
- Our [#efbchristmasinabag](#) project saw over 250 donations arrive. We had enough for every client to receive seasonal treats.
- At Christmas we were able to give each household vouchers so that they could buy meat for their Christmas Dinners.
- We were able to contribute more than 380 Christmas Hampers to Care-experienced young people. We worked in tandem with Devon County Council (DCC) on this project and this relationship continues to develop our relationship with some of the staff involved to ensure that we can offer help to young people in situations of need.
- Related to the hampers project, we were able to resource and fund Christmas Dinners across the county in partnership with the Participation Team at DCC. Approximately 125 young people were able to attend.
- We were able to offer Work Experience and Duke of Edinburgh placements to young people who wanted to find out about our charity and support their local community.
- We held two CAP (Christians Against Poverty) Money Courses. These are designed to help households deal with issue like debt and budgeting.
- We began trialling an evening session in Cowick Street as many foodbank clients are from working households and we are currently assessing whether it is more accessible for them to come out of traditional working hours.
- Following on from some art, craft and basic woodwork sessions at our old venue, we held a 'Sewing Bank' with a local group called 'Our Exeter CIC'. While we primarily work on food poverty we have become increasingly concerned at how many of our clients are also in 'social poverty' and we are looking at ways of helping them to make friends or find social connections.
- Upon moving to our new venue we hosted a 'Meet the Neighbours' event so that people from the local community could come in to meet the team and ask any questions that they may have. We followed up this successful event with a coffee morning for local city councillors. This was also a very positive meeting.
- Finally, we have been asked by Trussell to be involved in their winter fundraising appeal this coming year. This is very affirming as it recognises the holistic nature of the work taking place at Exeter Foodbank. Trussell wish to use this nationally as an example of how a foodbank can support people to work through their times of emergency and crisis if they have the correct help and support.

7) Financial

Review (See separate report)

Financial statements

Principal Funding Sources

Reserves Policy

Trustees' Responsibilities in Respect of the Accounts

The Trustees are required to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Trust and of its financial activities for that period. In preparing those accounts, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Trust will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 1993 and the Charities Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Chair of Trustees

Date: October 31st 2023



Left: our Strategic Director, Mark, leading a Harvest Assembly at a local Primary School.

Company registration number: 06718767

Charity registration number: 1128795

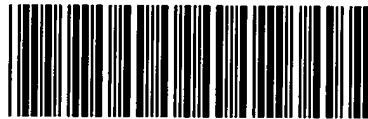
Exeter Food Bank

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

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04/07/2025

#36

COMPANIES HOUSE

Stapletons
Chartered Certified Accountants
4 Market Street
Crediton
Devon
EX17 2AJ

Exeter Food Bank

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Exeter Food Bank

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	Mr G W Hunt
	Mr S Davis
	Mr R Judd
	Ms R Fowler
	Mr I A M Robertson
	Mr G Flint
	Ms S Hornblower
Secretary	Mr R Judd
Charity Registration Number	1128795
Company Registration Number	06718767
	The charity is incorporated in England and Wales.
Registered Office	174 - 175 Cowick Street Exeter Devon EX4 1AA
Principal Office	174 - 175 Cowick Street Exeter Devon EX4 1AA
Independent Examiner	Stapletons Chartered Certified Accountants 4 Market Street Crediton Devon EX17 2AJ

Exeter Food Bank

Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 October 2024.

Objectives and activities

Public benefit

Exeter Food Bank provides short term food supplies to local people in crisis referred to us by a number of agencies and charities.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Structure, governance and management

Financial instruments

Objectives and policies

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

Credit risk

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments. The charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows.

The credit risk on liquid funds and derivative financial instruments is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies.

The charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 12 June 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Mr G W Hunt
Trustee

Exeter Food Bank

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Exeter Food Bank for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

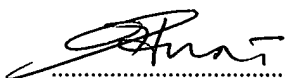
Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 12 June 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr G W Hunt
Trustee

Exeter Food Bank

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Exeter Food Bank ('the Company')

We report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 October 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied ourselves that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, we report in respect of our examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out our examination we have followed the directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

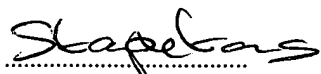
Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. . We confirm that we are qualified to undertake the examination because we are a member of Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

We have completed my examination. We confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Exeter Food Bank as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

We have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Stapletons
Chartered Certified Accountants

4 Market Street
Credition
Devon
EX17 2AJ

12 June 2025

Exeter Food Bank

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 October 2024 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	147,836	199,618	347,454
Charitable activities	4	421	-	421
Other trading activities	5	14,051	-	14,051
Investment income	6	3,889	-	3,889
Total income		166,197	199,618	365,815
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	7	(48,777)	(375)	(49,152)
Charitable activities	8	(178,260)	(38,193)	(216,453)
Transfer between funds		127,630	(127,630)	-
Total expenditure		(99,407)	(166,198)	(265,605)
Net income		66,790	33,420	100,210
Net movement in funds		66,790	33,420	100,210
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		476,045	375	476,420
Total funds carried forward	19	542,835	33,795	576,630
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	209,975	850	210,825
Other trading activities	5	11,082	-	11,082
Investment income	6	2,519	-	2,519
Total income		223,576	850	224,426
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	7	(44,515)	(5,731)	(50,246)
Charitable activities	8	(137,366)	-	(137,366)
Total expenditure		(181,881)	(5,731)	(187,612)
Net income/(expenditure)		41,695	(4,881)	36,814
Net movement in funds		41,695	(4,881)	36,814
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		434,350	5,256	439,606
Total funds carried forward	19	476,045	375	476,420

The notes on pages 8 to 19 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Exeter Food Bank

**Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 October 2024
(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains
and Losses)**

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The notes on pages 8 to 19 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Exeter Food Bank

(Registration number: 06718767)
Balance Sheet as at 31 October 2024

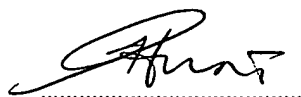
	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	15	114,867	5,356
Current assets			
Debtors	16	43,097	33,965
Cash at bank and in hand	17	419,828	437,882
		462,925	471,847
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	18	(1,162)	(783)
Net current assets		461,763	471,064
Net assets		576,630	476,420
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds	19	33,795	375
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		542,835	476,045
Total funds	19	576,630	476,420

For the financial year ending 31 October 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements on pages 5 to 19 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 12 June 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Mr G W Hunt
Trustee

The notes on pages 8 to 19 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Exeter Food Bank

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

174 - 175 Cowick Street

Exeter

Devon

EX4 1AA

The principal place of business is:

174 - 175 Cowick Street

Exeter

Devon

EX4 1AA

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the trustees on 12 June 2025.

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Exeter Food Bank meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Exeter Food Bank

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

Income and endowments

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Investment income

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £250.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Exeter Food Bank

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Motor vehicles	25% straight line basis
Plant and machinery	25% straight line basis
Leasehold improvements	10% straight line basis

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

Exeter Food Bank

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

Foreign exchange

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are reported at the rates of exchange prevailing at that date.

The results of overseas operations are translated at the average rates of exchange during the period and their balance sheets at the rates ruling at the balance sheet date. Exchange differences arising on translation of the opening net assets and results of overseas operations are reported in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity (attributed to non-controlling interests as appropriate).

Other exchange differences are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they arise except for:

- 1) exchange differences on transactions entered into to hedge certain foreign currency risks (see above);
- 2) exchange differences arising on gains or losses on non-monetary items which are recognised in other comprehensive income; and
- 3) in the case of the consolidated financial statements, exchange differences on monetary items receivable from or payable to a foreign operation for which settlement is neither planned nor likely to occur (therefore forming part of the net investment in the foreign operation), which are recognised in other comprehensive income and reported under equity.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Financial instruments

Classification

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

Exeter Food Bank

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

Recognition and measurement

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

Exeter Food Bank

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

Debt instruments

Debt instruments which meet the following conditions are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method:

(a) The contractual return to the holder is (i) a fixed amount; (ii) a positive fixed rate or a positive variable rate; or (iii) a combination of a positive or a negative fixed rate and a positive variable rate.

(b) The contract may provide for repayments of the principal or the return to the holder (but not both) to be linked to a single relevant observable index of general price inflation of the currency in which the debt instrument is denominated, provided such links are not leveraged.

(c) The contract may provide for a determinable variation of the return to the holder during the life of the instrument, provided that (i) the new rate satisfies condition (a) and the variation is not contingent on future events other than (1) a change of a contractual variable rate; (2) to protect the holder against credit deterioration of the issuer; (3) changes in levies applied by a central bank or arising from changes in relevant taxation or law; or (ii) the new rate is a market rate of interest and satisfies condition (a).

(d) There is no contractual provision that could, by its terms, result in the holder losing the principal amount or any interest attributable to the current period or prior periods.

(e) Contractual provisions that permit the issuer to prepay a debt instrument or permit the holder to put it back to the issuer before maturity are not contingent on future events, other than to protect the holder against the credit deterioration of the issuer or a change in control of the issuer, or to protect the holder or issuer against changes in levies applied by a central bank or arising from changes in relevant taxation or law.

(f) Contractual provisions may permit the extension of the term of the debt instrument, provided that the return to the holder and any other contractual provisions applicable during the extended term satisfy the conditions of paragraphs (a) to (c).

Debt instruments that are classified as payable or receivable within one year on initial recognition and which meet the above conditions are measured at the undiscounted amount of the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received, net of impairment.

With the exception of some hedging instruments, other debt instruments not meeting these conditions are measured at fair value through profit or loss.

Commitments to make and receive loans which meet the conditions mentioned above are measured at cost (which may be nil) less impairment.

Investments

Investments in non-convertible preference shares and non-puttable ordinary or preference shares (where shares are publicly traded or their fair value is reliably measurable) are measured at fair value through profit or loss. Where fair value cannot be measured reliably, investments are measured at cost less impairment.

Investments in subsidiaries and associates are measured at cost less impairment. For investments in subsidiaries acquired for consideration including the issue of shares qualifying for merger relief, cost is measured by reference to the nominal value of the shares issued plus fair value of other consideration. Any premium is ignored.

Exeter Food Bank

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

Derivative financial instruments

The charity uses derivative financial instruments to reduce exposure to foreign exchange risk and interest rate movements. The charity does not hold or issue derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

Derivatives are initially recognised at fair value at the date a derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently remeasured to their fair value at each reporting date. The resulting gain or loss is recognised in statement of financial activities immediately unless the derivative is designated and effective as a hedging instrument, in which event the timing of the recognition in statement of financial activities depends on the nature of the hedge relationship.

Fair value measurement

The best evidence of fair value is a quoted price for an identical asset in an active market. When quoted prices are unavailable, the price of a recent transaction for an identical asset provides evidence of fair value as long as there has not been a significant change in economic circumstances or a significant lapse of time since the transaction took place. If the market is not active and recent transactions of an identical asset on their own are not a good estimate of fair value, the fair value is estimated by using a valuation technique.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Donations and legacies;			
Donations from individuals	147,836	199,618	347,454
Total for 2024	147,836	199,618	347,454
Total for 2023	209,975	850	210,825

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
	421	421
Total for 2024	421	421

Exeter Food Bank

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Events income;		
Other events income	14,051	14,051
Total for 2024	14,051	14,051
Total for 2023	11,082	11,082

6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Interest receivable and similar income;		
Interest receivable on bank deposits	3,889	3,889
Total for 2024	3,889	3,889
Total for 2023	2,519	2,519

7 Expenditure on raising funds

Costs of trading activities

a)

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Note			
Costs of goods sold	48,777	375	49,152
Total for 2024	48,777	375	49,152
Total for 2023	44,515	5,731	50,246

Exeter Food Bank

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Governance costs	9	178,260	38,193	216,453	137,366
	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	
Governance costs	9	178,260	38,193	216,453	
Total for 2023		137,366	-	137,366	

9 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Staff costs			
Other staff costs	77,235	38,193	115,428
Audit fees			
Other fees paid to auditors	1,125	-	1,125
Legal fees	4,536	-	4,536
Depreciation, amortisation and other similar costs	18,119	-	18,119
Other governance costs	77,245	-	77,245
Transfer between funds	(127,630)	127,630	-
	50,630	165,823	216,453
	Unrestricted funds General £		Total 2023 £
Staff costs			
Other staff costs		77,298	77,298
Audit fees			
Other fees paid to auditors		1,098	1,098
Legal fees		5,236	5,236
Depreciation, amortisation and other similar costs		3,484	3,484
Other governance costs		50,250	50,250
		137,366	137,366

Exeter Food Bank

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

10 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming resources for the year include:

	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation of fixed assets	18,119	3,484

11 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

12 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Other staff costs	115,428	77,298

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2024 No	2023 No
Employee numbers	6	5

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

13 Auditors' remuneration

	2024 £	2023 £
Other fees to auditors		
The auditing of accounts of any associate of the charity	1,125	1,098

Exeter Food Bank

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

14 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

15 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Furniture and equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 November 2023	-	1,039	27,894	28,933
Additions	127,630	-	-	127,630
At 31 October 2024	127,630	1,039	27,894	156,563
Depreciation				
At 1 November 2023	-	780	22,797	23,577
Charge for the year	12,763	259	5,097	18,119
At 31 October 2024	12,763	1,039	27,894	41,696
Net book value				
At 31 October 2024	114,867	-	-	114,867
At 31 October 2023	-	259	5,097	5,356

Included within the net book value of land and buildings above is £Nil (2023 - £Nil) in respect of freehold land and buildings and £114,867 (2023 - £Nil) in respect of leaseholds.

16 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Prepayments	22,369	13,210
Other debtors	20,728	20,755
	43,097	33,965

17 Cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash at bank	248,240	267,298
Short-term deposits	171,588	170,584
	419,828	437,882

Exeter Food Bank

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other creditors	26	21
Accruals	1,136	762
	<u>1,162</u>	<u>783</u>

19 Funds

	Balance at 1 November 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 October 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
Unrestricted funds	476,045	166,197	(227,037)	127,630	542,835
Restricted funds					
Restricted funds	375	199,618	(38,568)	(127,630)	33,795
Total funds	<u>476,420</u>	<u>365,815</u>	<u>(265,605)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>576,630</u>
	Balance at 1 November 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £		Balance at 31 October 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
Unrestricted funds	434,350	223,576	(181,881)		476,045
Restricted					
Restricted funds	5,256	850	(5,731)		375
Total funds	<u>439,606</u>	<u>224,426</u>	<u>(187,612)</u>		<u>476,420</u>

20 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.