

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 06986325
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1136676

Black Country Foodbank Limited
Company Limited by Guarantee
Financial Statements
31 March 2025

Black Country Foodbank Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2025

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Black Country Foodbank Limited

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Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year ended 31 March 2025

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Black Country Foodbank Limited	
Charity registration number	1136676	
Company registration number	06986325	
Registered office	3B Swallowfield Courtyard Wolverhampton Road Oldbury West Midlands B69 2JG	
Principal office	18 Albion Street Brierley Hill, West Midlands DY5 3EE	
The trustees	Mr S Badhan Ms J Corns Mr J M Russell Ms P La Rue Mrs J Cox Mr L Massey Mr P Watson	(Resigned 22 November 2024) (Resigned 19 September 2024) (Appointed 12 March 2025) (Appointed 5 August 2025)
Auditor	BSN Associates Limited Chartered accountants & statutory auditor 3B Swallowfield Courtyard Wolverhampton Road Oldbury West Midlands B69 2JG	

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Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

Structure, Governance and Management

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee (registered in England and Wales). The organisation was incorporated on 10th August 2009 and became a registered charity under the Charities Act on 30th June 2010. The charity commenced its activities from the 1st July 2010 and this is its fifteenth year of operation.

The charity is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association as amended by special resolution on the 22nd March 2010.

The Board of Trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purpose of the Companies Act, have overall responsibility for the direction, management and control of the charity.

The Board shall comprise of no fewer than two members and there is no maximum number of members. At the end of the reporting period there were a total of six members, all of whom are unpaid.

The Board have the power to appoint a member at any time to fill a casual vacancy or as an addition to the existing members. Members are appointed according to their relevant skills, competencies and experience which is assessed by the existing board of members. Every year one third of the members holding office must retire, these members will be the ones who have held office the longest. The Board may fill the vacated office by electing an individual to office and in default the retiring member shall if offering themselves for re-election, be deemed to have been re-elected unless the Board resolve not to fill the vacated office. A member can retire at any point by resigning his office in writing.

All new members receive a full induction into the charities operations by existing members.

The liabilities of members is limited to their guarantee. In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

The Charity is managed on a day-to-day basis by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) who reports to the board of Trustees on a regular basis. Trustees' meetings are held on a quarterly basis.

Aims and Purpose

Black Country Foodbank exists to help vulnerable individuals and families in crisis, through the provision of emergency food supplies, and toiletries provision while a longer -term solution is developed. The services that we provide have an enormous impact on the people who use them, giving them breathing space at a time of great need.

Our three core values are:

- **Love People:** Responding to the needs of those in crisis,
- **Connect Communities:** Engaging organisations and building communities throughout the Black Country area,
- **Invest In Everyone:** Supporting and working with volunteers and staff

Our areas of operations cover the Black Country region: with twenty-eight (28) distribution centres (branches) across Dudley, Walsall and Sandwell boroughs. All distribution centres are supported from a central warehouse function based in Brierly Hill in the Dudley Borough.

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Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) (*continued*)

Year ended 31 March 2025

Objectives and activities

Black Country Foodbank is committed to delivering a responsive service involving the distribution of food, toiletries and household items to those who, following a needs assessment, have been referred to us by a diverse range of frontline agencies (voucher holders) due to being in crisis.

While the voucher-holding agency puts interventions in place to help the families and individuals in the longer term, we will not only feed but also to look to 'signpost' the service user to other sources of care and support on a personal, case-by-case basis.

The organisations roots are in the Christian faith however we are entirely committed to helping anyone who needs our support, young, old, single people and families from all backgrounds, religious beliefs (if any) and ethnic origin, without prejudice. We aim to treat everyone fairly and with dignity. Our policies are robust in ensuring that there is no place for any form of discrimination, be that with those we help, the broad spectrum of those we accept donations from and those we recruit as staff and/ or volunteers.

The Trustees have confidence that the organisations operating model provides reassurance to donors, prospective donors, agencies and the wider community that no abuse of the system is possible. Voucher holding agencies adhere to a robust system of needs assessment to ensure only those in genuine need are supported and are engaged with regularly and supported as necessary.

Achievement, performance and volunteers

Through 2024, Black Country Foodbank continue to focus on expanding and building on our existing core offering and the organisation continues to be agile in its response to a challenging and changing macro environment. The cost-of-living pressures continues to challenge families locally and nationally, furthermore the political landscape remains uncertain and also shows little signs of abating.

As an organisation, Black Country Foodbank draws upon its strength and resilience that has been displayed over a number of years to remain front and centre and committed to be remain on the frontline providing a trusted service respected by local authorities and partners who value the dedication of our core staff and our volunteers who's passion to make a difference is refreshing and humbling of which an example is taken from our "Impact Report 2024" from one of our Foodbank volunteers,

"I love to help people. I have been through some tough times in my life and when I needed help it was there. I find helping at the foodbank allows me to give something back to those who are in the position I once was."

It is through this dedication and passion that Black Country Foodbank will continue to strive to meet the needs of our local communities through love, connection and investment which are our core values which underpin the organisation.

Two new Distributions Centres were opened within 2024 taking us to 28 in total as we see local communities coming together to tackle not only food poverty but also to create places of welcome with access to valuable services within their communities and BCFB remain steadfast in its commitment to support and partner with such approaches in the future.

Through 2024, we continue to review and adapt to the challenging environment through not only our "Impact Report" but also through the key measures used to help assess the current position and take positive actions,

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Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) (*continued*)

Year ended 31 March 2025

Achievement, performance and volunteers (*cont*)

Key Measures

	2024-25	2023-24	Var % YOY
Total People accessing provision (DC's & Central)	42,564	43,765	(2.74%)
Including Children	16,636	17,074	(2.56%)
Total Equivalent Meals Provided (Partner Projects Only)	31,140	27,249	
Partner Project Food Distributed (kg's)	16,016.91	14,185.80	12.90%
Total Food Distributed (parcels & (28 DC's, Central & Partners) In Tonnes	270	283	(4.59%)
Total Donations (Food & Non-Food incl. purchased) (DC's & Central) In Tonnes	319	339	(5.89%)

All at Black Country Foodbank remain amazed by the generosity of local people, organisations, faith groups, schools who donate time, finance and food to Black Country Foodbank in many creative ways, highlighting and support our aims and objectives. Our team have worked hard to make sure everything is shared across our network and partners, and we continue to create a firm foundation to allow us as an organisation to do more.

We continue to collaborate with other local support agencies including Dudley CVS, local authorities, Citizens Advice, Welfare Rights, Homeless Services as well as other charities to continuously improve support to those in our local communities.

The political landscape and macro environment remains challenging, and we consider this to be a real risk and challenge of which Black Country Foodbank continues to maintain and expand its focus on the delivery of its core objective –

“ to help vulnerable individuals and families in crisis, through the provision of emergency food supplies, and toiletries provision while a longer -term solution is developed.”

Our “Impact Report” continues to evolve year and year and continues to highlight not only the work that BCFB and our partners do but also share heart breaking stories of our local people and their experiences but the offer of hope that BCFB as a collective brings.

The “Impact Report 2024” also highlights the demand and pressures that our local communities are experiencing especially the increase in the number of children being supported and in summary

- In the past 5 years we have seen a 50% increase in the number of meals provided,
- The number of children supported in 2024 saw a 4% increase,
- In April 2024, we saw a 56% increase in the number of children supported (from families with three or more children), who engaged with schools and family hubs for a food parcel voucher, after a cold Easter where families had to continue to pay high energy costs and choose between heating and eating.

BCFB Impact Report 2024

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Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors Report) (continued)

Year End 31 March 2025

Achievement, performance and volunteers (cont)

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation reported in 2024 that 4.3 million children in the UK were living in poverty and, if current trends continue, they expect this to increase to almost 1 in 3 children living in poverty by 2029. As we consider projects for 2025, we hope to support children and their families with sustainable ways of breaking the food poverty cycle within the Black Country.

Part of how we look to achieve this aim is through our "Recipe Card & Provision Programme" which continues to grow as a complementary provision to food parcels and its simplicity is helping to support a positive change and continues to grow. We plan to continue to develop this channel further in the coming years and expand into other areas which included in 2024 through the Household Support Fund the purchase and gifting of slow cookers to encourage health low-cost cooking.

Achievement and performance

Public Benefit

Under the Charities Act 2011, charities are required to demonstrate that their aims are for the public benefit. The two key principles which must be met in this context are, first, that there must be an identifiable benefit or benefits and secondly, that the benefit must be to the public, or a section of the public. Charity trustees must ensure that they carry out their charity's aims for the public benefit, must have regard to the Charity Commissions guidance and must report on the public benefit in their Annual Report

The charities board of trustees regularly monitors and reviews success of the organisation meeting its key objectives of relieving financial hardship, sickness and needs of people. The Trustees confirm, in light of the guidance, that these aims fully meet the public benefit test and that all activities of the charity, described in the Report of the Trustees, are undertaken in pursuit of these aims.

Financial Review

The charities total incoming resources for the year were £1,186,004 (2024: £1,433,901) which were generated primarily from donations received from the public and various organisations and grants. The total resources expended of the charity were £1,170,085 (2024: £1,120,129) and represent the costs incurred to enable the charity to carry out its operations. The charity made a surplus for the year of £15,919 (2024: £313,772).

Reserves and going concern

The trustees consider that 25% of the charities annual operating expenses (excluding donated goods) is a reasonable level of unrestricted funds to retain, to allow the charity to have sufficient funds going forward to meet its obligations.

	2025	2024
	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	1,339,071	1,072,652
Restricted Funds	29,675	280,175
Total Funds	1,368,746	1,352,827
Expenditure excluding donated food	373,265	180,968
% of unrestricted funds to annual operating expenditure	358	592

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Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors Report) (continued)

Year End 31 March 2025

Financial Review (cont)

Black Country Foodbank directors are incredibly aware of the generosity of individuals, organisations over the pandemic who have boosted funds to support the ongoing aims of the charity as we face unprecedented times and challenges not only through this reporting period but also in the short to medium term.

Through this reporting period, we have seen a decrease in regular donations, and we continue to be humbled by any donation and the innovative ways in which people look to raise financial donations and gift us provision. In June 2024 we received funding from the Household Support Fund which enabled us to purchase slow cookers, to support the provision of budget friendly nutritional meals of which we will seek to build upon this in the next reporting periods.

Through the structural organisational changes made, the requirements to purchase additional food and toiletries to meet and maintain demand whilst physical donations reduced and also the acceleration of the Recipe programme as well as other project development, we forecast the level of reserves to continue to reduce further through the next reporting period.

The trustees are pleased to report that the charities reserve policy has been met, and that the charity intends to use its reserves to further its objectives over the coming periods.

Risk management and internal controls

The Trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that the organisation operates an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise to provide reasonable assurance that:

- The charity is operating efficiently and effectively
- Proper records are maintained and financial information, used within the charity or for publication, is reliable
- The charity complies with relevant laws and regulations

They do this by reviewing the up-to-date financial information of the charity including a review of its financial procedures and identifying and managing risks that the charity is exposed to.

Plans For Future Periods

Black Country Foodbank remain committed to the objective of its core purpose of providing nutritionally balanced food provision in a time of crisis however agility and response to the ever-changing macro environments will be required in the short to medium term. Over the past few years, we have demonstrated our resilience and response to those in need throughout the Black Country and our focus on partnership has helped to strengthen our position of trust within the local authorities, organisations and also the local communities we serve, and this will continue further as we align our structure to support and grow.

We are aware daily of the efforts and diligence that our staff team and volunteers make to ensure donated food is processed and distributed as effectively as possible and without question we remain humble by the local communities who chose us to make food and financial donations to where we can make a difference despite challenging times.

We are acutely aware that cost of living pressures continues to grow and put pressure on the most vulnerable within our local communities and we are committed throughout 2025-26, to continue to deliver on our core purpose through our network of volunteers providing food for those in crisis throughout the Black Country.

However, this in turn will see an increase in spend for food and toiletries provision and we forecast that this will continue to grow over the short term and we will adapt our processes and policies to continue to meet the need but also the responsibilities and duties that come with this step change and will release suitable and sufficient reserves in-line with our processes to enable action and response.

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Year End 31 March 2025

Plans For Future Periods (cont)

This in turn will mean that our network will expand to include the opening of new distribution centres across the Black Country but also to increase our capacity centrally to maintain which means we will need to grow our capabilities whilst also continuously reviewing our network model to ensure the most effective methods of operations. We continuously review capacity through our central warehouse and operations to ensure that we continue to support and deliver on our vision and will look for a further satellite centre should the need arise and will release reserves appropriately to support demand in-line with our vision and processes.

Through 2024, as an organisation we focussed on strong foundations and looked to develop a senior management team internally to support our growth and development of key projects and programmes, and we are delighted with the current progress and activity.

However to support this step change, we continue to recruit new Board members across a wide spectrum of skills, experience and knowledge as we are aware that we are at a key stage in the organisations development and as such the Board will seek to commence a "Strategic Review" to better align our objectives as through 2024, it became clear that our core provision in crisis has also developed into poverty alleviation and BCFB seek to be best prepared to continue to support our local communities over the next 3 -5 years.

Through the creation of capacity and the delivery of our firm operational foundation and through the development of new distribution centres, process and policy reviews, we will be able to develop and further expand "wrap-around" services to support the service user's wider needs.

BCFB key priorities for the coming period include,

- Listen to those who use our services and adapt and change our support provision
- Complete the Strategic Review and prepare to deliver the 3-5 year operational plan
- Use data analytics better to help tell our story and to be a voice to make positive and real change
- Accelerate the Recipe Card provision and expand a wider offering and reach
- Expand provision to support children and families better and grow Chilled food provision across the operating areas through grant assessment and provision,
- Support the sourcing and purchasing of additional items to support service users such as Slow Cookers/ Hot Water Bottles/ Travel Cards/ Supermarket Vouchers
- Continue to review central resource levels to support not only demand pressures but also to develop support services and to adapt to new ways of working
- Expand our Partnership reach and develop joint opportunities to make a difference in local communities together.

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Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees, who are also directors for the purpose 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).

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to

- Select suitable accountancy policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accountancy records that are sufficient to show and explain the charities transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity 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 charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and the detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Auditor

Each person who is a trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- So far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditor is unaware; and
- They have taken all reasonable steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the charity auditor is aware of that information.

Small company provision

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to small companies exemption.

The trustees annual report was approved at the Black Country Foodbank Board Meeting held on 17 November 2025 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by

Jason Russell

Mr J Russell
Trustee

Black Country Foodbank Limited

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Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Black Country Foodbank Limited

Year ended 31 March 2025

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Black Country Foodbank Limited (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), statement of financial position, statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Black Country Foodbank Limited

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Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Black Country Foodbank Limited (*continued*)

Year ended 31 March 2025

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Black Country Foodbank Limited

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Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Black Country Foodbank Limited (*continued*)

Year ended 31 March 2025

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Irregularities that result from fraud might be inherently more difficult than irregularities that result from error, which gives rise to a risk of material misstatement. We are of the opinion that the planned audit approach, the documentation and interrogation of the entity's controls means that the audit procedures carried out were capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud. We have also reviewed financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations. We have audited the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business. We have also made enquiries of entity staff in tax and compliance functions to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.

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Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Black Country Foodbank Limited (*continued*)

Year ended 31 March 2025

- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Hannah Justice FCA FCCA

Hannah Justice FCA FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of
BSN Associates Limited
Chartered accountants & statutory auditor
3B Swallowfield Courtyard
Wolverhampton Road
Oldbury
West Midlands
B69 2JG

17 November 2025

Black Country Foodbank Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2025

		Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
	Note				
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	5	1,041,871	102,412	1,144,283	1,398,236
Investment income	6	41,721	–	41,721	35,665
Total income		<u>1,083,592</u>	<u>102,412</u>	<u>1,186,004</u>	<u>1,433,901</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	7,8	1,058,513	111,572	1,170,085	1,120,129
Total expenditure		<u>1,058,513</u>	<u>111,572</u>	<u>1,170,085</u>	<u>1,120,129</u>
Net income		<u>25,079</u>	<u>(9,160)</u>	<u>15,919</u>	<u>313,772</u>
Transfers between funds		241,340	(241,340)	–	–
Net movement in funds		<u>266,419</u>	<u>(250,500)</u>	<u>15,919</u>	<u>313,772</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		1,072,652	280,175	1,352,827	1,039,055
Total funds carried forward		<u>1,339,071</u>	<u>29,675</u>	<u>1,368,746</u>	<u>1,352,827</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 16 to 26 form part of these financial statements.

Black Country Foodbank Limited

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Statement of Financial Position

31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	13	12,065	10,385
Current assets			
Stocks	14	69,850	76,453
Debtors	15	25,441	7,772
Cash at bank and in hand		1,267,389	1,262,026
		<u>1,362,680</u>	<u>1,346,251</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	<u>5,999</u>	<u>3,809</u>
Net current assets		<u>1,356,681</u>	<u>1,342,442</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>1,368,746</u>	<u>1,352,827</u>
Net assets		<u>1,368,746</u>	<u>1,352,827</u>
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		29,675	280,175
Unrestricted funds		1,339,071	1,072,652
Total charity funds	18	<u>1,368,746</u>	<u>1,352,827</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 17 November 2025, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Jason Russell

Mr J M Russell
Trustee

The notes on pages 16 to 26 form part of these financial statements.

Black Country Foodbank Limited

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Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended 31 March 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income	15,919	313,772
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	7,916	10,426
Other interest receivable and similar income	(41,721)	(35,665)
Interest payable and similar charges	164	191
Accrued expenses/(income)	2,190	(343)
<i>Changes in:</i>		
Stocks	6,603	(76,453)
Trade and other debtors	(17,669)	1,073
Cash generated from operations	(26,598)	213,001
Interest paid	(164)	(191)
Interest received	41,721	35,665
Net cash from operating activities	<u>14,959</u>	<u>248,475</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible assets	(9,596)	(5,698)
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(9,596)</u>	<u>(5,698)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	5,363	242,777
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	1,262,026	1,019,249
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>1,267,389</u>	<u>1,262,026</u>

The notes on pages 16 to 26 form part of these financial statements.

Black Country Foodbank Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2025

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 3B Swallowfield Courtyard, Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 2JG.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income and expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

The entity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined in FRS102.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Disclosure exemptions

The entity satisfies the criteria of being a qualifying entity as defined in FRS 102. As such, advantage has been taken of the following disclosure exemptions available under FRS 102:

- Disclosures in respect of financial instruments have not been presented.

Changes in accounting policies

In the prior period, the charity changed how it recognised its donated goods in the year, which had previously been recognised when such items were distributed to beneficiaries. However due to the charity now also purchasing goods for distribution, since the 2023 financial year, such donations are recognised on receipt in stock and income and expensed when distributed to beneficiaries.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

There are no significant estimates or judgements that have been used in the preparation of the accounts.

Black Country Foodbank Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal or grant.

Incoming resources

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- Income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods on receipt from the donor, fair value is calculated as the average price across brands and supermarkets. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- Investment income is recognised when receivable and is shown gross to include income tax recovered and recoverable. Investment income comprises interest on cash balances.
- Grants received specifically for the provision of services as part of the charitable activities are accounted for on the basis of amounts receivable for the year.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- Expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the provision of donated goods.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- Other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Black Country Foodbank Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Operating leases

Lease payments are recognised as an expense over the lease term on a straight-line basis. The aggregate benefit of lease incentives is recognised as a reduction to expense over the lease term, on a straight-line basis.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to which it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

Assets are capitalised when the individual cost of an item exceeds £500. Expenditure below this threshold is charged to the statement of financial activities in the period in which it is incurred, unless it forms part of a larger capital project or meets other specific criteria for capitalisation.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Leasehold Property Improvements	-	10% straight line
Fixtures and Fittings	-	15% straight line
Motor Vehicles	-	25% straight line
Equipment	-	33% straight line

The client has adopted the policy to charge a full year's depreciation in the year of acquisition, with none charged in the year of disposal.

Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

Stocks

Stocks represent donated food and other supplies that have been donated and purchased by the charity. They are valued at their fair value which is calculated as an average across both brands and supermarkets.

Black Country Foodbank Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

4. Limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and the liability of the members is limited to £1, in case of winding up.

5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Donations			
Donations received	251,907	11,912	263,819
Donations received of food, toiletries and household items for those in crisis	790,214	-	790,214
Grants			
Grants receivable	(250)	90,500	90,250
	<u>1,041,781</u>	<u>102,412</u>	<u>1,144,283</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Donations			
Donations received	283,053	2,766	285,819
Donations received of food, toiletries and household items for those in crisis	-	941,608	941,608
Grants			
Grants receivable	61,494	109,315	170,809
	<u>344,547</u>	<u>1,053,689</u>	<u>1,398,236</u>

This year the trustees have estimated the value of the amount of food, toiletries and household items received from donors which they have distributed to those in crisis to be £790,214 (2024: £941,608) the value is based on an average cost per kilogram of parcels distributed.

Black Country Foodbank Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2025

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Bank interest receivable	<u>41,721</u>	<u>41,721</u>	<u>35,665</u>	<u>35,665</u>

7. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Provision of food, toiletries and household items to those in crisis	813,791	104,373	918,164
Support costs	<u>244,722</u>	<u>7,199</u>	<u>251,921</u>
	<u>1,058,513</u>	<u>111,572</u>	<u>1,170,085</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Provision of food, toiletries and household items to those in crisis	900	938,266	939,166
Support costs	<u>158,624</u>	<u>22,339</u>	<u>180,963</u>
	<u>159,524</u>	<u>960,605</u>	<u>1,120,129</u>

8. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Grant funding of activities £	Support costs £	Total Funds 2025 £
Provision of food, toiletries and household items to those in crisis	892,754	25,410	242,370	1,160,534
Governance costs	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,551</u>	<u>9,551</u>
	<u>892,754</u>	<u>25,410</u>	<u>251,921</u>	<u>1,170,085</u>

	Activities undertaken directly £	Grant funding of activities £	Support costs £	Total Funds 2024 £
Provision of food, toiletries and household items to those in crisis	939,166	-	170,479	1,109,645
Governance costs	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,484</u>	<u>10,484</u>
	<u>939,166</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>180,963</u>	<u>1,120,129</u>

Black Country Foodbank Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

8. Analysis of support costs

	2025	2024
	£	£
Staff Costs	154,841	99,675
Premises	8,200	8,200
Communications and IT	8,513	4,462
Heat and Light	3,449	2,904
Governance Costs	9,551	10,484
Insurance	2,782	2,606
Repairs & Maintenance	8,410	3,130
Motor & Travel expenses	12,603	8,532
Other office costs	19,699	20,925
Contracted assistance	13,339	8,033
Fundraising costs	2,618	1,586
Depreciation	7,916	10,426
	<u>251,921</u>	<u>180,963</u>

9. Analysis of grants

	2025	2024
	£	£
Grants to institutions		
Grants to institutions	25,410	-
	<u>25,410</u>	<u>-</u>

During the year, the charity awarded 48 grants totalling £25,410 (2024: £Nil) to support charitable activities in line with the charity's own aims and purposes. No individual grants exceeded £3,125 and are not material therefore are not disclosed separately. At the year end, there were no outstanding grants payable in respect of the 2025 financial year.

10. Net income

Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>7,916</u>	<u>10,426</u>

11. Auditors remuneration

	2025	2024
	£	£
Fees payable for the audit of the financial statements	<u>3,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>

Black Country Foodbank Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

12. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	144,657	95,517
Social security costs	7,730	2,219
Employer contributions to pension plans	2,454	1,939
	<u>154,841</u>	<u>99,675</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 6 (2024: 5) analysed as follows:

	2025	2024
	No.	No.
Number of staff	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2024: Nil).

13. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees

No expenses have been reimbursed by the charity to its trustees in either the current or prior year.

13. Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Equipment £	Total £
Cost					
At 1 April 2024	47,197	12,636	31,559	15,339	106,731
Additions	–	1,246	–	8,350	9,596
Disposals	–	(750)	–	(9,184)	(9,934)
At 31 March 2025	<u>47,197</u>	<u>13,132</u>	<u>31,559</u>	<u>14,505</u>	<u>106,393</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2024	47,197	6,440	28,851	13,858	96,346
Charge for the year	–	1,524	2,708	3,684	7,916
Disposals	–	(750)	–	(9,184)	(9,934)
At 31 March 2025	<u>47,197</u>	<u>7,214</u>	<u>31,559</u>	<u>8,358</u>	<u>94,328</u>
Carrying amount					
At 31 March 2025	<u>–</u>	<u>5,918</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>6,147</u>	<u>12,065</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>–</u>	<u>6,196</u>	<u>2,708</u>	<u>1,481</u>	<u>10,385</u>

Black Country Foodbank Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2025

14. Stocks

	2025 £	2024 £
Goods for distribution to beneficiaries	<u>69,850</u>	<u>76,453</u>

15. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>25,441</u>	<u>7,772</u>

16. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Accruals and deferred income	<u>5,999</u>	<u>3,809</u>

17. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £2,454 (2024: £1,939).

18. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2025 £
General funds	1,072,024	1,083,592	(1,057,885)	241,340	<u>1,339,071</u>
Designated Funds	628	—	(628)	—	<u>—</u>
	<u>1,072,652</u>	<u>1,083,592</u>	<u>(1,058,513)</u>	<u>241,340</u>	<u>1,339,071</u>

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2024 £
General funds	836,548	379,212	(159,152)	15,416	1,072,024
Designated Funds	—	1,000	(372)	—	628
	<u>836,548</u>	<u>380,212</u>	<u>(159,524)</u>	<u>15,416</u>	<u>1,072,652</u>

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2025 £
Restricted Funds	<u>280,175</u>	<u>102,412</u>	<u>(111,572)</u>	<u>(241,340)</u>	<u>29,675</u>

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2024 £
Restricted Funds	<u>202,507</u>	<u>1,053,689</u>	<u>(960,605)</u>	<u>(15,416)</u>	<u>280,175</u>

Black Country Foodbank Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

18. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

Restricted funds can be analysed by fund as follows.

	At 1 April 2024 £	Grants and donations received £	Grants and donations spent £	Depreciation £	Transfer of funds	At 31 March 2025 £
Equipment	1,066	-	-	(328)	-	738
Food	242,608	11,912	(4,475)	-	(242,608)	7,437
Baby items	2,410	-	(2,410)	-	-	-
Carrier Bags	154	-	(543)	-	389	-
Walsall MBC	937	-	-	(937)	-	-
Belvedere	5,000	-	(5,000)	-	-	-
Headley Trust	5,000	20,000	(5,000)	-	-	20,000
Richardson Brothers	3,000	-	(3,000)	-	-	-
Sandwell MBC - HSF	20,000	13,250	(34,129)	-	879	-
Dudley HSF	-	50,000	(50,000)	-	-	-
Groundwork - Tesco	-	1,750	(250)	-	-	1,500
Dudley HAF	-	3,500	(3,500)	-	-	-
Mitek	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-	-
	<u>280,175</u>	<u>102,412</u>	<u>(110,307)</u>	<u>(1,265)</u>	<u>(241,340)</u>	<u>29,675</u>

Equipment

Relates to grants and funds received towards IT equipment which are being utilised over the life of the asset.

Food

Donations of food and household items which had previously been classified as a restricted fund were reclassified during the financial year to unrestricted funds as it was agreed with the Chief Executive Officer that whilst the donations were restricted by nature, they were not restricted in purpose.

Baby items

Relates to funds received to specifically fund baby items. Appropriate costs have been allocated against the fund within the year.

Carrier bags

Income was received in prior years of £2,000 with appropriate costs being allocated to the fund within the year.

Walsall MBC

Grants and donations totalling £22,550 were received in prior years to enable the charity to purchase a new vehicle. The grant has been released over the life of the vehicle.

Belvedere

Grants of £5,000 were received in the prior year towards the provision for food for those in crisis. Appropriate costs have been allocated against the fund within the year.

Headley Trust

Grants of £5,000 were received in the prior year towards the provision for food and toiletries for those in crisis. During the current financial year, a further £20,000 was approved but not yet received and has been accrued in the financial statements as required.

Black Country Foodbank Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements (*continued*)

Year ended 31 March 2025

18. Analysis of charitable funds (*continued*)

Richardson Brothers

Donations of £3,000 were received in the prior year towards the provision for food for those in crisis. Appropriate costs have been allocated against the fund within the year.

Sandwell MBC - HSF

Grants of £20,000 in the prior year and £13,250 in the current year were received towards the provision for food and toiletries for those in crisis. Appropriate costs have been allocated against the fund within the year.

Dudley – HSF

Grants of £50,000 were received in the year towards the provision for food, slow cookers and toiletries for those in crisis. Appropriate costs have been allocated against the fund within the year.

Groundwork – Tesco

Grants totalling £1,750 were awarded by Tesco to support the provision for food and toiletries for those in crisis. Of this amount, £1,125 was received with the condition that it must be spent by 31 December 2025. Upon fulfilling this condition, an additional £375 will be released by Tesco.

As the Trustees intend to spend the initial grant award of £1,125 by December 2025, the additional £375 has been accrued in line with the charities SORP.

Dudley HAF

Grants of £3,500 were received towards the production of 700 recipe bags. These were all provided in the year and appropriate costs have been allocated against the fund.

Mitek

Grants of £2,000 were received in the year towards the provision for food and toiletries for those in crisis. Appropriate costs have been allocated against the fund within the year.

Designated funds can be analysed by fund as follows:

	At 1 April 2024	Grants and donations received	Grants and donations spent	Depreciation	Transfer of funds	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£		£
Pugh Bequest – PPE	628	-	(628)	-	-	-
	628	-	(628)	-	-	-

Pugh Bequest – PPE

Money was donated in memory of a volunteer. The funds were intended for but not limited to the expenditure on volunteers of Black Country Food Bank. Appropriate costs have been allocated to the fund, with the fund being fully used up during the financial year.

Black Country Foodbank Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements (*continued*)

Year ended 31 March 2025

19. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	10,860	1,205	12,065
Current assets	1,334,210	28,470	1,362,680
Creditors less than 1 year	(5,999)	–	(5,999)
Net assets	1,339,071	29,675	1,368,746

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	7,914	2,471	10,385
Current assets	1,068,547	277,704	1,346,251
Creditors less than 1 year	(3,809)	–	(3,809)
Net assets	1,072,652	280,175	1,352,827

20. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 Apr 2024 £	Cash flows £	At 31 Mar 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	1,262,026	5,363	1,267,389

21. Operating lease commitments

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Not later than 1 year	2,653	4,136
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	1,336	1,599
	3,989	5,735

22. Related parties

During the year, Vale of Stour Methodist Circuit, a charity with a common trustee of Black Country Foodbank Limited, donated goods to the value of £15,440 (2024: £43,483) and cash of £1,415 (2024: £2,450).