

HARTLEPOOL FOODBANK CIO

England & Wales · Charity number 1152046

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2013-05-15

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Hartlepool Foodbank
28 Church Street
Hartlepool
TS24 7DH

Phone 01429598404

Email info@hartlepool.foodbank.org.uk

Website www.hartlepool.foodbank.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE RELIEF AND PREVENTION OF POVERTY FOR PERSONS IN HARTLEPOOL WHO ARE IN A CONDITION OF NEED, HARDSHIP OR DISTRESS ('BENEFICIARIES') IN SUCH WAYS AS THE TRUSTEES THINK FIT, IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY:A) SUPPLYING FOOD PACKAGES TO BENEFICIARIES.B) SUCH OTHER MEANS, INCLUDING (BUT NOT LIMITED TO) THE PROVISION OF SUPPORT AND ADVICE

Activities: The foodbank collects food from various sources and issues parcels to individuals and families in crisis in Hartlepool. Partner agencies decide on need and issue vouchers. Nearly 40 volunteers also give advice, signposting clients to other assistance as appropriate.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Hartlepool

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£199,852	£200,685	-	-
2023-12-31	£193,381	£196,318	-	-
2022-12-31	£133,982	£131,209	-	-
2021-12-31	£106,490	£90,527	-	-
2020-12-31	£157,066	£74,729	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev ANDREW JOHN CRAIG	Chair	2013-03-26
Alan MacDonald		2023-06-13
Angela Carrick		2016-06-21
John Albert Harvey		2024-09-18
Linn Eklund		2024-10-29
SUSAN ATKINSON		2013-03-26
Shane Robert Moore		2025-09-16

Accounts



Hartlepool

Foodbank

Together with Trussell

Annual Report

2024

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Letter from the Chair

In September 2024 we held a conference in Greatham (thanks to the trustees and employees of the Hospital of God who provided the venue free of charge). This was, in effect, a mid-point review of Hartlepool Foodbank's 5-year strategy. The strategy is intended to reduce (in the long term, to do away with) the need for people to use foodbanks. We seek to achieve this by identifying and addressing the reasons for food insecurity and poverty, signposting clients to partner organizations that can help them address particular issues (e.g. Homelessness, poor mental health, substance abuse and addictions), helping clients with debt and better financial management and advocating for necessary changes in public policy. Our partnership with West View Advice & Resources has delivered quantifiable benefits to clients and undoubtedly enabled some of them to progress away from needing handouts of food. We hope that, working with the Community Store at Oxford Road Baptist Church, we will soon be able to identify that more individuals and families have been lifted out of food poverty. Over 2024 as a whole there was a small reduction in the number of people that had to use the foodbank compared with 2023. Given that economic conditions have not markedly improved for the most vulnerable groups during this period, these are the first indications that the strategy is having some effect in addressing food insecurity, reducing the need for handouts.

Our franchisor Trussell Trust has been re-branded Trussell and is in the process of re-ordering its strategy. It has fully funded a community influencer/organizer working in Hartlepool. Tracey Cartwright has contributed to local campaigns to increase knowledge of, and access to, benefits ("*Guarantee our Essentials*"); ensure that children have good beds to sleep in (*Zarach*); address poverty in Hartlepool generally (*Strategic Poverty Group*); and give a voice to people living on the margins (*The Poverty Truth Commission*). She is fostering partnerships, developing a communications strategy and building a team, to work with public authorities and (in collaboration with our MP and Trussell) national government, advocating for policy changes that will help us achieve our strategic aims.

Early in 2024 Teagan Burns resigned as deputy coordinator to pursue a new venture and Jayne Gray came in as warehouse manager, developing the logistical side of our operations with competence and enthusiasm. Hilary Sowden resigned as a trustee to become our deputy coordinator and Abi Knowles resigned as a trustee to become Trussell's new area manager in the North East. I am very grateful to Teagan, Jayne, Hilary and Abi for all of their outstanding contributions to our work and ethos over the year. Thanks go out to our new trustees John Harvey and Linn Eklund. I greatly look forward to bringing their enthusiasm and abilities to bear, working with them to direct our operations and strategic endeavours to ameliorate poverty and reduce dependency. In particular I would like to thank our coordinator Lisa Lavender, who is the mainstay of the organization, and whose social intelligence, compassion and, now, significant experience are a priceless resource for the wellbeing of employees, volunteers and, especially, clients.

There are both challenges and opportunities in 2025. We have always been blessed with generous supporters, both in goods and money, but we would now like to put the foodbank on a more secure financial footing. Lisa has taken over the task of preparing funding applications with support from trustee Susan Atkinson and our other employees without whom she could not have the capacity to raise funds as well as run our

operations. In 2024 we started collecting data from clients to support Tracey's work (on bed poverty and voter participation). More quantitative as well as qualitative (*Poverty Truth*) data could shed light on whether and how support has been effective in the past for our clients - and supplement the information and advice we are able to give to the public and political movers. This is groundwork for a communications strategy. Another challenge is re-connecting the foodbank with our members (Hartlepool's churches). Trussell instigated a project called *Church Ambassadors* in 2023 but we need more invitations for trustees and employees to come and present about our work to churches and related groups.

We continue to be grateful for a small group of people (the Food Network) who help direct surplus food from supermarkets and other outlets to organizations able to distribute it, and to Embleton Hall Dairy for supplies of fresh milk.

We are very grateful to the schools, churches, supermarkets and individuals that have continued collecting food for us. We are also very grateful for continued generous financial support from the Council, our member churches, individuals, retailers (including *Tesco*, the supporter of *Trussell* nationally), employers and charitable trusts. A list of donors is given in Appendix 1 of this report. Support from private sector organizations and employers is also very welcome, including from some of the larger retailers. We are especially grateful to those individuals and organizations that support us every year, giving us some confidence in a regular core income.

I would also like to thank my fellow trustees, especially our treasurer Angela Carrick who also provides payroll services at the same time as carrying out her own full-time job, Susan Atkinson who continues to oil our wheels administratively and financially and Alan MacDonald who has brought expertise, energy and commitment to the heart of our organization.

At the core of our operation is our corps of volunteers. Some of them work behind the scenes at the warehouse, handling tonnes of foodstuffs and driving the van; some in the back of the premises, assembling food bundles; and some in client-facing roles at the front. I'd like to make special mention of two others – Alison Deer who cleans our premises without charge, which is equivalent to a huge financial donation, and Gabriel Gustard who now masterminds our presence on social media. All of our volunteers are fabulous. Your contributions are beyond price. A heartfelt thanks to all.

I would also like to thank Mrs Josie Watson who continues to let us use 28 Church Street rent free; the owners and managers of Middleton Grange for providing us with our warehouse free of charge; and Clive Rathbone our *pro bono* auditor.

All of all our volunteers, supporters, donors, employees and fellow trustees – and those individuals and organizations that work in partnership with us – have done marvellous work that make a material change to the lives of hundreds of people who might otherwise face destitution. I give thanks to God for all of it and pray that it may continue and grow for the benefit of the vulnerable, troubled and marginalised in our town. Luke 6:20-21.



Yours sincerely,

Rev'd Dr Andrew Craig, Chair of Trustees

Hartlepool Foodbank Coordinator's Annual Report

Summary

We continue to remain constant as a foodbank providing a safe space for those who need us. We now have a new telephone number 01429 405543, please note this for your records.

As you are aware, we are a franchise of Trussell (formerly Trussell Trust). In September of 2024 we saw a rebrand from Trussell. The commitment remains the same to work towards ending the need for foodbanks. So much work is done behind the scenes to enable each and every foodbank within the network, up and down the UK, to have creative resources available to tackle the issue of the need for foodbanks. This year some of us had the pleasure of being part of a lobby day at the Houses of Parliament. This was an opportunity to bring to attention some of the wider issues that need addressing to end the need for foodbanks.

We continue to work with our partner agencies especially West View Advice & Resource Centre. Our partnership began in 2022 and has been a successful asset to the foodbank; providing on-site financial advice.

Our Operational Local Mobilier (OLM), Tracey Cartwright, has continued to network across the town building relationships and looking at local issues. Please see Tracey's report.

We saw our Deputy Coordinator, Teagan Burns, move onto pastures new. Teagan started at the foodbank as a volunteer and joined the staff in 2020, she has been a fabulous part of the team. We wish her all the best for her next venture.

My thanks go to Hilary Sowden who has now been in post as Deputy for the last 6 months. She does a grand job of deputising and supporting all aspects of the project. Thanks also go to Jayne Gray, our warehouse assistant, who has maintained excellent running of the warehouse during 2024 along with the team of volunteers. All stock is processed at the warehouse before coming to Church Street for distribution. Jayne and the team have done a sterling job.

Our on-going work continues with the joy of welcoming new volunteers both corporate and regular to the foodbank team.

One of the highlights for us in 2024 was our visit from Bob the therapy dog. He, along with his owner, spent the morning with the team assisting at one of our sessions. This was such a valuable insight to a different approach that was brought to the session. We hope for another visit in 2025. Another highlight was a visit from the 18th Hartlepool Scout Group Beaver Section. I visited the group to talk about the foodbank and the work that we do. The Beavers then visited the foodbank bringing with them a generous donation.

Volunteers

Our volunteers are the foodbank's best asset. They continually serve the community on a twice weekly basis. I mentioned last year the monetary value of the hours they put in but the truth is that their value is so much more. They listen to stories, pack, clean and move hundreds of kilograms of food, they remain faithful and loyal to the foodbank, always ready to help where they can; doing an extra shift, assisting with taking a parcel where it needs to be. Our Trustees are also volunteers, another commitment that cannot really be measured. The foodbank as a project is indebted to all that serve as a volunteer.

Thank you, Trustees, and the front-line team for all your hard work.

Donations and Distributions

In 2024 Hartlepool Foodbank volunteers processed 3000 vouchers which equates to 5554 people supported, of whom 4044 were adults and 1510 were children. This is a 3.6% reduction on the previous year. A positive step in the right direction. A total of 67 tonnes of food were given out in 2024.

The local community of Hartlepool continues to give generously. Donations come in varying forms; our permanent collection points in the supermarkets, drop offs at Church Street and our warehouse in Middleton Grange. Christmas was no exception, throughout the month of December a whopping 7.4 tonnes was donated this year. These amazing donations came from residents, local businesses, schools and churches. Incredible!

Financial contributions have also been constant again in this last year both from local businesses, community groups and individuals. Some of our highlights are;

- Hadley Shipping Company
- PFC Trust
- Rossmere Family Centre
- Hart Biological
- Cubic Transport
- Hartlepool Swimming Club
- One O'clock Club
- Richardsons & Westgarth Social Club
- Utilita
- Catcote Academy

Main donors and amounts are listed in Appendix I to the accounts. Once again, we are thankful for every contribution made.

Thank you for your support to keeping the foodbank going.

I would like to give special thanks this year to Kerry Foods.

We have 2 wonderful volunteers from their staff who assist us every Friday. They have also supported us with generous donations throughout the year alongside offering practical help where we may need it.

Our grateful thanks to Kerry Foods.

Part of our work is to give bulk donations, when we have temporary surpluses. We support the Kilmarnock Children's Centre with dog food, baby products and any surplus stock that may bless them. The West View Project is given donations of beans and pasta to help support an after school club. West View Advice & Resource Centre, along with Belle Vue Community Centre, is supported with dog food. It is a joy to be able to share resources across the town.

A small supply of single parcels and 'grab bags' goes to the Food Network based on the Headland and the Preventative Mental Health Team based in Burbank Street. This means that food is made available outside our normal sessions.

Household Support Fund

We were once again granted funds from the household support funding pot (government funds administered through Hartlepool Borough Council). This year the money was spent on food going directly to those attending the foodbank. This has been such a great help to the foodbank.

Financial Inclusion

We continue to offer financial advice in each of our sessions with our partner agency West View Advice & Resource Centre. This has been a great success with access being available instantly for our clients. Below is a snippet from our Financial Inclusion Manager at Trussell, Michelle Llewellyn;

Hartlepool has achieved outstanding F.I. gains and Debt managed, results have surpassed Trussell targets. An amazing £857,192.90 has been the monetary value of F.I. gains and debt managed, £28k of this people's debt has been written off. Additionally, 26 people have been prevented from homelessness which is truly fantastic and the social value will be significant.

The foodbank is pleased with the service as they advise this has added value to their offer – holistic now rather than transactional.

We look to continue this service into the future. It has proven to be effective and fruitful.

Facebook

We have seen a new look to our Facebook page this last year. With thanks to our volunteer Gabriel for taking this on. Gabriel is a local art student who joined the foodbank a couple of years ago. Using his artistic flare and passion for communication he has brought something new to the page. Please check us out – Hartlepool Foodbank.

Supermarket Collections

Our sincere thanks and gratitude to the fabulous stores in Hartlepool. All of the major stores hold permanent collection points for us to receive donations from shoppers.

Tesco Hartlepool Extra – 6426.8kg

Asda – 3617.3kg

Morrisons – 3216.4kg

Sainsbury – 1012.9kg

A huge thank you to the local community who donated to each of these points and to the smaller stores across the town including One Stop and Spar. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Looking to the future

We will continue alongside Trussell to work towards ending the need for foodbanks. In the mean time we will work to keep our financial advice service available to all who need the foodbank. Our OLM will continue to be out and about in the community looking at local issues. We shall continue to be there.

Lisa Lavender

Project Coordinator, Hartlepool Foodbank.

Local Organiser's Annual Report

As the cost of living crisis continues to affect the people who can least afford it, it's more important than ever that we help make change happen. I thoroughly enjoy being part of the food bank sessions, this enables me to have conversations with people using the service and to gain invaluable insight from the volunteers who carry out an incredible job. The briefing sessions allow me to keep staff and volunteers up to date with the Guarantee our Essentials campaigns, together with ideas and findings for my local campaign. Food banks were intended as a temporary measure to provide emergency food aid, they are a stopgap rather than a long-term solution. As detailed in our 5-year plan, we need measures to reduce or even eliminate the need for food banks in the UK.

Guarantee Our Essentials Campaign

Together, we achieved so much last year, and I'm excited about the opportunities ahead to strengthen the Guarantee our Essentials campaign and collaborate on new activities in this coming year. I have registered to be involved in sector catch-ups with Trussell and Joseph Rowntree Foundation to hear political insights and impact progress. The meetings are held bi-monthly and celebrate two years of driving real change and look ahead to exciting plans for 2025.

The Essentials Guarantee would ensure that social security payments never fall below the amount needed to afford the essentials to live, including household bills, food and transportation. Hartlepool Foodbank and the public have been taking action for a stronger social security system. Over 150,000 people signed our petition for an Essentials Guarantee. In the run-up to the General Election over 5,000 people contacted their parliamentary candidates to sign our pledge, which urged them to use their voice if elected to advocate for changes to ensure our social security system protects people from needing a food bank to survive.

We must continue to strive to create a society in which every individual has access to the necessities, and no one is forced to rely on a food bank to survive.

Labour's election-winning manifesto said:

Labour is committed to reviewing Universal Credit so that it makes work pay and tackles poverty. **"We want to end mass dependence on emergency food parcels, which is a moral scar on our society."**

We built on the Essentials Guarantee with the "Laying it all out on the table" activity. During food bank sessions in Hartlepool, clients, volunteers and staff wrote on tablecloths to bring together stories of hardship and hope. More than 1000 messages were collected from staff, volunteers; MPs; celebrities; and people with lived experience of hardship, across hundreds of events over the summer. This resulted in copies of "The Hardship Times" being distributed around Parliament Square and delivered to Westminster. This one-off

publication was filled with stories of hope and hardship that had been gathered from across the UK by food banks, charities, faith groups and businesses.

Networking

During my time as a Local Organiser, I have maintained and established new relationships with people who have a wealth of knowledge, experience and passion for change. I continue to play a significant role in Hartlepool's Poverty Truth Commission and the Strategic Poverty Group. I have established a great new working relationship with Zarach, the bed poverty charity, since it began working in the town last July. I am in contact with our newly elected local MP, Jonathan Brash. He has visited the foodbank and taken an active interest in the support we provide and the actions we are taking to reduce the need for food banks.

Hartlepool Poverty Truth Commission

The Poverty Truth Commission involves engaging with people with lived experience of poverty and leaders in the community to discover and address the causes of poverty. The Commission was formed in 2023 and we meet on a monthly basis, with regular contact maintained between meetings. A launch event took place in May 2024 and was very well received by all who attended. The Poverty Truth Commission seeks to discover the answer to the question "What if people who struggled against poverty were involved in making decisions about tackling poverty?" The Commission comprises two groups of people. A group with lived experience of the struggle against poverty meets with local leaders/decision makers within Hartlepool. Collectively we work to understand the nature of poverty, elucidate the underlying issues that create poverty and explore creative ways of addressing them. Following the launch event, the 3 main issues identified were housing, access to services and community spaces.

I am part of the housing group. The group has so far, identified a vision of "Safe and well-maintained homes." The goals, actions and aspirations of the group include work on bringing derelict properties back into use; accessible information to improve access to resources that support tenants e.g. addressing condensation and damp issues; how to contact landlords and understand tenant rights; guidance on financial help for household bills, rent, or white goods.

Strategic Poverty Group

This is a group of like-minded professionals, who meet fortnightly to discuss how we can make positive changes for the residents of Hartlepool, struggling with poverty. The meetings are chaired by Tracey Herrington from Thrive and have been running for several years. I have been an active member of this group since July 2023. We class ourselves as a "doing group" and our priorities include maximising household incomes; making work a route out of poverty and the best start in life for the next generation.

The "Did you Know" Campaign came about as a result of the group's findings. Lisa and I played a large part in deciding the content and layout for the campaign. I allocated part of

my campaign budget to financially support the publication. The 4-page wraparound published in October 2024 was a huge success. Advice agencies across the town confirmed there has been an increase in people requesting a benefit check in response to the £80 million figure unclaimed in Hartlepool being publicised. Hartlepool Borough Council also recorded a peak in people accessing their on-line services following the publication.

Local Campaign Idea

The cost of living crisis has deepened the impact of child poverty. Children need a good night's sleep in order to thrive, yet research is showing that families in crisis are having to prioritise essentials such as food, heating and electricity over things like replacing mouldy bedding or fixing a broken bed. This also ties in with the national "Guarantee Our Essentials" campaign. With help from volunteers and staff, I carried out a survey in foodbank sessions from October to December 2024. 69 Families with a total of 126 Children completed a bed survey. 53 Families with a total of 102 Children stated each child had their own bed. 16 Families stated that 24 Children did not have a bed of their own. Zarach have estimated the number of children in bed poverty in Hartlepool is 1,576. Between 1st July to 31st December 2024, they have delivered 203 beds in Hartlepool and now have 73% of schools registered to refer to them.

Currently Zarach largely relies on schools to spot signs of bed poverty and refer children to them for support. It wants to extend the partnership to local authorities across the country to continue its momentum and make even more of a difference.

The next part of my campaign is to work with Zarach on extending the partnership with Hartlepool Borough Council, to see what can be achieved when a local authority gets involved and how many more people can be helped. I held a meeting with staff, trustees and volunteers in January to get their ideas on how we could raise issues with the council, local MP and media. The group came up with some great creative ideas and were keen to be involved in different ways.

Future Plans

I am looking forward to another very busy and exciting year ahead. My plan is to arrange further meetings with volunteers; to build and act on the ideas provided at the meeting in January and bring them to fruition.

Thank you for being part of this journey - together we can make 2025 another impactful year.

Tracey Cartwright: Local Organiser

Financial Report 2024

The accounts are unaudited. The independent examiner's report on the 2023 accounts is given in Appendix IV (the 2024 accounts will be examined later in the year).

Many thanks are due to our independent examiner, Clive Rathbone, for contributing to the work of the foodbank by carrying out the independent examination of the accounts without payment.

Income 2024

Description	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2025 budget £
Private donations		27,840.34	0.00	27,840.34	30,000.00
Church donations		1,238.00	0.00	1,238.00	2,000.00
Corporate donations	1	32,051.08	0.00	32,051.08	40,000.00
Grant funding		14,479.10	118,594.00	133,073.10	80,000.00
Gift aid tax recovered		2,795.83	0.00	2,795.83	3,000.00
Bank Interest		2,620.25	233.47	2,853.72	3,000.00
Total receipts		81,024.60	118,827.47	199,852.07	158,000.00

Expenditure 2024

Description	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2025 budget £
Premises					
Premises maintenance, repairs & alterations		2,175.00	0.00	2,175.00	2,260.00
Premises insurances & rates		1,963.44	0.00	1,963.44	2,040.00
Utilities		2,243.10	0.00	2,243.10	2,331.00
Equipment			0.00	0.00	
Running Expenses					
Subscriptions		245.40	36,225.00	36,470.40	28,000.00
Telephone & Broadband		935.00	132.08	1,067.08	1,109.00
Office Supplies		2,911.83	0.00	2,911.83	3,025.00
Food Purchases		19,563.83	32,258.37	51,822.20	50,000.00
Transport		3,680.57	0.00	3,680.57	3,824.00
Depreciation		3,149.80	0.00	3,149.80	0.00
Volunteers					
Volunteers & Training		803.00	0.00	803.00	834.00
Hospitality	2	918.20	0.00	918.20	954.00
Employee Costs					
In.Honorarium M Fulton		60,791.30	31,937.76	92,729.06	96,345.00
OLM Expenses		0.00	751.68	751.68	781.00
Total payments		99,380.47	101,304.89	200,685.36	191,503.00

Balance Sheet as at 31/12/2024

Description	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Assets			
Fixed assets		0.00	3,149.80
Current assets			
Foodbank a/c		35,704.58	54,733.94
Virgin Money Deposit		74,419.67	55,122.71
Virgin Money Current		10.00	10.00
Cambridge Fixed Rate Bond		50,000.00	50,000.00
Debtors		0.00	0.00
Total Assets		160,134.25	163,016.45
Liabilities			
Creditors (falling due within 1 year)	3	10,794.12	12,843.03
Total Liabilities		10,794.12	12,843.03
Net current assets (Total assets less current liabilities)		149,340.13	150,173.42
Creditors (falling due after 1 year)		0.00	0.00
Total Net Assets		149,340.13	150,173.42
Funds			
Unrestricted		74,920.46	105,439.45
Restricted	4	74,419.67	44,733.97
		149,340.13	150,173.42

The notes to the accounts can be found in Appendix I

The main contributions are from employers, corporate donors and charitable trusts and these are listed in Appendix I. The Foodbank's trustees, partners, employees, and volunteers are very grateful to all the individuals and organizations that have provided financial support.

We try to acknowledge all gifts over £100 (for corporations) and £50 (for individuals and churches) by letter, providing we have the necessary contact details. For individuals who are income taxpayers, we would also be able to claim your income tax back on donations you made if you endorsed a declaration form* including your address and postcode.

The treasurer would be very pleased to hear from any individual or organization where a donation has not been acknowledged, or you have not signed a Gift Aid declaration. To donate please see the website.

*Download a form from the website, or contact the treasurer on angela.carrick@vishay.com.

Grant funding enables us to continue to run our services and pay the staff. In 2024 we were fortunate to be the recipients of the third and final tranche of the major grant from the Trussell Trust towards the provision of a financial advice service for foodbank users in partnership with West View Advice and Resource Centre. We also received from the Trussell Trust the second tranche of funding for the local mobilising officer to campaign for awareness of the effects of poverty. Support to purchase food has come from the Household Support Fund through Hartlepool Borough Council.

Appendix I: Notes to the Accounts

Corporate Donors over £500.00		Amount £	
1	Hartlepool Power Station (EDF)	3,294.00	
	Hart Biologicals	600.00	
	Teesside Charity	1,000.00	
	Hadley Shipping Company	2,500.00	
	Tesco (via Trussell Trust)	2,285.49	
	Utilita Giving	1,325.00	
	Asda (via Trussell Trust)	1,596.36	
	Hartlepool Swimming Club	2,859.85	
	Richardson Westgarth Social Club	810.00	
	Cubic Transport	500.00	
	Hartlepool Mayor's Fund	6,542.67	
	CEO Sleepout	500.00	
	Trust Alliance	3,250.00	
	Catcote Academy	1,268.15	
	One O'Clock Club	500.00	
	Total	28,831.52	
Grants		Amount £	Restricted to:
1	Greatham Hospital Trust	1,000.00	
	Hartlepool Borough Council (£2,000.00 unrestricted)	42,000.00	Food
	Trussell Trust (£5,624.10 unrestricted)	43,118.10	Financial Inclusion
	Trussell Trust (£5,355.00 unrestricted)	41,455.00	OLM Project
	PFC Trust	5,000.00	Food
	Neighbourly/ Sainsburys	500.00	
	Total	133,073.10	

2	Includes cost of volunteer refreshments and Christmas party drinks					
3	Utility and maintenance/Telephone accruals/WVARC accruals paid in 2025 and PAYE					
4	Description	£ Carried over from previous year (2023)	£ Restricted grants received	£ Spent during 2024	£ December payments	£ Restricted reserve at year end
	Trussell Trust Financial Inclusion	26,851.50	37,494.00	36,225.00	9,373.50	37,494.00
	HBC Support Parcels and Food	6,600.00	40,000.00	27,258.37		19,341.63
	PFC Trust Food		5,000.00	5,000.00		0.00
	Trussell Trust OLM Project	11,282.47	36,100.00	32,821.53	2,789.63	17,350.57
	Interest		233.47			233.47
	Total restricted funds	44,733.97	118,827.47	101,304.90	12,163.13	74,419.67

Appendix II: Registration Details

Hartlepool Foodbank CIO

Hartlepool Foodbank is registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organization (CIO)(Charity Number 1152046).

Address: 28 Church Street, Hartlepool TS24 7DH; telephone 01429 598404;
Website: www.hartlepool.foodbank.org.uk

Its **Objects** are:

The relief and prevention of poverty for persons in Hartlepool who are in a condition of need, hardship or distress ('Beneficiaries') in such ways as the Trustees think fit, in particular but not exclusively by:

- A) Supplying food packages to beneficiaries
- B) Such other means, including (but not limited to) the provision of support and advice.

The **Trustees** are:

Rev'd Dr Andrew Craig - Chair of Trustees
Mrs Angela Carrick – Treasurer
Mrs Finola Andelic-Pearson – Secretary
Mrs Susan Atkinson
Mr Alan MacDonald
Mr John Harvey
Ms Linn Eklund

Appendix III: Member Churches

Church of the Nazarene
Grace Church
Headland Baptist Church
New Life Fellowship
Owton Manor Baptist Church
Oxford Road Baptist Church
St. Aidan's Church
St. George's URC
St. Hilda's Church
St. John the Baptist Church, Greatham
St. John Vianney R.C. Church
St. Joseph's R.C. Church
St. Luke's Church
St. Mary Magdalene Church, Hart
St. Mary's R.C. Church
St. Oswald's Church
St. Patrick's R.C. Church
St. Paul's Church
St. Peter's Church, Elwick
Stranton Church

In order to become a member of foodbank, a Church should:

- Worship regularly within The Borough boundary of Hartlepool
- Worship regularly within the Borough boundary of Hartlepool
- Subscribe to a Trinitarian belief about God as articulated in the ancient (Athanasian and Apostle's) creeds of the Church
- Provide the trustees with names and contact details of at least one, and preferably two, members of the church as well as of the minister responsible for the church, these members having been given authority to represent their church at a General Meeting of the Foodbank.

Appendix IV: Examiner's Report

EXAMINER'S REPORT

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of the Hartlepool Food Bank CIO

I report on the accounts of the Community Interest Organisation for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act.
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

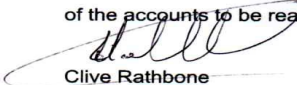
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act.

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.


Clive Rathbone
21 Wolviston Road,
Hartlepool, TS25 5AP
Dated: 31/03/2024



Hartlepool

Foodbank

Together with Trussell

Annual Report

2024

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Letter from the Chair

In September 2024 we held a conference in Greatham (thanks to the trustees and employees of the Hospital of God who provided the venue free of charge). This was, in effect, a mid-point review of Hartlepool Foodbank's 5-year strategy. The strategy is intended to reduce (in the long term, to do away with) the need for people to use foodbanks. We seek to achieve this by identifying and addressing the reasons for food insecurity and poverty, signposting clients to partner organizations that can help them address particular issues (e.g. Homelessness, poor mental health, substance abuse and addictions), helping clients with debt and better financial management and advocating for necessary changes in public policy. Our partnership with West View Advice & Resources has delivered quantifiable benefits to clients and undoubtedly enabled some of them to progress away from needing handouts of food. We hope that, working with the Community Store at Oxford Road Baptist Church, we will soon be able to identify that more individuals and families have been lifted out of food poverty. Over 2024 as a whole there was a small reduction in the number of people that had to use the foodbank compared with 2023. Given that economic conditions have not markedly improved for the most vulnerable groups during this period, these are the first indications that the strategy is having some effect in addressing food insecurity, reducing the need for handouts.

Our franchisor Trussell Trust has been re-branded Trussell and is in the process of re-ordering its strategy. It has fully funded a community influencer/organizer working in Hartlepool. Tracey Cartwright has contributed to local campaigns to increase knowledge of, and access to, benefits ("*Guarantee our Essentials*"); ensure that children have good beds to sleep in (*Zarach*); address poverty in Hartlepool generally (*Strategic Poverty Group*); and give a voice to people living on the margins (*The Poverty Truth Commission*). She is fostering partnerships, developing a communications strategy and building a team, to work with public authorities and (in collaboration with our MP and Trussell) national government, advocating for policy changes that will help us achieve our strategic aims.

Early in 2024 Teagan Burns resigned as deputy coordinator to pursue a new venture and Jayne Gray came in as warehouse manager, developing the logistical side of our operations with competence and enthusiasm. Hilary Sowden resigned as a trustee to become our deputy coordinator and Abi Knowles resigned as a trustee to become Trussell's new area manager in the North East. I am very grateful to Teagan, Jayne, Hilary and Abi for all of their outstanding contributions to our work and ethos over the year. Thanks go out to our new trustees John Harvey and Linn Eklund. I greatly look forward to bringing their enthusiasm and abilities to bear, working with them to direct our operations and strategic endeavours to ameliorate poverty and reduce dependency. In particular I would like to thank our coordinator Lisa Lavender, who is the mainstay of the organization, and whose social intelligence, compassion and, now, significant experience are a priceless resource for the wellbeing of employees, volunteers and, especially, clients.

There are both challenges and opportunities in 2025. We have always been blessed with generous supporters, both in goods and money, but we would now like to put the foodbank on a more secure financial footing. Lisa has taken over the task of preparing funding applications with support from trustee Susan Atkinson and our other employees without whom she could not have the capacity to raise funds as well as run our

operations. In 2024 we started collecting data from clients to support Tracey's work (on bed poverty and voter participation). More quantitative as well as qualitative (*Poverty Truth*) data could shed light on whether and how support has been effective in the past for our clients - and supplement the information and advice we are able to give to the public and political movers. This is groundwork for a communications strategy. Another challenge is re-connecting the foodbank with our members (Hartlepool's churches). Trussell instigated a project called *Church Ambassadors* in 2023 but we need more invitations for trustees and employees to come and present about our work to churches and related groups.

We continue to be grateful for a small group of people (the Food Network) who help direct surplus food from supermarkets and other outlets to organizations able to distribute it, and to Embleton Hall Dairy for supplies of fresh milk.

We are very grateful to the schools, churches, supermarkets and individuals that have continued collecting food for us. We are also very grateful for continued generous financial support from the Council, our member churches, individuals, retailers (including *Tesco*, the supporter of *Trussell* nationally), employers and charitable trusts. A list of donors is given in Appendix 1 of this report. Support from private sector organizations and employers is also very welcome, including from some of the larger retailers. We are especially grateful to those individuals and organizations that support us every year, giving us some confidence in a regular core income.

I would also like to thank my fellow trustees, especially our treasurer Angela Carrick who also provides payroll services at the same time as carrying out her own full-time job, Susan Atkinson who continues to oil our wheels administratively and financially and Alan MacDonald who has brought expertise, energy and commitment to the heart of our organization.

At the core of our operation is our corps of volunteers. Some of them work behind the scenes at the warehouse, handling tonnes of foodstuffs and driving the van; some in the back of the premises, assembling food bundles; and some in client-facing roles at the front. I'd like to make special mention of two others – Alison Deer who cleans our premises without charge, which is equivalent to a huge financial donation, and Gabriel Gustard who now masterminds our presence on social media. All of our volunteers are fabulous. Your contributions are beyond price. A heartfelt thanks to all.

I would also like to thank Mrs Josie Watson who continues to let us use 28 Church Street rent free; the owners and managers of Middleton Grange for providing us with our warehouse free of charge; and Clive Rathbone our *pro bono* auditor.

All of all our volunteers, supporters, donors, employees and fellow trustees – and those individuals and organizations that work in partnership with us – have done marvellous work that make a material change to the lives of hundreds of people who might otherwise face destitution. I give thanks to God for all of it and pray that it may continue and grow for the benefit of the vulnerable, troubled and marginalised in our town. Luke 6:20-21.



Yours sincerely,

Rev'd Dr Andrew Craig, Chair of Trustees

Hartlepool Foodbank Coordinator's Annual Report

Summary

We continue to remain constant as a foodbank providing a safe space for those who need us. We now have a new telephone number 01429 405543, please note this for your records.

As you are aware, we are a franchise of Trussell (formerly Trussell Trust). In September of 2024 we saw a rebrand from Trussell. The commitment remains the same to work towards ending the need for foodbanks. So much work is done behind the scenes to enable each and every foodbank within the network, up and down the UK, to have creative resources available to tackle the issue of the need for foodbanks. This year some of us had the pleasure of being part of a lobby day at the Houses of Parliament. This was an opportunity to bring to attention some of the wider issues that need addressing to end the need for foodbanks.

We continue to work with our partner agencies especially West View Advice & Resource Centre. Our partnership began in 2022 and has been a successful asset to the foodbank; providing on-site financial advice.

Our Operational Local Mobilier (OLM), Tracey Cartwright, has continued to network across the town building relationships and looking at local issues. Please see Tracey's report.

We saw our Deputy Coordinator, Teagan Burns, move onto pastures new. Teagan started at the foodbank as a volunteer and joined the staff in 2020, she has been a fabulous part of the team. We wish her all the best for her next venture.

My thanks go to Hilary Sowden who has now been in post as Deputy for the last 6 months. She does a grand job of deputising and supporting all aspects of the project. Thanks also go to Jayne Gray, our warehouse assistant, who has maintained excellent running of the warehouse during 2024 along with the team of volunteers. All stock is processed at the warehouse before coming to Church Street for distribution. Jayne and the team have done a sterling job.

Our on-going work continues with the joy of welcoming new volunteers both corporate and regular to the foodbank team.

One of the highlights for us in 2024 was our visit from Bob the therapy dog. He, along with his owner, spent the morning with the team assisting at one of our sessions. This was such a valuable insight to a different approach that was brought to the session. We hope for another visit in 2025. Another highlight was a visit from the 18th Hartlepool Scout Group Beaver Section. I visited the group to talk about the foodbank and the work that we do. The Beavers then visited the foodbank bringing with them a generous donation.

Volunteers

Our volunteers are the foodbank's best asset. They continually serve the community on a twice weekly basis. I mentioned last year the monetary value of the hours they put in but the truth is that their value is so much more. They listen to stories, pack, clean and move hundreds of kilograms of food, they remain faithful and loyal to the foodbank, always ready to help where they can; doing an extra shift, assisting with taking a parcel where it needs to be. Our Trustees are also volunteers, another commitment that cannot really be measured. The foodbank as a project is indebted to all that serve as a volunteer.

Thank you, Trustees, and the front-line team for all your hard work.

Donations and Distributions

In 2024 Hartlepool Foodbank volunteers processed 3000 vouchers which equates to 5554 people supported, of whom 4044 were adults and 1510 were children. This is a 3.6% reduction on the previous year. A positive step in the right direction. A total of 67 tonnes of food were given out in 2024.

The local community of Hartlepool continues to give generously. Donations come in varying forms; our permanent collection points in the supermarkets, drop offs at Church Street and our warehouse in Middleton Grange. Christmas was no exception, throughout the month of December a whopping 7.4 tonnes was donated this year. These amazing donations came from residents, local businesses, schools and churches. Incredible!

Financial contributions have also been constant again in this last year both from local businesses, community groups and individuals. Some of our highlights are;

- Hadley Shipping Company
- PFC Trust
- Rossmere Family Centre
- Hart Biological
- Cubic Transport
- Hartlepool Swimming Club
- One O'clock Club
- Richardsons & Westgarth Social Club
- Utilita
- Catcote Academy

Main donors and amounts are listed in Appendix I to the accounts. Once again, we are thankful for every contribution made.

Thank you for your support to keeping the foodbank going.

I would like to give special thanks this year to Kerry Foods.

We have 2 wonderful volunteers from their staff who assist us every Friday. They have also supported us with generous donations throughout the year alongside offering practical help where we may need it.

Our grateful thanks to Kerry Foods.

Part of our work is to give bulk donations, when we have temporary surpluses. We support the Kilmarnock Children's Centre with dog food, baby products and any surplus stock that may bless them. The West View Project is given donations of beans and pasta to help support an after school club. West View Advice & Resource Centre, along with Belle Vue Community Centre, is supported with dog food. It is a joy to be able to share resources across the town.

A small supply of single parcels and 'grab bags' goes to the Food Network based on the Headland and the Preventative Mental Health Team based in Burbank Street. This means that food is made available outside our normal sessions.

Household Support Fund

We were once again granted funds from the household support funding pot (government funds administered through Hartlepool Borough Council). This year the money was spent on food going directly to those attending the foodbank. This has been such a great help to the foodbank.

Financial Inclusion

We continue to offer financial advice in each of our sessions with our partner agency West View Advice & Resource Centre. This has been a great success with access being available instantly for our clients. Below is a snippet from our Financial Inclusion Manager at Trussell, Michelle Llewellyn;

Hartlepool has achieved outstanding F.I. gains and Debt managed, results have surpassed Trussell targets. An amazing £857,192.90 has been the monetary value of F.I. gains and debt managed, £28k of this people's debt has been written off. Additionally, 26 people have been prevented from homelessness which is truly fantastic and the social value will be significant.

The foodbank is pleased with the service as they advise this has added value to their offer – holistic now rather than transactional.

We look to continue this service into the future. It has proven to be effective and fruitful.

Facebook

We have seen a new look to our Facebook page this last year. With thanks to our volunteer Gabriel for taking this on. Gabriel is a local art student who joined the foodbank a couple of years ago. Using his artistic flare and passion for communication he has brought something new to the page. Please check us out – Hartlepool Foodbank.

Supermarket Collections

Our sincere thanks and gratitude to the fabulous stores in Hartlepool. All of the major stores hold permanent collection points for us to receive donations from shoppers.

Tesco Hartlepool Extra – 6426.8kg

Asda – 3617.3kg

Morrisons – 3216.4kg

Sainsbury – 1012.9kg

A huge thank you to the local community who donated to each of these points and to the smaller stores across the town including One Stop and Spar. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Looking to the future

We will continue alongside Trussell to work towards ending the need for foodbanks. In the mean time we will work to keep our financial advice service available to all who need the foodbank. Our OLM will continue to be out and about in the community looking at local issues. We shall continue to be there.

Lisa Lavender

Project Coordinator, Hartlepool Foodbank.

Local Organiser's Annual Report

As the cost of living crisis continues to affect the people who can least afford it, it's more important than ever that we help make change happen. I thoroughly enjoy being part of the food bank sessions, this enables me to have conversations with people using the service and to gain invaluable insight from the volunteers who carry out an incredible job. The briefing sessions allow me to keep staff and volunteers up to date with the Guarantee our Essentials campaigns, together with ideas and findings for my local campaign. Food banks were intended as a temporary measure to provide emergency food aid, they are a stopgap rather than a long-term solution. As detailed in our 5-year plan, we need measures to reduce or even eliminate the need for food banks in the UK.

Guarantee Our Essentials Campaign

Together, we achieved so much last year, and I'm excited about the opportunities ahead to strengthen the Guarantee our Essentials campaign and collaborate on new activities in this coming year. I have registered to be involved in sector catch-ups with Trussell and Joseph Rowntree Foundation to hear political insights and impact progress. The meetings are held bi-monthly and celebrate two years of driving real change and look ahead to exciting plans for 2025.

The Essentials Guarantee would ensure that social security payments never fall below the amount needed to afford the essentials to live, including household bills, food and transportation. Hartlepool Foodbank and the public have been taking action for a stronger social security system. Over 150,000 people signed our petition for an Essentials Guarantee. In the run-up to the General Election over 5,000 people contacted their parliamentary candidates to sign our pledge, which urged them to use their voice if elected to advocate for changes to ensure our social security system protects people from needing a food bank to survive.

We must continue to strive to create a society in which every individual has access to the necessities, and no one is forced to rely on a food bank to survive.

Labour's election-winning manifesto said:

Labour is committed to reviewing Universal Credit so that it makes work pay and tackles poverty. **"We want to end mass dependence on emergency food parcels, which is a moral scar on our society."**

We built on the Essentials Guarantee with the "Laying it all out on the table" activity. During food bank sessions in Hartlepool, clients, volunteers and staff wrote on tablecloths to bring together stories of hardship and hope. More than 1000 messages were collected from staff, volunteers; MPs; celebrities; and people with lived experience of hardship, across hundreds of events over the summer. This resulted in copies of "The Hardship Times" being distributed around Parliament Square and delivered to Westminster. This one-off

publication was filled with stories of hope and hardship that had been gathered from across the UK by food banks, charities, faith groups and businesses.

Networking

During my time as a Local Organiser, I have maintained and established new relationships with people who have a wealth of knowledge, experience and passion for change. I continue to play a significant role in Hartlepool's Poverty Truth Commission and the Strategic Poverty Group. I have established a great new working relationship with Zarach, the bed poverty charity, since it began working in the town last July. I am in contact with our newly elected local MP, Jonathan Brash. He has visited the foodbank and taken an active interest in the support we provide and the actions we are taking to reduce the need for food banks.

Hartlepool Poverty Truth Commission

The Poverty Truth Commission involves engaging with people with lived experience of poverty and leaders in the community to discover and address the causes of poverty. The Commission was formed in 2023 and we meet on a monthly basis, with regular contact maintained between meetings. A launch event took place in May 2024 and was very well received by all who attended. The Poverty Truth Commission seeks to discover the answer to the question "What if people who struggled against poverty were involved in making decisions about tackling poverty?" The Commission comprises two groups of people. A group with lived experience of the struggle against poverty meets with local leaders/decision makers within Hartlepool. Collectively we work to understand the nature of poverty, elucidate the underlying issues that create poverty and explore creative ways of addressing them. Following the launch event, the 3 main issues identified were housing, access to services and community spaces.

I am part of the housing group. The group has so far, identified a vision of "Safe and well-maintained homes." The goals, actions and aspirations of the group include work on bringing derelict properties back into use; accessible information to improve access to resources that support tenants e.g. addressing condensation and damp issues; how to contact landlords and understand tenant rights; guidance on financial help for household bills, rent, or white goods.

Strategic Poverty Group

This is a group of like-minded professionals, who meet fortnightly to discuss how we can make positive changes for the residents of Hartlepool, struggling with poverty. The meetings are chaired by Tracey Herrington from Thrive and have been running for several years. I have been an active member of this group since July 2023. We class ourselves as a "doing group" and our priorities include maximising household incomes; making work a route out of poverty and the best start in life for the next generation.

The "Did you Know" Campaign came about as a result of the group's findings. Lisa and I played a large part in deciding the content and layout for the campaign. I allocated part of

my campaign budget to financially support the publication. The 4-page wraparound published in October 2024 was a huge success. Advice agencies across the town confirmed there has been an increase in people requesting a benefit check in response to the £80 million figure unclaimed in Hartlepool being publicised. Hartlepool Borough Council also recorded a peak in people accessing their on-line services following the publication.

Local Campaign Idea

The cost of living crisis has deepened the impact of child poverty. Children need a good night's sleep in order to thrive, yet research is showing that families in crisis are having to prioritise essentials such as food, heating and electricity over things like replacing mouldy bedding or fixing a broken bed. This also ties in with the national "Guarantee Our Essentials" campaign. With help from volunteers and staff, I carried out a survey in foodbank sessions from October to December 2024. 69 Families with a total of 126 Children completed a bed survey. 53 Families with a total of 102 Children stated each child had their own bed. 16 Families stated that 24 Children did not have a bed of their own. Zarach have estimated the number of children in bed poverty in Hartlepool is 1,576. Between 1st July to 31st December 2024, they have delivered 203 beds in Hartlepool and now have 73% of schools registered to refer to them.

Currently Zarach largely relies on schools to spot signs of bed poverty and refer children to them for support. It wants to extend the partnership to local authorities across the country to continue its momentum and make even more of a difference.

The next part of my campaign is to work with Zarach on extending the partnership with Hartlepool Borough Council, to see what can be achieved when a local authority gets involved and how many more people can be helped. I held a meeting with staff, trustees and volunteers in January to get their ideas on how we could raise issues with the council, local MP and media. The group came up with some great creative ideas and were keen to be involved in different ways.

Future Plans

I am looking forward to another very busy and exciting year ahead. My plan is to arrange further meetings with volunteers; to build and act on the ideas provided at the meeting in January and bring them to fruition.

Thank you for being part of this journey - together we can make 2025 another impactful year.

Tracey Cartwright: Local Organiser

Financial Report 2024

The accounts are unaudited. The independent examiner's report on the 2023 accounts is given in Appendix IV (the 2024 accounts will be examined later in the year).

Many thanks are due to our independent examiner, Clive Rathbone, for contributing to the work of the foodbank by carrying out the independent examination of the accounts without payment.

Income 2024

Description	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2025 budget £
Private donations		27,840.34	0.00	27,840.34	30,000.00
Church donations		1,238.00	0.00	1,238.00	2,000.00
Corporate donations	1	32,051.08	0.00	32,051.08	40,000.00
Grant funding		14,479.10	118,594.00	133,073.10	80,000.00
Gift aid tax recovered		2,795.83	0.00	2,795.83	3,000.00
Bank Interest		2,620.25	233.47	2,853.72	3,000.00
Total receipts		81,024.60	118,827.47	199,852.07	158,000.00

Expenditure 2024

Description	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2025 budget £
Premises					
Premises maintenance, repairs & alterations		2,175.00	0.00	2,175.00	2,260.00
Premises insurances & rates		1,963.44	0.00	1,963.44	2,040.00
Utilities		2,243.10	0.00	2,243.10	2,331.00
Equipment			0.00	0.00	
Running Expenses					
Subscriptions		245.40	36,225.00	36,470.40	28,000.00
Telephone & Broadband		935.00	132.08	1,067.08	1,109.00
Office Supplies		2,911.83	0.00	2,911.83	3,025.00
Food Purchases		19,563.83	32,258.37	51,822.20	50,000.00
Transport		3,680.57	0.00	3,680.57	3,824.00
Depreciation		3,149.80	0.00	3,149.80	0.00
Volunteers					
Volunteers & Training		803.00	0.00	803.00	834.00
Hospitality	2	918.20	0.00	918.20	954.00
Employee Costs					
In.Honorarium M Fulton		60,791.30	31,937.76	92,729.06	96,345.00
OLM Expenses		0.00	751.68	751.68	781.00
Total payments		99,380.47	101,304.89	200,685.36	191,503.00

Balance Sheet as at 31/12/2024

Description	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Assets			
Fixed assets		0.00	3,149.80
Current assets			
Foodbank a/c		35,704.58	54,733.94
Virgin Money Deposit		74,419.67	55,122.71
Virgin Money Current		10.00	10.00
Cambridge Fixed Rate Bond		50,000.00	50,000.00
Debtors		0.00	0.00
Total Assets		160,134.25	163,016.45
Liabilities			
Creditors (falling due within 1 year)	3	10,794.12	12,843.03
Total Liabilities		10,794.12	12,843.03
Net current assets (Total assets less current liabilities)		149,340.13	150,173.42
Creditors (falling due after 1 year)		0.00	0.00
Total Net Assets		149,340.13	150,173.42
Funds			
Unrestricted		74,920.46	105,439.45
Restricted	4	74,419.67	44,733.97
		149,340.13	150,173.42

The notes to the accounts can be found in Appendix I

The main contributions are from employers, corporate donors and charitable trusts and these are listed in Appendix I. The Foodbank's trustees, partners, employees, and volunteers are very grateful to all the individuals and organizations that have provided financial support.

We try to acknowledge all gifts over £100 (for corporations) and £50 (for individuals and churches) by letter, providing we have the necessary contact details. For individuals who are income taxpayers, we would also be able to claim your income tax back on donations you made if you endorsed a declaration form* including your address and postcode.

The treasurer would be very pleased to hear from any individual or organization where a donation has not been acknowledged, or you have not signed a Gift Aid declaration. To donate please see the website.

*Download a form from the website, or contact the treasurer on angela.carrick@vishay.com.

Grant funding enables us to continue to run our services and pay the staff. In 2024 we were fortunate to be the recipients of the third and final tranche of the major grant from the Trussell Trust towards the provision of a financial advice service for foodbank users in partnership with West View Advice and Resource Centre. We also received from the Trussell Trust the second tranche of funding for the local mobilising officer to campaign for awareness of the effects of poverty. Support to purchase food has come from the Household Support Fund through Hartlepool Borough Council.

Appendix I: Notes to the Accounts

Corporate Donors over £500.00		Amount £	
1	Hartlepool Power Station (EDF)	3,294.00	
	Hart Biologicals	600.00	
	Teesside Charity	1,000.00	
	Hadley Shipping Company	2,500.00	
	Tesco (via Trussell Trust)	2,285.49	
	Utilita Giving	1,325.00	
	Asda (via Trussell Trust)	1,596.36	
	Hartlepool Swimming Club	2,859.85	
	Richardson Westgarth Social Club	810.00	
	Cubic Transport	500.00	
	Hartlepool Mayor's Fund	6,542.67	
	CEO Sleepout	500.00	
	Trust Alliance	3,250.00	
	Catcote Academy	1,268.15	
	One O'Clock Club	500.00	
	Total	28,831.52	
Grants		Amount £	Restricted to:
1	Greatham Hospital Trust	1,000.00	
	Hartlepool Borough Council (£2,000.00 unrestricted)	42,000.00	Food
	Trussell Trust (£5,624.10 unrestricted)	43,118.10	Financial Inclusion
	Trussell Trust (£5,355.00 unrestricted)	41,455.00	OLM Project
	PFC Trust	5,000.00	Food
	Neighbourly/ Sainsburys	500.00	
	Total	133,073.10	

2	Includes cost of volunteer refreshments and Christmas party drinks					
3	Utility and maintenance/Telephone accruals/WVARC accruals paid in 2025 and PAYE					
4	Description	£ Carried over from previous year (2023)	£ Restricted grants received	£ Spent during 2024	£ December payments	£ Restricted reserve at year end
	Trussell Trust Financial Inclusion	26,851.50	37,494.00	36,225.00	9,373.50	37,494.00
	HBC Support Parcels and Food	6,600.00	40,000.00	27,258.37		19,341.63
	PFC Trust Food		5,000.00	5,000.00		0.00
	Trussell Trust OLM Project	11,282.47	36,100.00	32,821.53	2,789.63	17,350.57
	Interest		233.47			233.47
	Total restricted funds	44,733.97	118,827.47	101,304.90	12,163.13	74,419.67

Appendix II: Registration Details

Hartlepool Foodbank CIO

Hartlepool Foodbank is registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organization (CIO)(Charity Number 1152046).

Address: 28 Church Street, Hartlepool TS24 7DH; telephone 01429 598404;
Website: www.hartlepool.foodbank.org.uk

Its **Objects** are:

The relief and prevention of poverty for persons in Hartlepool who are in a condition of need, hardship or distress ('Beneficiaries') in such ways as the Trustees think fit, in particular but not exclusively by:

- A) Supplying food packages to beneficiaries
- B) Such other means, including (but not limited to) the provision of support and advice.

The **Trustees** are:

Rev'd Dr Andrew Craig - Chair of Trustees
Mrs Angela Carrick – Treasurer
Mrs Finola Andelic-Pearson – Secretary
Mrs Susan Atkinson
Mr Alan MacDonald
Mr John Harvey
Ms Linn Eklund

Appendix III: Member Churches

Church of the Nazarene
Grace Church
Headland Baptist Church
New Life Fellowship
Owton Manor Baptist Church
Oxford Road Baptist Church
St. Aidan's Church
St. George's URC
St. Hilda's Church
St. John the Baptist Church, Greatham
St. John Vianney R.C. Church
St. Joseph's R.C. Church
St. Luke's Church
St. Mary Magdalene Church, Hart
St. Mary's R.C. Church
St. Oswald's Church
St. Patrick's R.C. Church
St. Paul's Church
St. Peter's Church, Elwick
Stranton Church

In order to become a member of foodbank, a Church should:

- Worship regularly within The Borough boundary of Hartlepool
- Worship regularly within the Borough boundary of Hartlepool
- Subscribe to a Trinitarian belief about God as articulated in the ancient (Athanasian and Apostle's) creeds of the Church
- Provide the trustees with names and contact details of at least one, and preferably two, members of the church as well as of the minister responsible for the church, these members having been given authority to represent their church at a General Meeting of the Foodbank.

Appendix IV: Examiner's Report

EXAMINER'S REPORT

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of the Hartlepool Food Bank CIO

I report on the accounts of the Community Interest Organisation for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act.
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act.

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.


Clive Rathbone
21 Wolviston Road,
Hartlepool, TS25 5AP
Dated: 31/03/2024

EXAMINER'S REPORT

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of the Hartlepool Food Bank CIO

I report on the accounts of the Community Interest Organisation for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 1.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

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- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act.
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- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view', and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

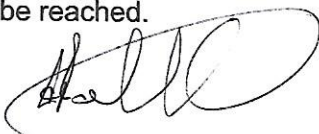
(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act.

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Clive Rathbone
21 Wolviston Road
Hartlepool, TS25 5AP
Dated: 04th May 2025



Accounts



Annual Report

2023

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Chairman's Letter

The “cost of living crisis” and the withdrawal of supplementary payments of Universal Credit that had been introduced by the Government to help families during the Covid 19 pandemic combined to increase the demand for food aid to unprecedented levels during 2023. The numbers of vouchers presented at most sessions now, and people needing help, would have been considered exceptional just a few years ago. We have had to extend the hours of opening on Tuesdays and Fridays to accommodate this. At the same time donations of food did not increase overall, which meant that we exceeded by a factor of about 4 our budget for purchasing additional food to meet demand.

That’s the bad news. Our strategic aim, and that of our franchisor Trussell Trust, has been to reduce, not increase, the call for emergency food aid. In time we would love to create conditions that would mean foodbanks were no longer needed. We are in the second year of the implementation of our 5 year plan with that vision in mind. Our partnership with West View Advice & Resources Centre for financial inclusion has already made quantifiable improvements to the financial wellbeing of hundreds of vulnerable people. In April we welcomed Tracey Cartwright as a community influencer/organizer to help identify and tackle issues that relate to food poverty. Tracey is developing a strategy that will initially address *bed poverty*, working with Hartlepool schools and the charity *Zarach*. Both of these initiatives have been fully resourced by the Trussell Trust.

We have also been working with one of our member churches, Oxford Road Baptist Church, to establish a community store at the church in collaboration with *The Message Trust*. When opened early in 2024, this will give access to a full range of fresh and pre-packaged food and personal products at a very low, heavily subsidised price, giving members the dignity of choosing, and paying for, their goods – reducing the need for handouts. This project provides further opportunities for love and Christian service of disadvantaged people and families in our communities.

We are grateful for our friends in Hartlepool’s Food Network, who help direct surplus food from supermarkets and other outlets to organizations able to distribute it. As a result of this and the continued generosity of Embleton Hall Dairy, we have been able to extend the range of food given to clients, including fresh bread, dairy products and, sometimes, fresh fruit and vegetables.

The development of a food plan for Hartlepool continues. Supported also by Hartlepool Borough Council and the *Joseph Rowntree Trust*, and facilitated by *Hartlepower*, fora have been held on a variety of topics including nourishment of children and the community use of land for food. We look forward to continuing being involved with the Food Partnership.

We are very grateful to the schools, churches, supermarkets and individuals that have continued collecting food for us - and also to our corps of volunteers, none of whom have withdrawn on account of the additional demands on their time and energy. We are also very grateful for continued generous financial support from the Council, our member churches, individuals, retailers (including *Tesco*, the supporter of *Trussell Trust* nationally), employers

and charitable trusts. A list of donors is given in Appendix 1 of this report. Support from private sector organizations and employers is also very welcome, including from some of the larger retailers. We are especially grateful for those individuals and organizations that support us every year, giving us some confidence in a regular core income.

I would also like to thank my fellow trustees, especially our treasurer Angela Carrick who also provides payroll services at the same time as carrying out her own full-time job – and Susan Atkinson who continues to oil our wheels administratively and financially. Alan MacDonald joined the trustees in 2023 and I value the expertise, energy and commitment that he has brought to our work. There continues to be at least 1 trustee vacancy and I am interested to hear from any individual who might consider contributing in this way by joining us.

I pay tribute to our coordinator, Lisa Lavender, who has continued ably leading the foodbank through challenging times. Our job-share deputy coordinator and warehouse manager, Paul Anderson, resigned in September, so I would like to thank him for his contributions over the last 2 years – and also Teagan Burns who stepped up to the mark, taking on additional hours and responsibilities, contributing hugely to our presence on social media and, together with Marion Fulton, maintaining and improving the warehouse operation.

As well as our employees and volunteers, I would like to thank Mrs Josie Watson who continues to let us use 28 Church Street rent free; the owners and managers of Middleton Grange for providing us with our warehouse free of charge; and Clive Rathbone our *pro bono* auditor.

To all our supporters, employees, volunteers and funders, thank you very much for your generosity, your commitment and your love of the individuals and families in difficulties that we serve. I'm looking forward to continuing striving with you for the good of those who need our help in the year ahead. God bless you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrew Craig".

Rev'd Dr Andrew Craig
Chair of Trustees

Hartlepool Foodbank Coordinator's Annual Report

Summary

As a Foodbank we remain constant; to provide a welcome and safe space for those who need us. As always, our donations have peaked and troughed during this last year, but we have always had enough to give out.

We continue to work with our partner agencies. To end the need for foodbanks takes a 'joined up' approach, one we cannot do alone. We meet a very practical need and hope that we can provide respite from stress. One of our main aims is to assist with the wider needs, to do this we need our partner agencies, therefore our relationships are very important to us. We have seen a new staff member join the team, Tracey Cartwright, our Local Mobiliser. Tracey joined the team in April 2023, her role is new to Trussell Trust and to us as a foodbank but we are looking forward to seeing the fruits of this new role. Please see the report from Tracey. Paul Anderson moved onto pastures new and we wish Paul all the best. We have also had the joy of welcoming new volunteers both corporate and regular to the foodbank team.

Volunteers

Our volunteers are incredible. They remain loyal and faithful to our sessions. Without them we simply would not exist. This last year is yet another testimony to their commitment to the foodbank. We recently celebrated them with our Christmas Pie'n'Peas at the Nursery Pub.

Thank you Debbie and staff and the band Acoustic Buffoonery for a lovely evening.

The volunteers have clocked up an incredible 9996 hours plus, which in terms of monetary value would be in the region of £114,954. Our Trustees are also volunteers and tirelessly serve the team behind the scenes. Both the hours and monetary value go beyond the above figures.

Our huge Thanks to both the Amazing Volunteers and Trustees of Hartlepool Foodbank.

Donations and Distributions

In 2023 Hartlepool Foodbank Volunteers processed 3109 vouchers which equates to 6116 people fed of which 4256 were adults and 1860 were children. This is an increase of 34% from the previous year which saw 2323 Voucher processed; 4582 people fed of which 1499 was children.

The Community and Businesses of Hartlepool continue to give despite the cost-of-living crisis. Some of the highlights include:

- Hart Biological
- Pheonix Group

- Cubic Transport
- Tanglewood Games
- Virgin
- Hartlepool United Football Club
- A sponsored Boxing Day dip
- Continued support from Embleton Dairy
- Continued support from Warburtons
- Provision on weekly sandwiches from Fast Snacks

We also have a number of individuals who give financially on a regular basis. All donors and amounts are listed in the finance section. Food donations come in on a weekly basis from all over Hartlepool, Children's Nursery's, Local Football Clubs, Schools, Churches. Our donations also come from far and wide. Another regular donor lives 300 miles away, our thanks to Ai Peng who sends regular donations from Asda. We have so many that give on a regular basis. We are indebted to **ALL** who give. Your support and generosity are greatly appreciated.

A big Thank You for your support and kindness.

This year I would like to honour Cath Francois who has single handedly donated a whopping 3506kg and Fast Snacks for their provision of sandwiches every week to give out to our clients.

***Thank you, Fast Snacks, – You are greatly appreciated
Thank you, Cath, for being so faithful with your weekly drop offs.***

We continue to give out bulk donations. A small supply of single parcels and 'grab bags' go to the Food Network based on the Headland and the Preventative Mental Health Team based in Burbank Street. This means food is available for those who need it outside of our normal sessions. This year, once again, we applied for funding from the Household Support Fund. A sum of £20,000 was granted by our local council to provide single food parcels to C.A.B, Advice at Hart and West View Advice & Resource Centre. We provide 28 parcels a month to each agency over a 6-month period. This current period will end in March 2024. These parcels are 'No Voucher Required'. As part of the Household Support Fund, the agencies have autonomy when distributing the parcels.

Hands Up for Hartlepool

We have now closed the space in Middleton Grange and handed the key back. The space was not proving productive. We originally set up the space to invite agencies to come along. This was to provide an extra service to those who use the foodbank and to help with wider issues. This did not take off as we had hoped with the closure due to the pandemic. The space was handed back to Middleton Grange.

The Story So Far

From previous reports you will know that Trussell Trust embarked on a 5-year strategy to end the need for foodbanks. We began with introducing a financial advisor to our sessions. This was through partnering with West View Advice and Resource Centre (WVARC). This is going very well. Below is from Katherine Parker from WVARC;

Since the formal partnership agreement between Hartlepool Foodbank and West View Advice & Resource Centre started in September 2022, it is estimated that 205 individuals (up to 31st December 2023) no longer needed to use the food bank for food, after accessing advice and support. 151 individuals have achieved or are expected to achieve financial gains in excess of £813,925.90. Initially, when the partnership started, we tried having different advisers on site, but we now have an established worker based in the foodbank sessions who then refers to our wider team as required. Having an established advisor keeps continuity for those who need to access the advice.

The next part of the strategy was to hire a Local Mobiliser. With the support of Trussell Trust, the post was filled in April 2023. The post was developed to look at local issues and support with campaigning for change. Each area within the Trussell Trust Network will have different issues. The mobiliser role will look at what is unique to Hartlepool and how we can 'make the change'. Alongside both roles, we shall continue to work from our strategy plan. This is available on our website and in hard copy. Should this be of interest please email info@hartlepool.foodbank.org.uk

Supermarket Donations

Our thanks, once again, for the support of our local supermarkets;

Tesco – 8497kg

Asda - 3798kg

Morrisons – 2825kg

Sainsburys – 1370kg

We have permanent collection points in each of the supermarkets.

A huge thank you to the local community who donated to each of these points.

Looking to the future.

We shall continue in the 'fight' to end the need for foodbanks, continue to work with partner agencies to do the best we can to serve the people of Hartlepool. We shall remain constant with our opening days and times and hope for the day when we are no longer needed.

Lisa Lavender

Project Coordinator, Hartlepool Foodbank

Local Organiser's Annual Report

I began this new role on 3rd April 2023 and can't quite believe how quickly the last 9 months have gone! I feel I have learnt a lot and put my skills to good use during this time. As the cost of living continues to affect the people who can least afford it, it's more important than ever that we work to make change happen. I thoroughly enjoy being part of the food bank sessions which enables me to have one-to-one conversations with people using the service and to gain invaluable insight from the volunteers who carry out an incredible job. The briefing sessions allow me to keep staff and volunteers up to date with the 'Guarantee our Essentials' campaign together with ideas and findings for my local campaign. The work of our food bank network is inspiring, but as detailed in our 5-year plan, the hope is that everyone will have enough for basic living costs and the right to choose.

Networking

I have worked in the benefit sector for over 35 years and have used my connections to establish relationships with people who have a wealth of knowledge, experience and passion for change. I have helped to form new links between Hartlepool Jobcentre Plus and Hartlepool Foodbank, which is proving invaluable in working together to encourage partnership work and promote change. The contacts established during my first few months in post have led me to also play a significant role in Hartlepool's Poverty Truth Commission and the Strategic Poverty Group.

Hartlepool Poverty Truth Commission

The Poverty Truth Commission involves engaging with people with lived experience of poverty and leaders in the community to discover and address the causes of poverty. The first meeting was in November 2023, and we meet monthly with regular contact between meetings. The project is at an early stage with relationships being built and a launch event planned for Spring 2024. It will run for 18 months in total. The Poverty Truth Commission seeks to discover the answer to the question "What if people who struggled against poverty were involved in making decisions about tackling poverty?" The Commission will comprise two groups of people. A group of around 15 people with lived experience of the struggle against poverty will meet with around 15 people who are leaders/decision makers within Hartlepool. Collectively we work to understand the nature of poverty, what are some of the underlying issues that create poverty and explore creative ways of addressing them. It is hoped that at least 3 issues will be identified after 6 months, and I will lead a sub team on one of these issues or potentially a different issue depending on what areas are identified.

Strategic Poverty Group

This is a group of like-minded professionals, who meet fortnightly to discuss how we can make positive changes for the residents of Hartlepool, struggling with poverty. The meetings are chaired by Penny Thompson from Hartlepool Borough Council and have been running for

several years. I have been an active member of this group since July 2023 and Penny has praised the people currently attending the meetings, saying we have given her the most hope that change will happen soon.

Guarantee our Essentials Campaign

I feel passionate about the 'Guarantee Our Essentials' campaign launched on 8th September 2023 and have played an active part in its promotion. On 9th September Margaret, Lisa, Teagan, the volunteers, and I took part in the Action Day at Tesco. This was a huge success, not only in promoting awareness of the campaign and obtaining signatures, but in asking for and receiving food donations. The campaign calls on UK political party leaders to support the introduction of an Essentials Guarantee within Universal Credit to ensure that the basic rate at least covers life's essentials such as food and bills. For 75 years the rate of benefits has been marginally increased in line with inflation, but an overhaul of the system is required. Research by charities reveals that the £85 weekly Universal Credit standard allowance is £35 less than the weekly cost of common essential items for a single person, contributing to hundreds of thousands of people being forced to use food banks because they can't make ends meet. Right now, 90% of low-income households receiving Universal Credit say they have to go without essentials, according to research by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. The Essentials Guarantee would be enshrined in law and set regularly, based on an independent recommendation. It would be the first time since the welfare state was created that social security rates were based on what people need, and how much those things cost. The charities calculated that a list of essential items includes utility bills, travel expenses, food essentials, plus hygiene and cleaning products currently cost approximately £120 per week for a single person.

The campaign will end at the end of February 2024 and be handed to all UK political party leaders. To date 40,000 signatures have been obtained with a final push planned for February 2024, new materials are being sent to me this week. I will be sharing the information with staff, volunteers and foodbank users as soon as I receive them. Working closely with Lisa and Teagan, we have been making up information packs to place in food bags given to clients. The January packs contain the "Guarantee our Essentials" postcard, loan shark pen and sweet treats. We are planning on continuing this with different items each month. February packs will include the new campaign material, a heart healthy recipe and chocolate hearts for a Valentines theme.

Local and Senior Organiser meetings

I attend regular meetings online and in person with both Local and Senior Organisers. I find them supportive, informative and reassuring, as it can feel isolated being the only person in Hartlepool carrying out this relatively new role. I have made some good friends and contacts with other local organisers in the North East and across the country. We have our own communication network, which I contribute to regularly with updates on what I am working on and to discuss ideas. I have also volunteered to be part of a Trussell Trust campaigning training and resources feedback group, to help food banks across the network to campaign more effectively. I participate in a few email consultations a month, providing feedback on areas such as training, learning resources and how the Digital Hub can be improved. A

flagship Organising Programme event in Manchester has been arranged for February 2024. It will include speakers, updates, training and to catchup and learn from other organisers. I have opted to attend the main event together with an optional networking morning, where I am looking forward to meeting up with new staff from cohort 5 and building on existing relationships with established organisers.

Local Campaign Idea

Following local meetings, communication sessions and discussions with Trustees and Foodbank users, my first local campaign will be around "Bed Poverty." The cost-of-living crisis has deepened the impact of child poverty. Children need a good night's sleep in order to thrive, yet research is showing that families in crisis are having to prioritise essentials such as food, heating and electricity over things like replacing mouldy bedding or fixing a broken bed. This also ties in with the national "Guarantee Our Essentials" campaign. I am in regular contact with Jess Sandy, the National Development Manager at Zarach, a charity that was established in 2018 to end child bed poverty in England. Zarach have already identified Hartlepool as an area they would like to support, and they hosted a launch event on Thursday 30th November 2023. They are hoping to get most primary schools in Hartlepool involved, as this will be how referrals are made. Following the launch, 43% of primary schools registered to become involved in the scheme. I will continue to meet with Jess and the Headteacher of High Tunstall School as the service begins its rollout in Hartlepool. Once Jess secures further anchor funding, paid jobs and volunteer positions will be advertised. Jess has numerous funding contacts in the pipeline, and I provide her with information on grants and foundations that do not conflict with Hartlepool Foodbanks financial needs. The charity will supply bed bundles to families, but they also want to campaign to get to the root of the problems families are facing. I will be working closely with the staff, volunteers and families involved to run this campaign.

I have created a Bed Poverty Questionnaire that is being used at Foodbank sessions with families who are happy to complete the short survey. This is helping to gain data on percentages percentages of children requiring food parcels that also do not have their own bed to sleep in or adequate warm bedding. My aim is that statistics, good news stories and case studies obtained from the survey and working with families helped by Zarach, will all add to the success of the campaign. My findings to date are that a third of children in Hartlepool do not have their own bed. These figures tie in with the "No child left behind" statistics that Hartlepool has 7384 children trapped in poverty equating to 35% of children in Hartlepool. Sadly, at the time of preparing this report, Hartlepool's MP has not signed up to the pledge "to do everything in her power so that no child is left behind in Hartlepool." I have emailed her regarding this and await her response.

Future Plans

I am looking forward to a very busy and exciting General Election year ahead. I will contact local Councillors with monthly Foodbank data, supplied by Lisa. I will share the number of people in each of their wards who need to use foodbanks. This will hopefully highlight the issues affecting their communities and raise awareness of the changes needed to work towards a future without the need for foodbanks.

Tracey Cartwright
Local Organiser, Hartlepool Foodbank

Financial Report 2023

The accounts are unaudited. The independent examiner's report on the 2022 accounts is given in Appendix IV (the 2023 accounts will be examined later in the year).

Many thanks are due to our independent examiner, Clive Rathbone, for contributing to the work of the foodbank by carrying out the independent examination of the accounts without payment.

Income 2023

Description	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2024 budget £
Private donations	1	24,475.58	0.00	24,475.58	30,000
Church donations		1,388.41	0.00	1,388.41	2,000
Corporate donations	1	39,043.07	0.00	39,043.07	40,000
Grant funding		38,470.30	86,502.00	124,972.30	120,000
Gift aid tax recovered		3,058.67	0.00	3,058.67	3,000
Bank Interest		443.15	0.00	443.15	2,200
Total receipts		106,879.18	86,502.00	193,381.18	197,200

Expenditure 2024

Description	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2024 budget £
Premises					
Premises maintenance, repairs & alterations		3,976.39	0.00	3,976.39	4,000.00
Premises insurances & rates		1,822.52	0.00	1,822.52	2,000.00
Utilities		1,406.68	0.00	1,406.68	2,500.00
Equipment		4,117.91	0.00	4,117.91	2,000.00
Middleton Grange Project		1,106.14	0.00	1,106.14	0.00
Running Expenses					
Subscriptions		474.00	34,585.50	35,059.50	38,500
Telephone & Broadband		831.33	0.00	831.50	900
Office Supplies		375.78	0.00	375.78	500
Food Purchases		42,881.71	8,400.00	51,281.71	40,000
Support Boxes		1,355.43	1,929.77	3,285.20	6,600
Transport		4,040.64	0.00	4,040.64	4,500
Depreciation		6,299.60	0.00	6,299.60	3,150
Volunteers					
Volunteers Training		0.00	0.00	0.00	200
Expenses	2	675.05	0.00	675.05	500
Hospitality	3	866.38	0.00	866.38	1,000
Employee Costs		56,755.51	0.00	56,755.51	57,500
OLM Project inc. IT & phone		0.00	24,417.53	24,417.53	33,300

Total payments	126,985.07	69,332.80	196,317.87	196,850	

Balance Sheet as at 31/12/2023

Description	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Assets			
Fixed assets		3,149.80	9,449.40
Foodbank a/c		54,733.94	96,168.98
Virgin Money Deposit		55,122.71	
Virgin Money Current		10.00	
Cambridge Fixed Rate Bond		50,000.00	
Deposit a/c			50,025.00
Debtors			267.01
Total Assets		163,016.45	155,910.39
Liabilities			
Creditors (falling due within 1 year)	4	12,843.03	2,800.28
Total Liabilities		12,843.03	2,800.28
Net current assets (Total assets less current liabilities)		150,173.42	153,110.11
Creditors (falling due after 1 year)		0.00	0.00
Total Net Assets		150,173.42	153,110.11
Funds			
Unrestricted		105,439.45	125,545.34
Restricted	5	44,733.97	27,564.77
		150,173.42	153,110.11

The notes to the account can be found in Appendix I

The main contributions are from employers, corporate donors and charitable trusts and these are listed in Appendix II. The Foodbank's trustees, partners, employees, and volunteers are very grateful to all the individuals and organizations that have provided financial support.

We try to acknowledge all gifts over £100 (for corporations) and £50 (for individuals and churches) by letter, providing we have the necessary contact details. For individuals who are income taxpayers, we would also be able to claim your income tax back on donations you made if you endorsed a declaration form* including your address and postcode.

The treasurer would be very pleased to hear from any individual or organization where a donation has not been acknowledged, or you have not signed a Gift Aid declaration. To donate please see the website.

*Download a form from the website, or contact the treasurer on angela.carrick@vishay.com.

Grant funding enables us to continue to run our services and pay the staff. In 2023 we were fortunate to be the recipients of the second tranche of the major grant from the Trussell Trust towards the provision of a financial advice service for foodbank users in partnership with West View Advice and Resource Centre. We have also received from the Trussell Trust funding to employ a local mobilising officer to campaign for awareness of the effects of poverty.

Appendix I: Notes to the Accounts

Appendix I

Notes to the Accounts

1	Donor over £500.00		
	Donor over £500.00	Amount £	Restricted to:
	Tesco (via Trussell Trust)	2,978.36	
	Hart Biologicals	600.00	
	Skipton Building Society	500.00	
	Hartlepool United FC	1,000.00	
	Teesside Charity	1,000.00	
	Phoenix Group	562.30	
	Asda (via Trussell Trust)	2,896.44	
	Cubic	500.00	
	Cubic Staff	500.00	
	Cowie Technology	3,000.00	
	Jamie Sterry	1,597.50	
	N M Bew	1,200.00	
	L Pattison	1,440.00	
	CEO Sleepout	750.00	
	Sainsbury's Neighbourly	500.00	
	Karbon Homes Winter Well Being	500.00	
	Charities Trust	500.00	
	Tanglewood Games	10,000.00	
	Total	27,374.60	
1	Grants		
	Grants	Amount £	Restricted to:
	Greatham Hospital Trust	3,000.00	
	Newcastle Building Society	3,000.00	
	Sir James Knott Trust	10,000.00	
	Hartlepool Borough Council Annual Support	10,000.00	
	Hartlepool Borough Council £7000.00 unrestricted	22,000.00	Household Support Boxes
	Virgin	5,000.00	
	Trussell Trust (£5370.30 unrestricted)		

		41,172.30	Financial Inclusion																															
	Trussell Trust (£5100.00 unrestricted)	40,800.00	OLM Project																															
	Total	132,272.30																																
2	Includes cost of volunteer refreshments																																	
3	Includes Christmas party																																	
4	Utility and maintenance/Telephone accruals/honorarium/WVARC paid in 2024 and PAYE																																	
5	<table><tr><td></td><td>£ Carried over from previous year (2022)</td><td>£ Restricted grants received</td><td>£ Spent during 2023</td><td>£ Restricted reserve at year end</td></tr><tr><td>Description</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Trussell Trust Financial Inclusion</td><td>25,635.00</td><td>35,802.00</td><td>34,585.50</td><td>26,851.50</td></tr><tr><td>HBC Support Boxes</td><td>1,929.77</td><td>15,000.00</td><td>10,329.77</td><td>6,600.00</td></tr><tr><td>Trussell Trust OLM Project</td><td></td><td>35,700.00</td><td>24,417.53</td><td>11,282.47</td></tr><tr><td>Total restricted funds</td><td>27,564.77</td><td>86,502.00</td><td>69,332.80</td><td>44,733.97</td></tr></table>					£ Carried over from previous year (2022)	£ Restricted grants received	£ Spent during 2023	£ Restricted reserve at year end	Description					Trussell Trust Financial Inclusion	25,635.00	35,802.00	34,585.50	26,851.50	HBC Support Boxes	1,929.77	15,000.00	10,329.77	6,600.00	Trussell Trust OLM Project		35,700.00	24,417.53	11,282.47	Total restricted funds	27,564.77	86,502.00	69,332.80	44,733.97
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Appendix II: Registration Details

Hartlepool Foodbank CIO

Hartlepool Foodbank is registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organization (CIO)(Charity Number 1152046).

Address: 28 Church Street, Hartlepool TS24 7DH; telephone 01429 598404;
Website: www.hartlepool.foodbank.org.uk

Its **Objects** are:

The relief and prevention of poverty for persons in Hartlepool who are in a condition of need, hardship or distress ('Beneficiaries') in such ways as the Trustees think fit, in particular but not exclusively by:

- A) Supplying food packages to beneficiaries
- B) Such other means, including (but not limited to) the provision of support and advice.

The **Trustees** are:

Rev'd Dr Andrew Craig - Chair of Trustees
Mrs Angela Carrick – Treasurer
Mrs Finola Andelic-Pearson – Secretary
Mrs Susan Atkinson
Mrs Abigail Knowles
Mrs Hilary Sowden
Mr Alan MacDonald

Appendix III: Member Churches

Church of the Nazarene
Grace Church
Grange Road Methodist Church
Headland Baptist Church
New Life Fellowship
Owton Manor Baptist Church
Oxford Road Baptist Church
St. Aidan's Church
St. George's URC
St. Hilda's Church
St. John the Baptist Church, Greatham
St. John Vianney R.C. Church
St. Joseph's R.C. Church
St. Luke's Church
St. Mary Magdalene Church, Hart
St. Mary's R.C. Church
St. Oswald's Church
St. Patrick's R.C. Church
St. Paul's Church
St. Peter's Church, Elwick
Stranton Church

In order to become a member of foodbank, a Church should:

- Worship regularly within the Borough boundary of Hartlepool
- Subscribe to a Trinitarian belief about God as articulated in the ancient (Athanasian and Apostle's) creeds of the Church

Provide the trustees with names and contact details of at least one, and preferably two, members of the church as well as of the minister responsible for the church, these members having been given authority to represent their church at a General Meeting of the Foodbank

Appendix IV: Examiners Report

EXAMINER'S REPORT

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of the Hartlepool Food Bank CIO

I report on the accounts of the Community Interest Organisation for the year ended 31st December 2022, which are set out on pages 1 - 4

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

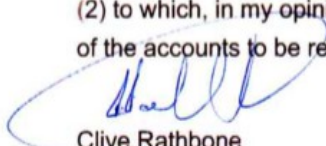
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Clive Rathbone
21 Wolviston Road,
Hartlepool, TS25 5AP
Dated: 28/02/2023



Annual Report

2023

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Chairman's Letter

The “cost of living crisis” and the withdrawal of supplementary payments of Universal Credit that had been introduced by the Government to help families during the Covid 19 pandemic combined to increase the demand for food aid to unprecedented levels during 2023. The numbers of vouchers presented at most sessions now, and people needing help, would have been considered exceptional just a few years ago. We have had to extend the hours of opening on Tuesdays and Fridays to accommodate this. At the same time donations of food did not increase overall, which meant that we exceeded by a factor of about 4 our budget for purchasing additional food to meet demand.

That's the bad news. Our strategic aim, and that of our franchisor Trussell Trust, has been to reduce, not increase, the call for emergency food aid. In time we would love to create conditions that would mean foodbanks were no longer needed. We are in the second year of the implementation of our 5 year plan with that vision in mind. Our partnership with West View Advice & Resources Centre for financial inclusion has already made quantifiable improvements to the financial wellbeing of hundreds of vulnerable people. In April we welcomed Tracey Cartwright as a community influencer/organizer to help identify and tackle issues that relate to food poverty. Tracey is developing a strategy that will initially address *bed poverty*, working with Hartlepool schools and the charity *Zarach*. Both of these initiatives have been fully resourced by the Trussell Trust.

We have also been working with one of our member churches, Oxford Road Baptist Church, to establish a community store at the church in collaboration with *The Message Trust*. When opened early in 2024, this will give access to a full range of fresh and pre-packaged food and personal products at a very low, heavily subsidised price, giving members the dignity of choosing, and paying for, their goods – reducing the need for handouts. This project provides further opportunities for love and Christian service of disadvantaged people and families in our communities.

We are grateful for our friends in Hartlepool's Food Network, who help direct surplus food from supermarkets and other outlets to organizations able to distribute it. As a result of this and the continued generosity of Embleton Hall Dairy, we have been able to extend the range of food given to clients, including fresh bread, dairy products and, sometimes, fresh fruit and vegetables.

The development of a food plan for Hartlepool continues. Supported also by Hartlepool Borough Council and the *Joseph Rowntree Trust*, and facilitated by *Hartlepower*, fora have been held on a variety of topics including nourishment of children and the community use of land for food. We look forward to continuing being involved with the Food Partnership.

We are very grateful to the schools, churches, supermarkets and individuals that have continued collecting food for us - and also to our corps of volunteers, none of whom have withdrawn on account of the additional demands on their time and energy. We are also very grateful for continued generous financial support from the Council, our member churches, individuals, retailers (including *Tesco*, the supporter of *Trussell Trust* nationally), employers

and charitable trusts. A list of donors is given in Appendix 1 of this report. Support from private sector organizations and employers is also very welcome, including from some of the larger retailers. We are especially grateful for those individuals and organizations that support us every year, giving us some confidence in a regular core income.

I would also like to thank my fellow trustees, especially our treasurer Angela Carrick who also provides payroll services at the same time as carrying out her own full-time job – and Susan Atkinson who continues to oil our wheels administratively and financially. Alan MacDonald joined the trustees in 2023 and I value the expertise, energy and commitment that he has brought to our work. There continues to be at least 1 trustee vacancy and I am interested to hear from any individual who might consider contributing in this way by joining us.

I pay tribute to our coordinator, Lisa Lavender, who has continued ably leading the foodbank through challenging times. Our job-share deputy coordinator and warehouse manager, Paul Anderson, resigned in September, so I would like to thank him for his contributions over the last 2 years – and also Teagan Burns who stepped up to the mark, taking on additional hours and responsibilities, contributing hugely to our presence on social media and, together with Marion Fulton, maintaining and improving the warehouse operation.

As well as our employees and volunteers, I would like to thank Mrs Josie Watson who continues to let us use 28 Church Street rent free; the owners and managers of Middleton Grange for providing us with our warehouse free of charge; and Clive Rathbone our *pro bono* auditor.

To all our supporters, employees, volunteers and funders, thank you very much for your generosity, your commitment and your love of the individuals and families in difficulties that we serve. I'm looking forward to continuing striving with you for the good of those who need our help in the year ahead. God bless you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrew Craig".

Rev'd Dr Andrew Craig
Chair of Trustees

Hartlepool Foodbank Coordinator's Annual Report

Summary

As a Foodbank we remain constant; to provide a welcome and safe space for those who need us. As always, our donations have peaked and troughed during this last year, but we have always had enough to give out.

We continue to work with our partner agencies. To end the need for foodbanks takes a 'joined up' approach, one we cannot do alone. We meet a very practical need and hope that we can provide respite from stress. One of our main aims is to assist with the wider needs, to do this we need our partner agencies, therefore our relationships are very important to us. We have seen a new staff member join the team, Tracey Cartwright, our Local Mobiliser. Tracey joined the team in April 2023, her role is new to Trussell Trust and to us as a foodbank but we are looking forward to seeing the fruits of this new role. Please see the report from Tracey. Paul Anderson moved onto pastures new and we wish Paul all the best. We have also had the joy of welcoming new volunteers both corporate and regular to the foodbank team.

Volunteers

Our volunteers are incredible. They remain loyal and faithful to our sessions. Without them we simply would not exist. This last year is yet another testimony to their commitment to the foodbank. We recently celebrated them with our Christmas Pie'n'Peas at the Nursery Pub.

Thank you Debbie and staff and the band Acoustic Buffoonery for a lovely evening.

The volunteers have clocked up an incredible 9996 hours plus, which in terms of monetary value would be in the region of £114,954. Our Trustees are also volunteers and tirelessly serve the team behind the scenes. Both the hours and monetary value go beyond the above figures.

Our huge Thanks to both the Amazing Volunteers and Trustees of Hartlepool Foodbank.

Donations and Distributions

In 2023 Hartlepool Foodbank Volunteers processed 3109 vouchers which equates to 6116 people fed of which 4256 were adults and 1860 were children. This is an increase of 34% from the previous year which saw 2323 Voucher processed; 4582 people fed of which 1499 was children.

The Community and Businesses of Hartlepool continue to give despite the cost-of-living crisis. Some of the highlights include:

- Hart Biological
- Pheonix Group

- Cubic Transport
- Tanglewood Games
- Virgin
- Hartlepool United Football Club
- A sponsored Boxing Day dip
- Continued support from Embleton Dairy
- Continued support from Warburtons
- Provision on weekly sandwiches from Fast Snacks

We also have a number of individuals who give financially on a regular basis. All donors and amounts are listed in the finance section. Food donations come in on a weekly basis from all over Hartlepool, Children's Nursery's, Local Football Clubs, Schools, Churches. Our donations also come from far and wide. Another regular donor lives 300 miles away, our thanks to Ai Peng who sends regular donations from Asda. We have so many that give on a regular basis. We are indebted to **ALL** who give. Your support and generosity are greatly appreciated.

A big Thank You for your support and kindness.

This year I would like to honour Cath Francois who has single handedly donated a whopping 3506kg and Fast Snacks for their provision of sandwiches every week to give out to our clients.

***Thank you, Fast Snacks, – You are greatly appreciated
Thank you, Cath, for being so faithful with your weekly drop offs.***

We continue to give out bulk donations. A small supply of single parcels and 'grab bags' go to the Food Network based on the Headland and the Preventative Mental Health Team based in Burbank Street. This means food is available for those who need it outside of our normal sessions. This year, once again, we applied for funding from the Household Support Fund. A sum of £20,000 was granted by our local council to provide single food parcels to C.A.B, Advice at Hart and West View Advice & Resource Centre. We provide 28 parcels a month to each agency over a 6-month period. This current period will end in March 2024. These parcels are 'No Voucher Required'. As part of the Household Support Fund, the agencies have autonomy when distributing the parcels.

Hands Up for Hartlepool

We have now closed the space in Middleton Grange and handed the key back. The space was not proving productive. We originally set up the space to invite agencies to come along. This was to provide an extra service to those who use the foodbank and to help with wider issues. This did not take off as we had hoped with the closure due to the pandemic. The space was handed back to Middleton Grange.

The Story So Far

From previous reports you will know that Trussell Trust embarked on a 5-year strategy to end the need for foodbanks. We began with introducing a financial advisor to our sessions. This was through partnering with West View Advice and Resource Centre (WVARC). This is going very well. Below is from Katherine Parker from WVARC;

Since the formal partnership agreement between Hartlepool Foodbank and West View Advice & Resource Centre started in September 2022, it is estimated that 205 individuals (up to 31st December 2023) no longer needed to use the food bank for food, after accessing advice and support. 151 individuals have achieved or are expected to achieve financial gains in excess of £813,925.90. Initially, when the partnership started, we tried having different advisers on site, but we now have an established worker based in the foodbank sessions who then refers to our wider team as required. Having an established advisor keeps continuity for those who need to access the advice.

The next part of the strategy was to hire a Local Mobiliser. With the support of Trussell Trust, the post was filled in April 2023. The post was developed to look at local issues and support with campaigning for change. Each area within the Trussell Trust Network will have different issues. The mobiliser role will look at what is unique to Hartlepool and how we can 'make the change'. Alongside both roles, we shall continue to work from our strategy plan. This is available on our website and in hard copy. Should this be of interest please email info@hartlepool.foodbank.org.uk

Supermarket Donations

Our thanks, once again, for the support of our local supermarkets;

Tesco – 8497kg

Asda - 3798kg

Morrisons – 2825kg

Sainsburys – 1370kg

We have permanent collection points in each of the supermarkets.

A huge thank you to the local community who donated to each of these points.

Looking to the future.

We shall continue in the 'fight' to end the need for foodbanks, continue to work with partner agencies to do the best we can to serve the people of Hartlepool. We shall remain constant with our opening days and times and hope for the day when we are no longer needed.

Lisa Lavender

Project Coordinator, Hartlepool Foodbank

Local Organiser's Annual Report

I began this new role on 3rd April 2023 and can't quite believe how quickly the last 9 months have gone! I feel I have learnt a lot and put my skills to good use during this time. As the cost of living continues to affect the people who can least afford it, it's more important than ever that we work to make change happen. I thoroughly enjoy being part of the food bank sessions which enables me to have one-to-one conversations with people using the service and to gain invaluable insight from the volunteers who carry out an incredible job. The briefing sessions allow me to keep staff and volunteers up to date with the 'Guarantee our Essentials' campaign together with ideas and findings for my local campaign. The work of our food bank network is inspiring, but as detailed in our 5-year plan, the hope is that everyone will have enough for basic living costs and the right to choose.

Networking

I have worked in the benefit sector for over 35 years and have used my connections to establish relationships with people who have a wealth of knowledge, experience and passion for change. I have helped to form new links between Hartlepool Jobcentre Plus and Hartlepool Foodbank, which is proving invaluable in working together to encourage partnership work and promote change. The contacts established during my first few months in post have led me to also play a significant role in Hartlepool's Poverty Truth Commission and the Strategic Poverty Group.

Hartlepool Poverty Truth Commission

The Poverty Truth Commission involves engaging with people with lived experience of poverty and leaders in the community to discover and address the causes of poverty. The first meeting was in November 2023, and we meet monthly with regular contact between meetings. The project is at an early stage with relationships being built and a launch event planned for Spring 2024. It will run for 18 months in total. The Poverty Truth Commission seeks to discover the answer to the question "What if people who struggled against poverty were involved in making decisions about tackling poverty?" The Commission will comprise two groups of people. A group of around 15 people with lived experience of the struggle against poverty will meet with around 15 people who are leaders/decision makers within Hartlepool. Collectively we work to understand the nature of poverty, what are some of the underlying issues that create poverty and explore creative ways of addressing them. It is hoped that at least 3 issues will be identified after 6 months, and I will lead a sub team on one of these issues or potentially a different issue depending on what areas are identified.

Strategic Poverty Group

This is a group of like-minded professionals, who meet fortnightly to discuss how we can make positive changes for the residents of Hartlepool, struggling with poverty. The meetings are chaired by Penny Thompson from Hartlepool Borough Council and have been running for

several years. I have been an active member of this group since July 2023 and Penny has praised the people currently attending the meetings, saying we have given her the most hope that change will happen soon.

Guarantee our Essentials Campaign

I feel passionate about the 'Guarantee Our Essentials' campaign launched on 8th September 2023 and have played an active part in its promotion. On 9th September Margaret, Lisa, Teagan, the volunteers, and I took part in the Action Day at Tesco. This was a huge success, not only in promoting awareness of the campaign and obtaining signatures, but in asking for and receiving food donations. The campaign calls on UK political party leaders to support the introduction of an Essentials Guarantee within Universal Credit to ensure that the basic rate at least covers life's essentials such as food and bills. For 75 years the rate of benefits has been marginally increased in line with inflation, but an overhaul of the system is required. Research by charities reveals that the £85 weekly Universal Credit standard allowance is £35 less than the weekly cost of common essential items for a single person, contributing to hundreds of thousands of people being forced to use food banks because they can't make ends meet. Right now, 90% of low-income households receiving Universal Credit say they have to go without essentials, according to research by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. The Essentials Guarantee would be enshrined in law and set regularly, based on an independent recommendation. It would be the first time since the welfare state was created that social security rates were based on what people need, and how much those things cost. The charities calculated that a list of essential items includes utility bills, travel expenses, food essentials, plus hygiene and cleaning products currently cost approximately £120 per week for a single person.

The campaign will end at the end of February 2024 and be handed to all UK political party leaders. To date 40,000 signatures have been obtained with a final push planned for February 2024, new materials are being sent to me this week. I will be sharing the information with staff, volunteers and foodbank users as soon as I receive them. Working closely with Lisa and Teagan, we have been making up information packs to place in food bags given to clients. The January packs contain the "Guarantee our Essentials" postcard, loan shark pen and sweet treats. We are planning on continuing this with different items each month. February packs will include the new campaign material, a heart healthy recipe and chocolate hearts for a Valentines theme.

Local and Senior Organiser meetings

I attend regular meetings online and in person with both Local and Senior Organisers. I find them supportive, informative and reassuring, as it can feel isolated being the only person in Hartlepool carrying out this relatively new role. I have made some good friends and contacts with other local organisers in the North East and across the country. We have our own communication network, which I contribute to regularly with updates on what I am working on and to discuss ideas. I have also volunteered to be part of a Trussell Trust campaigning training and resources feedback group, to help food banks across the network to campaign more effectively. I participate in a few email consultations a month, providing feedback on areas such as training, learning resources and how the Digital Hub can be improved. A

flagship Organising Programme event in Manchester has been arranged for February 2024. It will include speakers, updates, training and to catchup and learn from other organisers. I have opted to attend the main event together with an optional networking morning, where I am looking forward to meeting up with new staff from cohort 5 and building on existing relationships with established organisers.

Local Campaign Idea

Following local meetings, communication sessions and discussions with Trustees and Foodbank users, my first local campaign will be around "Bed Poverty." The cost-of-living crisis has deepened the impact of child poverty. Children need a good night's sleep in order to thrive, yet research is showing that families in crisis are having to prioritise essentials such as food, heating and electricity over things like replacing mouldy bedding or fixing a broken bed. This also ties in with the national "Guarantee Our Essentials" campaign. I am in regular contact with Jess Sandy, the National Development Manager at Zarach, a charity that was established in 2018 to end child bed poverty in England. Zarach have already identified Hartlepool as an area they would like to support, and they hosted a launch event on Thursday 30th November 2023. They are hoping to get most primary schools in Hartlepool involved, as this will be how referrals are made. Following the launch, 43% of primary schools registered to become involved in the scheme. I will continue to meet with Jess and the Headteacher of High Tunstall School as the service begins its rollout in Hartlepool. Once Jess secures further anchor funding, paid jobs and volunteer positions will be advertised. Jess has numerous funding contacts in the pipeline, and I provide her with information on grants and foundations that do not conflict with Hartlepool Foodbanks financial needs. The charity will supply bed bundles to families, but they also want to campaign to get to the root of the problems families are facing. I will be working closely with the staff, volunteers and families involved to run this campaign.

I have created a Bed Poverty Questionnaire that is being used at Foodbank sessions with families who are happy to complete the short survey. This is helping to gain data on percentages percentages of children requiring food parcels that also do not have their own bed to sleep in or adequate warm bedding. My aim is that statistics, good news stories and case studies obtained from the survey and working with families helped by Zarach, will all add to the success of the campaign. My findings to date are that a third of children in Hartlepool do not have their own bed. These figures tie in with the "No child left behind" statistics that Hartlepool has 7384 children trapped in poverty equating to 35% of children in Hartlepool. Sadly, at the time of preparing this report, Hartlepool's MP has not signed up to the pledge "to do everything in her power so that no child is left behind in Hartlepool." I have emailed her regarding this and await her response.

Future Plans

I am looking forward to a very busy and exciting General Election year ahead. I will contact local Councillors with monthly Foodbank data, supplied by Lisa. I will share the number of people in each of their wards who need to use foodbanks. This will hopefully highlight the issues affecting their communities and raise awareness of the changes needed to work towards a future without the need for foodbanks.

Tracey Cartwright
Local Organiser, Hartlepool Foodbank

Financial Report 2023

The accounts are unaudited. The independent examiner's report on the 2022 accounts is given in Appendix IV (the 2023 accounts will be examined later in the year).

Many thanks are due to our independent examiner, Clive Rathbone, for contributing to the work of the foodbank by carrying out the independent examination of the accounts without payment.

Income 2023

Description	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2024 budget £
Private donations	1	24,475.58	0.00	24,475.58	30,000
Church donations		1,388.41	0.00	1,388.41	2,000
Corporate donations	1	39,043.07	0.00	39,043.07	40,000
Grant funding		38,470.30	86,502.00	124,972.30	120,000
Gift aid tax recovered		3,058.67	0.00	3,058.67	3,000
Bank Interest		443.15	0.00	443.15	2,200
Total receipts		106,879.18	86,502.00	193,381.18	197,200

Expenditure 2024

Description	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2024 budget £
Premises					
Premises maintenance, repairs & alterations		3,976.39	0.00	3,976.39	4,000.00
Premises insurances & rates		1,822.52	0.00	1,822.52	2,000.00
Utilities		1,406.68	0.00	1,406.68	2,500.00
Equipment		4,117.91	0.00	4,117.91	2,000.00
Middleton Grange Project		1,106.14	0.00	1,106.14	0.00
Running Expenses					
Subscriptions		474.00	34,585.50	35,059.50	38,500
Telephone & Broadband		831.33	0.00	831.50	900
Office Supplies		375.78	0.00	375.78	500
Food Purchases		42,881.71	8,400.00	51,281.71	40,000
Support Boxes		1,355.43	1,929.77	3,285.20	6,600
Transport		4,040.64	0.00	4,040.64	4,500
Depreciation		6,299.60	0.00	6,299.60	3,150
Volunteers					
Volunteers Training		0.00	0.00	0.00	200
Expenses	2	675.05	0.00	675.05	500
Hospitality	3	866.38	0.00	866.38	1,000
Employee Costs		56,755.51	0.00	56,755.51	57,500
OLM Project inc. IT & phone		0.00	24,417.53	24,417.53	33,300

Total payments	126,985.07	69,332.80	196,317.87	196,850	

Balance Sheet as at 31/12/2023

Description	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Assets			
Fixed assets		3,149.80	9,449.40
Foodbank a/c		54,733.94	96,168.98
Virgin Money Deposit		55,122.71	
Virgin Money Current		10.00	
Cambridge Fixed Rate Bond		50,000.00	
Deposit a/c			50,025.00
Debtors			267.01
Total Assets		163,016.45	155,910.39
Liabilities			
Creditors (falling due within 1 year)	4	12,843.03	2,800.28
Total Liabilities		12,843.03	2,800.28
Net current assets (Total assets less current liabilities)		150,173.42	153,110.11
Creditors (falling due after 1 year)		0.00	0.00
Total Net Assets		150,173.42	153,110.11
Funds			
Unrestricted		105,439.45	125,545.34
Restricted	5	44,733.97	27,564.77
		150,173.42	153,110.11

The notes to the account can be found in Appendix I

The main contributions are from employers, corporate donors and charitable trusts and these are listed in Appendix II. The Foodbank's trustees, partners, employees, and volunteers are very grateful to all the individuals and organizations that have provided financial support.

We try to acknowledge all gifts over £100 (for corporations) and £50 (for individuals and churches) by letter, providing we have the necessary contact details. For individuals who are income taxpayers, we would also be able to claim your income tax back on donations you made if you endorsed a declaration form* including your address and postcode.

The treasurer would be very pleased to hear from any individual or organization where a donation has not been acknowledged, or you have not signed a Gift Aid declaration. To donate please see the website.

*Download a form from the website, or contact the treasurer on angela.carrick@vishay.com.

Grant funding enables us to continue to run our services and pay the staff. In 2023 we were fortunate to be the recipients of the second tranche of the major grant from the Trussell Trust towards the provision of a financial advice service for foodbank users in partnership with West View Advice and Resource Centre. We have also received from the Trussell Trust funding to employ a local mobilising officer to campaign for awareness of the effects of poverty.

Appendix I: Notes to the Accounts

Appendix I

Notes to the Accounts

Donor over £500.00		Amount £	Restricted to:
	Tesco (via Trussell Trust)	2,978.36	
	Hart Biologicals	600.00	
	Skipton Building Society	500.00	
	Hartlepool United FC	1,000.00	
	Teesside Charity	1,000.00	
	Phoenix Group	562.30	
	Asda (via Trussell Trust)	2,896.44	
	Cubic	500.00	
	Cubic Staff	500.00	
1	Cowie Technology	3,000.00	
	Jamie Sterry	1,597.50	
	N M Bew	1,200.00	
	L Pattison	1,440.00	
	CEO Sleepout	750.00	
	Sainsbury's Neighbourly	500.00	
	Karbon Homes Winter Well Being	500.00	
	Charities Trust	500.00	
	Tanglewood Games	10,000.00	
	Total	27,374.60	
1	Grants	Amount £	Restricted to:
	Greatham Hospital Trust	3,000.00	
	Newcastle Building Society	3,000.00	
	Sir James Knott Trust	10,000.00	
	Hartlepool Borough Council Annual Support	10,000.00	
	Hartlepool Borough Council £7000.00 unrestricted	22,000.00	Household Support Boxes
	Virgin	5,000.00	
	Trussell Trust (£5370.30 unrestricted)		

		41,172.30	Financial Inclusion																															
	Trussell Trust (£5100.00 unrestricted)	40,800.00	OLM Project																															
	Total	132,272.30																																
2	Includes cost of volunteer refreshments																																	
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4	Utility and maintenance/Telephone accruals/honorarium/WVARC paid in 2024 and PAYE																																	
5	<table><tr><td></td><td>£ Carried over from previous year (2022)</td><td>£ Restricted grants received</td><td>£ Spent during 2023</td><td>£ Restricted reserve at year end</td></tr><tr><td>Description</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Trussell Trust Financial Inclusion</td><td>25,635.00</td><td>35,802.00</td><td>34,585.50</td><td>26,851.50</td></tr><tr><td>HBC Support Boxes</td><td>1,929.77</td><td>15,000.00</td><td>10,329.77</td><td>6,600.00</td></tr><tr><td>Trussell Trust OLM Project</td><td></td><td>35,700.00</td><td>24,417.53</td><td>11,282.47</td></tr><tr><td>Total restricted funds</td><td>27,564.77</td><td>86,502.00</td><td>69,332.80</td><td>44,733.97</td></tr></table>					£ Carried over from previous year (2022)	£ Restricted grants received	£ Spent during 2023	£ Restricted reserve at year end	Description					Trussell Trust Financial Inclusion	25,635.00	35,802.00	34,585.50	26,851.50	HBC Support Boxes	1,929.77	15,000.00	10,329.77	6,600.00	Trussell Trust OLM Project		35,700.00	24,417.53	11,282.47	Total restricted funds	27,564.77	86,502.00	69,332.80	44,733.97
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Appendix II: Registration Details

Hartlepool Foodbank CIO

Hartlepool Foodbank is registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organization (CIO)(Charity Number 1152046).

Address: 28 Church Street, Hartlepool TS24 7DH; telephone 01429 598404;
Website: www.hartlepool.foodbank.org.uk

Its **Objects** are:

The relief and prevention of poverty for persons in Hartlepool who are in a condition of need, hardship or distress ('Beneficiaries') in such ways as the Trustees think fit, in particular but not exclusively by:

- A) Supplying food packages to beneficiaries
- B) Such other means, including (but not limited to) the provision of support and advice.

The **Trustees** are:

Rev'd Dr Andrew Craig - Chair of Trustees
Mrs Angela Carrick – Treasurer
Mrs Finola Andelic-Pearson – Secretary
Mrs Susan Atkinson
Mrs Abigail Knowles
Mrs Hilary Sowden
Mr Alan MacDonald

Appendix III: Member Churches

Church of the Nazarene
Grace Church
Grange Road Methodist Church
Headland Baptist Church
New Life Fellowship
Owton Manor Baptist Church
Oxford Road Baptist Church
St. Aidan's Church
St. George's URC
St. Hilda's Church
St. John the Baptist Church, Greatham
St. John Vianney R.C. Church
St. Joseph's R.C. Church
St. Luke's Church
St. Mary Magdalene Church, Hart
St. Mary's R.C. Church
St. Oswald's Church
St. Patrick's R.C. Church
St. Paul's Church
St. Peter's Church, Elwick
Stranton Church

In order to become a member of foodbank, a Church should:

- Worship regularly within the Borough boundary of Hartlepool
- Subscribe to a Trinitarian belief about God as articulated in the ancient (Athanasian and Apostle's) creeds of the Church

Provide the trustees with names and contact details of at least one, and preferably two, members of the church as well as of the minister responsible for the church, these members having been given authority to represent their church at a General Meeting of the Foodbank

Appendix IV: Examiners Report

EXAMINER'S REPORT

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of the Hartlepool Food Bank CIO

I report on the accounts of the Community Interest Organisation for the year ended 31st December 2022, which are set out on pages 1 - 4

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

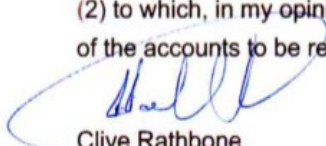
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Clive Rathbone
21 Wolviston Road,
Hartlepool, TS25 5AP
Dated: 28/02/2023

EXAMINER'S REPORT

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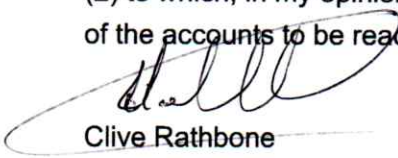
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(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Clive Rathbone

21 Wolviston Road,
Hartlepool, TS25 5AP

Dated: 31/03/2024

Accounts



Annual Report

2022

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Chairman's Letter

Hartlepool Foodbank first opened its doors to people struggling to feed themselves in December 2012, so we celebrated our 10th anniversary with a service and afternoon tea in Greatham, courtesy of the Hospital of God. Apart from that milestone, the most significant development of 2022 was the development and initial delivery of our 5 year strategic development plan. This reflects the aims and vision our franchisor, the Trussell Trust, articulated in its own 5 year plan, *Together for Change*. In a nutshell, the priorities are partnerships, empowering people, raising public awareness and influencing social policy. We don't anticipate changing our core business (giving emergency food aid to individuals and families experiencing acute need) any time soon. However we are already taking steps to address the conditions that lead to people having to be referred to us, in the hope that this will help them avoid having to use handouts to feed themselves in the future. We are grateful to Hartlepower for facilitating and managing the process of developing our development plan.

Already we have gone into partnership with West View Advice and Resource Centre to give our clients sound, practical financial advice about maximising their income, reducing outgoings and managing debt. Also, in 2023 we will employ a community organizer to develop better public understanding and awareness of food poverty and strengthen our ability to influence decision makers. Both of these projects are funded by grants from the Trussell Trust. Thanks are due to the Trussell Trust, for obtaining and delivering the resources needed to achieve these aims.

As well as use of a warehouse, the owners of *Middleton Grange* have given us use of a shop front in the shopping centre. This has not been much used, as originally envisaged, as a meeting point for partner organizations with clients. However we have lately re-purposed it as a facility to publicise the work of the Foodbank and receive donations.

Hartlepool's Food Council (facilitated by Hartlepower) is a forum that has already engendered better cooperation and trust between individuals and organizations working to reduce food poverty. Members include the Food Network, a trio of individuals who extract surplus food from retailers and distribute it to partner organizations. As a result of this and the continued generosity of Embleton Hall Dairy, we have been able to extend the range of food given to clients, including fresh bread, dairy products and, sometimes, fresh fruit and vegetables.

Despite the foregoing, and the activities of a number of informal foodbanks, community kitchens and food subsidising initiatives that have sprung up in recent years, towards the end of the year we noted a significant increase in referrals. We believe that this is related to the "*cost of living crisis*" that has pushed more peo-

ple into financial insecurity. So, in the short term we are not expecting there to be a decline in demand for our services!

We are very grateful for continued generous financial support from the Council, our member churches, individuals, employers and charitable trusts. A list of donors is given in Appendix 3 of this report. Support from private sector organizations and employers is also very welcome, including from some of the larger retailers. We are especially grateful for those individuals and organizations that support us every year, giving us some confidence in a regular core income.

We also welcomed Corporate Social Responsibility in another guise, Lloyds Bank and Venator both sending teams of employee volunteers to help in our warehouse.

Looking forward, we are participating in the early stages of developing a Food Plan for Hartlepool, which will engage a wide range of interests to improve education, raise food quality, make better use of local resources, and reduce waste as well as address food insecurity and poverty.

Thanks are due to my fellow trustees, especially our treasurer Angela Carrick who also provides payroll services at the same time as carrying out her own full time job - and Susan Atkinson who, although standing down as vice chair, continues to oil our wheels administratively and financially. We are looking to strengthen the Board of Trustees to help lead the foodbank through the developments of the next few years. I am interested to hear from any individuals who might consider contributing in this way by joining us.

The core of any meaningful organization is its people. Our three employees, Lisa Lavender, Teagan Burns and Paul Anderson, are all capable, hard working and dedicated. Together with our corps of volunteers they are the essential heart of our operation. As well as our employees and volunteers, I would like to thank Mrs Josie Watson who continues to let us use 28 Church Street rent free; the owners and managers of Middleton Grange for providing us two sets of premises free of charge; and Clive Rathbone our *pro bono* auditor.

To all our supporters, employees, volunteers and funders, thank you very much for your generosity, your commitment and your love of the individuals and families in difficulties that we serve. I look forward, with all your contributions, to us continuing and developing this work in 2023. And I thank God for it all.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrew Craig".

Rev'd Dr Andrew Craig
Chair of Trustees

Hartlepool Foodbank Coordinator's Annual Report

Summary

Another year gone by in a flash! With the pandemic increasingly getting further behind us we have continued to be fully open and offering face to face contact. This is always our preferred option of working; this enables us to give time and space to those who need it and allow for effective sign posting.

The need for providing 7-day parcels is now at a minimum, this we expected to see as we move further away from the pandemic. Sadly, as we were beginning to feel hope about moving on from Covid-19, we were then hit with the cost-of-living crisis. We are just one of many agencies across the town who are supporting the community through this time.

We continue to work with our partner agencies and look forward to much of the same this coming year. It is partnership working that makes a difference. We shall continue to make a difference as much as we can supporting those who need us and sign posting for the help with wider issues.

Of course, we cannot do any of what we do without our band of faithful and loyal volunteers. They are an incredible group who give tirelessly each week to service the community of Hartlepool. This year has been another testimony to their commitment to Hartlepool Foodbank.

Personnel

Teagan has continued to work and promote our space in Middleton Grange. The Hands up for Hartlepool sign has now gone. The plans for the space have changed, from what we originally set out to do, largely due to the long closure of 2020. This last year we have used the space for a short campaign led by the Trussell Trust a few weeks before Christmas Teagan set the space up at as an Information Donation Station. The shop front was decorated accordingly and the space used for receiving donations. As we move into 2023, we shall continue to use the space for donations and future campaigns.

Our volunteers continue to be loyal and faithful in their roles within the foodbank both in the roles of Trustees and in the day to day running of the foodbank. They carry passion and compassion in all that they do. We cannot thank them enough for their hard work and commitment. We have recently welcomed new volunteers and hope they enjoy being part of the Foodbank Family.

Thank you, Our Fabulous Volunteers.

It was a joy to be able to celebrate our volunteers with a summer BBQ and Christmas Pie 'n' Peas. A huge thank you to Ian from the Nursery Pub for the space provided. We very much appreciate the support Ian and his staff show to the

foodbank. A special thank you for the recommendation of Acoustic Buffoonery who made our Christmas Party a real joy.

Donations and Distribution

The Community of Hartlepool continue to be generous and faithful in their giving, both with monetary and food donations. Some highlight include;

- A generous cheque presented by Jamie Sterry from Hartlepool United
- A sponsored parachute jump which all proceeds were donated to the Foodbank
- An afternoon tea hosted by a few of our Trustees, all proceeds were donated to the Foodbank
- Continued support from Embleton Dairy
- Continued support from Warburtons
- A local band donating their proceeds from one of their gigs

Our continued indebted Thanks to **All** who continue to give so generously. I cannot name you all but your support is valued and precious to those we help.

As with previous years we have continued to give out bulk donations. This has included a small supply of food parcels to the Food Network for agencies to access out of hours, this is working well and means that agencies can access a parcel at any time. Historically we have been in a position to share some of our surplus stock with other partnering agencies in the town. We are now seeing a decline in surplus, which means we have not been able to do this very often. We will continue to share our surplus (should it arise) as and when we can.

During 2022 we processed the following:

- 2323 vouchers. This equated to 4582 people, of which 1499 were children
- This was an increase of 17.5% from the previous year which saw 1976 vouchers processed which equated to 3752 people of which 1178 were children.
- There are many and varied reasons why we are needed but last year, as in the previous year our top 3 reasons remain to be Low Income, Debt and Benefit Changes.

Christmas

We saw yet another bountiful December with just under 9 tonnes (8957kg) of food and toiletries donated. Some of the corporate donators include:

Venetor

Seymor Civil Engineering

EDF

Hart Biological

Saica Packaging

A big 'Thankyou' for your support and kindness.

Partnerships

We continue to be part of the Hartlepool Food Council, coming together with other providers in the town.

Our most recent partnership has been with the West View Advice and Resource Centre. As part of the Trussell Trust 5 year strategy we now have Financial Advisors on site for our users to access. This has enable us to enhance our help and increase the support for looking at the wider issues of why the foodbank is needed.

Our partnership began early last year with an application for funding to the Trussell Trust. After a successful application we were able to start September with 2 members of the WVARC team attending each session. Our first quarterly report has been very positive with 80 new people having accessed the service. Quarterly reports shall continue throughout the duration of the grant (3 years). This information is reported to Trussell Trust.

The reports helps us to understand the wider issues and gives an insight to need.

HUFH

As stated under *Personnel* we have now taken down the name Hand Up for Hartlepool from the unit in Middleton Grange. The space still remains part of the Foodbank but the use is changing. It is now an information donation station, which is manned by 2 volunteers (when available) on a Wednesday, 10am - 1pm. The idea being for anyone to pop in with a donation or to come and have a chat about the foodbank and what we do.

Supermarkets

Our continued thanks to our Partner Supermarkets and those who have a permanent collection point in aid of Hartlepool Foodbank -

Asda

Morrisons

Sainsbury - Murray Street

Sainsbury - Seaton Lane

Sainsbury - Middle Warren

Spar

One Stop

Tesco Extra

Donations from supermarkets in 2022 totalled 20.8 tonnes, a drop in last year which was 24.5 tonnes.

Our continued Thanks for their support and to the community who faithfully give to the donation points in the stores. I would also like to Thank each Community Champion within each store for the behind the scenes work that is involved.

Warehouse

Our thanks and appreciation to Mark Rycroft and his team at Middleton Grange for their continued support and provision of our warehouse and our unit in the centre.

Future Plans

The story so far.... In 2021/2022 we partnered with Hartlepower to assist in developing our 5-year plan. This was the beginning of embracing the Trussell Trust strategy to end the need for foodbanks. During this time we held stake holder days which brought together agencies, volunteers and members of the Local Authority who shared thoughts and ideas that would help influence and implement the plan. After a lot of hard work from Julian Penton and his team the plan was produced. A huge Thank you to Julian for his dedication and hard work.

We are now onto the next part. This year we are looking to employ a fourth member of staff. This will be for the campaigning side of the strategy. This is to look at how we can influence local change within the community. Trussell Trust will continue the fight for national change; changing policies in the hope that everyone will have enough for basic living costs and the right to choose.

The foodbank will be here for as long as is needed but the hope is that people will, one day, have enough resources to make their own choices and decisions about their circumstances.

Financial Report

The accounts are unaudited. The independent examiner's report on the 2021 accounts is given in Appendix IV (the 2022 accounts will be examined later in the year).

Many thanks are due to our independent examiner, Clive Rathbone, for contributing to the work of the foodbank by carrying out the independent examination of the accounts without payment.

Income 2022

Description	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2023 budget £
Private donations	1	30,254.92	0.00	30,254.92	30,000
Church donations		2,231.83	0.00	2,231.83	2,000
Corporate donations	1	38,167.24	0.00	38,167.24	35,000
Grant funding		5,127.00	56,080.00	61,207.00	135,000
Gift aid tax recovered		2,120.80	0.00	2,120.80	2,000
Total receipts		77,901.79	56,080.00	133,981.79	204,000

Expenditure 2022

Description	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2023 budget £
Premises					
Premises maintenance, repairs & alterations		1,593.93	0.00	1,593.93	2,000
Premises insurances & rates		1,702.98	0.00	1,702.98	2,000
Utilities		1,274.45	1,869.53	3,143.98	3,500
Equipment		1,105.30	0.00	1,105.30	2,000
Middleton Grange Project		345.81	1,278.71	1,624.52	1,500
Running Expenses					
Subscriptions		5,191.00	20,545.00	25,736.00	32,500
Telephone & Broadband		547.44	0.00	547.44	600
Office Supplies		1,546.44	0.00	1,546.44	1,500
Food Purchases		7,019.21	8,000.00	15,019.21	10,000
Support Boxes		0.00	15,065.19	15,065.19	15,000
Transport		3,424.25	0.00	3,424.25	4,000
Depreciation		6,299.60	0.00	6,299.60	6,300
Volunteers					
Volunteers Training		414.00	0.00	414.00	500
Expenses	2	254.30	0.00	254.30	500
Hospitality	3	1,509.08	0.00	1,509.08	1,500
Employee Costs		37,128.58	15,093.77	52,222.35	90,500
Total payments		69,356.37	61,852.20	131,208.57	173,900

Balance Sheet as at 31/12/2022

Description	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Assets			
Fixed assets		9,449.40	15,749.00
Foodbank a/c		96,168.98	86,338.72
Deposit a/c		50,025.00	50,000.00
Debtors		267.01	418.25
Total Assets		146,460.99	136,756.97
Liabilities			
Creditors (falling due within 1 year)	4	2,800.28	2,169.08
Total Liabilities		2,800.28	2,169.08
Net current assets (Total assets less current liabilities)		153,110.11	150,336.89
Creditors (falling due after 1 year)		0.00	0.00
Total Net Assets		153,110.11	150,336.89
Funds			
Unrestricted		125,545.34	116,999.92
Restricted	5	27,564.77	33,336.97
Endowment		0.00	0.00
Total Funds		153,110.11	150,336.89

The notes to the account can be found in Appendix I

The main contributions are from employers, corporate donors and charitable trusts and these are listed in Appendix II. The Foodbank's trustees, partners, employees, and volunteers are very grateful to all the individuals and organizations that have provided financial support. We try to acknowledge all gifts over £100 (for

corporations) and £50 (for individuals and churches) by letter, providing we have the necessary contact details. For individuals who are income taxpayers, we would also be able to claim your income tax back on donations you made if you endorsed a declaration form* including your address and postcode. The treasurer would be very pleased to hear from any individual or organization where a donation has not been acknowledged, or you have not signed a Gift Aid declaration. To donate please see the website.

*Download a form from the website, or contact the treasurer on angela.carrick@vishay.com.

Grant funding enables us to continue to run our services and pay the staff. In 2022 we were fortunate to be the recipients of a major grant towards the development of a partnership with West View Advice and Resource Centre to provide a financial advice service for foodbank users.

Appendix I: Notes to the Accounts

Donor over £500.00	Amount £	Restricted to:
Tesco (via Trussell Trust)	1,338.92	
Hart Biologicals	600.00	
Hartlepool Borough Council	12,000.00	
Hartlepool Borough Council	10,000.00	
Teesside Philanthropic Trust	500.00	
DG Dalton Mason	1,500.00	
Asda (via Trussell Trust)	749.64	
Cubic	500.00	
Cubic Staff	934.95	
Cowie Technology	3,500.00	
J Moore	500.00	
N Bew	2,000.00	
H M Thornton	600.00	
The Teesside Charity	1,000.00	
P Rigby	500.00	
Utilita Giving	2,798.50	
Forsa Energy	1,750.00	
P & J Taylor	600.00	
Total	41,372.01	
Grants	Amount £	Restricted to:

1	Trussell Trust (£5127.00 unrestricted)	39,307.00	Financial Inclusion		
	Sainsbury Neighbourly	1,000.00	Food		
	Sherburn House	3,900.00	Staff salaries		
	CDCF	2,000.00	Food		
	Hartlepool Borough Council	10,000.00	Family Support		
	Trussell Trust	5,000.00	Winter Support		
	Total	61,207.00			
2	Includes cost of volunteer refreshments				
3	Includes Christmas party and BBQ for volunteers				
4	Utility and maintenance/Telephone accruals paid in 2023 and PAYE				
5	Description	£ Carried over from previous year (2021)	£ Restricted grants received	£ Spent during 2022	£ Restricted reserve at year end
	Asda Foundation Salaries (Co-ordinator)	6,417.28	0.00	6,417.28	0.00
	Asda Foundation Salaries (Deputy Co-ordinator)	4,776.49	0.00	4,776.49	0.00
	Asda Foundation Middleton Grange	1,278.71	0.00	1,278.71	0.00
	CDCF Post Covid Costs HUFH	1,869.53	0.00	1,869.53	0.00
	Trussell Trust Strategic Resources	12,000.00	0.00	12,000.00	0.00
	HBC Support Boxes	6,994.96	10,000.00	15,065.19	1,929.77
	Trussell Trust Financial Resources		34,180.00	8,545.00	25,635.00
	Trussell Trust Winter		5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00
	CDCF food		2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
	Sainsburys Neighbourly food		1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
	Sherburn House Salaries		3,900.00	3,900.00	0.00
	Total restricted funds	33,336.97	56,080.00	61,852.20	27,564.77

Appendix II: Registration Details

Hartlepool Foodbank CIO

Hartlepool Foodbank is registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organization (CIO)(Charity Number 1152046).

Address: 28 Church Street, Hartlepool TS24 7DH; telephone 01429 598404;
Website: www.hartlepool.foodbank.org.uk

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The relief and prevention of poverty for persons in Hartlepool who are in a condition of need, hardship or distress ('Beneficiaries') in such ways as the Trustees think fit, in particular but not exclusively by:

- A) Supplying food packages to beneficiaries
- B) Such other means, including (but not limited to) the provision of support and advice.

The **Trustees** are:

Rev'd Dr Andrew Craig - Chair of Trustees
Mrs Angela Carrick – Treasurer
Ms Finola Andelic – Secretary
Mrs Susan Atkinson
Ms Abigail Knowles
Mrs Hilary Sowden
Mr Colin Reid

Appendix III: Member Churches

Church of the Nazarene
Grace Church

Grange Road Methodist Church
Headland Baptist Church
New Life Fellowship
Owton Manor Baptist Church
Oxford Road Baptist Church
St Aidan's Church
St George's URC
St Hilda's Church
St John the Baptist Church, Greatham
St John Vianney RC Church
St Joseph's RC Church
St Lukes Church
St Mary Magdalene Church, Hart
St Mary's RC Church
St Oswald's Church
St Patrick's RC Church
St Paul's Church
St Peters Church, Elwick
Stranton Church

In order to become a member of foodbank, a Church should:

- Worship regularly within the Borough boundary of Hartlepool
- Subscribe to a Trinitarian belief about God as articulated in the ancient (Athanasian and Apostle's) creeds of the Church

Provide the trustees with names and contact details of at least one, and preferably two, members of the church as well as of the minister responsible for the church, these members having been given authority to represent their church at a General Meeting of the Foodbank

Appendix IV: Examiners Report

EXAMINER'S REPORT

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of the Hartlepool Food Bank CIO

I report on the accounts of the Community Interest Organisation for the year ended 31st December 2021, which are set out on pages 1 - 4

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

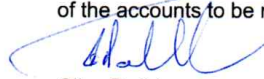
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Clive Rathbone
21 Wolviston Road,
Hartlepool, TS25 5AP
Dated: 17/01/2022



Annual Report

2022

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Chairman's Letter

Hartlepool Foodbank first opened its doors to people struggling to feed themselves in December 2012, so we celebrated our 10th anniversary with a service and afternoon tea in Greatham, courtesy of the Hospital of God. Apart from that milestone, the most significant development of 2022 was the development and initial delivery of our 5 year strategic development plan. This reflects the aims and vision our franchisor, the Trussell Trust, articulated in its own 5 year plan, *Together for Change*. In a nutshell, the priorities are partnerships, empowering people, raising public awareness and influencing social policy. We don't anticipate changing our core business (giving emergency food aid to individuals and families experiencing acute need) any time soon. However we are already taking steps to address the conditions that lead to people having to be referred to us, in the hope that this will help them avoid having to use handouts to feed themselves in the future. We are grateful to Hartlepower for facilitating and managing the process of developing our development plan.

Already we have gone into partnership with West View Advice and Resource Centre to give our clients sound, practical financial advice about maximising their income, reducing outgoings and managing debt. Also, in 2023 we will employ a community organizer to develop better public understanding and awareness of food poverty and strengthen our ability to influence decision makers. Both of these projects are funded by grants from the Trussell Trust. Thanks are due to the Trussell Trust, for obtaining and delivering the resources needed to achieve these aims.

As well as use of a warehouse, the owners of *Middleton Grange* have given us use of a shop front in the shopping centre. This has not been much used, as originally envisaged, as a meeting point for partner organizations with clients. However we have lately re-purposed it as a facility to publicise the work of the Foodbank and receive donations.

Hartlepool's Food Council (facilitated by Hartlepower) is a forum that has already engendered better cooperation and trust between individuals and organizations working to reduce food poverty. Members include the Food Network, a trio of individuals who extract surplus food from retailers and distribute it to partner organizations. As a result of this and the continued generosity of Embleton Hall Dairy, we have been able to extend the range of food given to clients, including fresh bread, dairy products and, sometimes, fresh fruit and vegetables.

Despite the foregoing, and the activities of a number of informal foodbanks, community kitchens and food subsidising initiatives that have sprung up in recent years, towards the end of the year we noted a significant increase in referrals. We believe that this is related to the "*cost of living crisis*" that has pushed more peo-

ple into financial insecurity. So, in the short term we are not expecting there to be a decline in demand for our services!

We are very grateful for continued generous financial support from the Council, our member churches, individuals, employers and charitable trusts. A list of donors is given in Appendix 3 of this report. Support from private sector organizations and employers is also very welcome, including from some of the larger retailers. We are especially grateful for those individuals and organizations that support us every year, giving us some confidence in a regular core income.

We also welcomed Corporate Social Responsibility in another guise, Lloyds Bank and Venator both sending teams of employee volunteers to help in our warehouse.

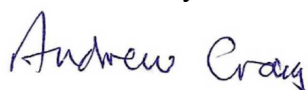
Looking forward, we are participating in the early stages of developing a Food Plan for Hartlepool, which will engage a wide range of interests to improve education, raise food quality, make better use of local resources, and reduce waste as well as address food insecurity and poverty.

Thanks are due to my fellow trustees, especially our treasurer Angela Carrick who also provides payroll services at the same time as carrying out her own full time job - and Susan Atkinson who, although standing down as vice chair, continues to oil our wheels administratively and financially. We are looking to strengthen the Board of Trustees to help lead the foodbank through the developments of the next few years. I am interested to hear from any individuals who might consider contributing in this way by joining us.

The core of any meaningful organization is its people. Our three employees, Lisa Lavender, Teagan Burns and Paul Anderson, are all capable, hard working and dedicated. Together with our corps of volunteers they are the essential heart of our operation. As well as our employees and volunteers, I would like to thank Mrs Josie Watson who continues to let us use 28 Church Street rent free; the owners and managers of Middleton Grange for providing us two sets of premises free of charge; and Clive Rathbone our *pro bono* auditor.

To all our supporters, employees, volunteers and funders, thank you very much for your generosity, your commitment and your love of the individuals and families in difficulties that we serve. I look forward, with all your contributions, to us continuing and developing this work in 2023. And I thank God for it all.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrew Craig".

Rev'd Dr Andrew Craig
Chair of Trustees

Hartlepool Foodbank Coordinator's Annual Report

Summary

Another year gone by in a flash! With the pandemic increasingly getting further behind us we have continued to be fully open and offering face to face contact. This is always our preferred option of working; this enables us to give time and space to those who need it and allow for effective sign posting.

The need for providing 7-day parcels is now at a minimum, this we expected to see as we move further away from the pandemic. Sadly, as we were beginning to feel hope about moving on from Covid-19, we were then hit with the cost-of-living crisis. We are just one of many agencies across the town who are supporting the community through this time.

We continue to work with our partner agencies and look forward to much of the same this coming year. It is partnership working that makes a difference. We shall continue to make a difference as much as we can supporting those who need us and sign posting for the help with wider issues.

Of course, we cannot do any of what we do without our band of faithful and loyal volunteers. They are an incredible group who give tirelessly each week to service the community of Hartlepool. This year has been another testimony to their commitment to Hartlepool Foodbank.

Personnel

Teagan has continued to work and promote our space in Middleton Grange. The Hands up for Hartlepool sign has now gone. The plans for the space have changed, from what we originally set out to do, largely due to the long closure of 2020. This last year we have used the space for a short campaign led by the Trussell Trust a few weeks before Christmas Teagan set the space up at as an Information Donation Station. The shop front was decorated accordingly and the space used for receiving donations. As we move into 2023, we shall continue to use the space for donations and future campaigns.

Our volunteers continue to be loyal and faithful in their roles within the foodbank both in the roles of Trustees and in the day to day running of the foodbank. They carry passion and compassion in all that they do. We cannot thank them enough for their hard work and commitment. We have recently welcomed new volunteers and hope they enjoy being part of the Foodbank Family.

Thank you, Our Fabulous Volunteers.

It was a joy to be able to celebrate our volunteers with a summer BBQ and Christmas Pie 'n' Peas. A huge thank you to Ian from the Nursery Pub for the space provided. We very much appreciate the support Ian and his staff show to the

foodbank. A special thank you for the recommendation of Acoustic Buffoonery who made our Christmas Party a real joy.

Donations and Distribution

The Community of Hartlepool continue to be generous and faithful in their giving, both with monetary and food donations. Some highlight include;

- A generous cheque presented by Jamie Sterry from Hartlepool United
- A sponsored parachute jump which all proceeds were donated to the Foodbank
- An afternoon tea hosted by a few of our Trustees, all proceeds were donated to the Foodbank
- Continued support from Embleton Dairy
- Continued support from Warburtons
- A local band donating their proceeds from one of their gigs

Our continued indebted Thanks to **All** who continue to give so generously. I cannot name you all but your support is valued and precious to those we help.

As with previous years we have continued to give out bulk donations. This has included a small supply of food parcels to the Food Network for agencies to access out of hours, this is working well and means that agencies can access a parcel at any time. Historically we have been in a position to share some of our surplus stock with other partnering agencies in the town. We are now seeing a decline in surplus, which means we have not been able to do this very often. We will continue to share our surplus (should it arise) as and when we can.

During 2022 we processed the following:

- 2323 vouchers. This equated to 4582 people, of which 1499 were children
- This was an increase of 17.5% from the previous year which saw 1976 vouchers processed which equated to 3752 people of which 1178 were children.
- There are many and varied reasons why we are needed but last year, as in the previous year our top 3 reasons remain to be Low Income, Debt and Benefit Changes.

Christmas

We saw yet another bountiful December with just under 9 tonnes (8957kg) of food and toiletries donated. Some of the corporate donators include:

Venetor

Seymor Civil Engineering

EDF

Hart Biological

Saica Packaging

A big 'Thankyou' for your support and kindness.

Partnerships

We continue to be part of the Hartlepool Food Council, coming together with other providers in the town.

Our most recent partnership has been with the West View Advice and Resource Centre. As part of the Trussell Trust 5 year strategy we now have Financial Advisors on site for our users to access. This has enable us to enhance our help and increase the support for looking at the wider issues of why the foodbank is needed.

Our partnership began early last year with an application for funding to the Trussell Trust. After a successful application we were able to start September with 2 members of the WVARC team attending each session. Our first quarterly report has been very positive with 80 new people having accessed the service. Quarterly reports shall continue throughout the duration of the grant (3 years). This information is reported to Trussell Trust.

The reports helps us to understand the wider issues and gives an insight to need.

HUFH

As stated under *Personnel* we have now taken down the name Hand Up for Hartlepool from the unit in Middleton Grange. The space still remains part of the Foodbank but the use is changing. It is now an information donation station, which is manned by 2 volunteers (when available) on a Wednesday, 10am - 1pm. The idea being for anyone to pop in with a donation or to come and have a chat about the foodbank and what we do.

Supermarkets

Our continued thanks to our Partner Supermarkets and those who have a permanent collection point in aid of Hartlepool Foodbank -

Asda

Morrisons

Sainsbury - Murray Street

Sainsbury - Seaton Lane

Sainsbury - Middle Warren

Spar

One Stop

Tesco Extra

Donations from supermarkets in 2022 totalled 20.8 tonnes, a drop in last year which was 24.5 tonnes.

Our continued Thanks for their support and to the community who faithfully give to the donation points in the stores. I would also like to Thank each Community Champion within each store for the behind the scenes work that is involved.

Warehouse

Our thanks and appreciation to Mark Rycroft and his team at Middleton Grange for their continued support and provision of our warehouse and our unit in the centre.

Future Plans

The story so far.... In 2021/2022 we partnered with Hartlepower to assist in developing our 5-year plan. This was the beginning of embracing the Trussell Trust strategy to end the need for foodbanks. During this time we held stake holder days which brought together agencies, volunteers and members of the Local Authority who shared thoughts and ideas that would help influence and implement the plan. After a lot of hard work from Julian Penton and his team the plan was produced. A huge Thank you to Julian for his dedication and hard work.

We are now onto the next part. This year we are looking to employ a fourth member of staff. This will be for the campaigning side of the strategy. This is to look at how we can influence local change within the community. Trussell Trust will continue the fight for national change; changing policies in the hope that everyone will have enough for basic living costs and the right to choose.

The foodbank will be here for as long as is needed but the hope is that people will, one day, have enough resources to make their own choices and decisions about their circumstances.

Financial Report

The accounts are unaudited. The independent examiner's report on the 2021 accounts is given in Appendix IV (the 2022 accounts will be examined later in the year).

Many thanks are due to our independent examiner, Clive Rathbone, for contributing to the work of the foodbank by carrying out the independent examination of the accounts without payment.

Income 2022

Description	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2023 budget £
Private donations	1	30,254.92	0.00	30,254.92	30,000
Church donations		2,231.83	0.00	2,231.83	2,000
Corporate donations	1	38,167.24	0.00	38,167.24	35,000
Grant funding		5,127.00	56,080.00	61,207.00	135,000
Gift aid tax recovered		2,120.80	0.00	2,120.80	2,000
Total receipts		77,901.79	56,080.00	133,981.79	204,000

Expenditure 2022

Description	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2023 budget £
Premises					
Premises maintenance, repairs & alterations		1,593.93	0.00	1,593.93	2,000
Premises insurances & rates		1,702.98	0.00	1,702.98	2,000
Utilities		1,274.45	1,869.53	3,143.98	3,500
Equipment		1,105.30	0.00	1,105.30	2,000
Middleton Grange Project		345.81	1,278.71	1,624.52	1,500
Running Expenses					
Subscriptions		5,191.00	20,545.00	25,736.00	32,500
Telephone & Broadband		547.44	0.00	547.44	600
Office Supplies		1,546.44	0.00	1,546.44	1,500
Food Purchases		7,019.21	8,000.00	15,019.21	10,000
Support Boxes		0.00	15,065.19	15,065.19	15,000
Transport		3,424.25	0.00	3,424.25	4,000
Depreciation		6,299.60	0.00	6,299.60	6,300
Volunteers					
Volunteers Training		414.00	0.00	414.00	500
Expenses	2	254.30	0.00	254.30	500
Hospitality	3	1,509.08	0.00	1,509.08	1,500
Employee Costs		37,128.58	15,093.77	52,222.35	90,500
Total payments		69,356.37	61,852.20	131,208.57	173,900

Balance Sheet as at 31/12/2022

Description	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Assets			
Fixed assets		9,449.40	15,749.00
Foodbank a/c		96,168.98	86,338.72
Deposit a/c		50,025.00	50,000.00
Debtors		267.01	418.25
Total Assets		146,460.99	136,756.97
Liabilities			
Creditors (falling due within 1 year)	4	2,800.28	2,169.08
Total Liabilities		2,800.28	2,169.08
Net current assets (Total assets less current liabilities)		153,110.11	150,336.89
Creditors (falling due after 1 year)		0.00	0.00
Total Net Assets		153,110.11	150,336.89
Funds			
Unrestricted		125,545.34	116,999.92
Restricted	5	27,564.77	33,336.97
Endowment		0.00	0.00
Total Funds		153,110.11	150,336.89

The notes to the account can be found in Appendix I

The main contributions are from employers, corporate donors and charitable trusts and these are listed in Appendix II. The Foodbank's trustees, partners, employees, and volunteers are very grateful to all the individuals and organizations that have provided financial support. We try to acknowledge all gifts over £100 (for

corporations) and £50 (for individuals and churches) by letter, providing we have the necessary contact details. For individuals who are income taxpayers, we would also be able to claim your income tax back on donations you made if you endorsed a declaration form* including your address and postcode. The treasurer would be very pleased to hear from any individual or organization where a donation has not been acknowledged, or you have not signed a Gift Aid declaration. To donate please see the website.

*Download a form from the website, or contact the treasurer on angela.carrick@vishay.com.

Grant funding enables us to continue to run our services and pay the staff. In 2022 we were fortunate to be the recipients of a major grant towards the development of a partnership with West View Advice and Resource Centre to provide a financial advice service for foodbank users.

Appendix I: Notes to the Accounts

Donor over £500.00	Amount £	Restricted to:
Tesco (via Trussell Trust)	1,338.92	
Hart Biologicals	600.00	
Hartlepool Borough Council	12,000.00	
Hartlepool Borough Council	10,000.00	
Teesside Philanthropic Trust	500.00	
DG Dalton Mason	1,500.00	
Asda (via Trussell Trust)	749.64	
Cubic	500.00	
Cubic Staff	934.95	
Cowie Technology	3,500.00	
J Moore	500.00	
N Bew	2,000.00	
H M Thornton	600.00	
The Teesside Charity	1,000.00	
P Rigby	500.00	
Utilita Giving	2,798.50	
Forsa Energy	1,750.00	
P & J Taylor	600.00	
Total	41,372.01	
Grants	Amount £	Restricted to:

1	Trussell Trust (£5127.00 unrestricted)	39,307.00	Financial Inclusion		
	Sainsbury Neighbourly	1,000.00	Food		
	Sherburn House	3,900.00	Staff salaries		
	CDCF	2,000.00	Food		
	Hartlepool Borough Council	10,000.00	Family Support		
	Trussell Trust	5,000.00	Winter Support		
	Total	61,207.00			
2	Includes cost of volunteer refreshments				
3	Includes Christmas party and BBQ for volunteers				
4	Utility and maintenance/Telephone accruals paid in 2023 and PAYE				
5	Description	£ Carried over from previous year (2021)	£ Restricted grants received	£ Spent during 2022	£ Restricted reserve at year end
	Asda Foundation Salaries (Co-ordinator)	6,417.28	0.00	6,417.28	0.00
	Asda Foundation Salaries (Deputy Co-ordinator)	4,776.49	0.00	4,776.49	0.00
	Asda Foundation Middleton Grange	1,278.71	0.00	1,278.71	0.00
	CDCF Post Covid Costs HUFH	1,869.53	0.00	1,869.53	0.00
	Trussell Trust Strategic Resources	12,000.00	0.00	12,000.00	0.00
	HBC Support Boxes	6,994.96	10,000.00	15,065.19	1,929.77
	Trussell Trust Financial Resources		34,180.00	8,545.00	25,635.00
	Trussell Trust Winter		5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00
	CDCF food		2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
	Sainsburys Neighbourly food		1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
	Sherburn House Salaries		3,900.00	3,900.00	0.00
	Total restricted funds	33,336.97	56,080.00	61,852.20	27,564.77

Appendix II: Registration Details

Hartlepool Foodbank CIO

Hartlepool Foodbank is registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organization (CIO)(Charity Number 1152046).

Address: 28 Church Street, Hartlepool TS24 7DH; telephone 01429 598404;
Website: www.hartlepool.foodbank.org.uk

Its **Objects** are:

The relief and prevention of poverty for persons in Hartlepool who are in a condition of need, hardship or distress ('Beneficiaries') in such ways as the Trustees think fit, in particular but not exclusively by:

- A) Supplying food packages to beneficiaries
- B) Such other means, including (but not limited to) the provision of support and advice.

The **Trustees** are:

Rev'd Dr Andrew Craig - Chair of Trustees
Mrs Angela Carrick – Treasurer
Ms Finola Andelic – Secretary
Mrs Susan Atkinson
Ms Abigail Knowles
Mrs Hilary Sowden
Mr Colin Reid

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Provide the trustees with names and contact details of at least one, and preferably two, members of the church as well as of the minister responsible for the church, these members having been given authority to represent their church at a General Meeting of the Foodbank

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Basis of independent examiner's report

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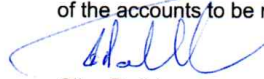
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Clive Rathbone
21 Wolviston Road,
Hartlepool, TS25 5AP
Dated: 17/01/2022

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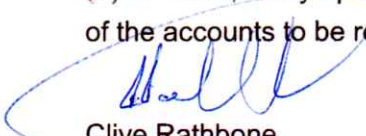
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Clive Rathbone
21 Wolviston Road,
Hartlepool, TS25 5AP
Dated: 28/02/2023

Accounts



Annual Report

2021

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Chairman's Letter

2021 was another year without parallel in the life of Hartlepool's foodbank. Our operations have slowly started returning to "normal" after many changes to comply with regulations needed to reduce the spread of Covid 19. However, we remain cautious, especially in our front, client-facing operation where we continue to take precautions. We have continued to deliver some food relief to clients' doors where families have to be isolated, although by the end of the year we were mostly able to meet our clients personally at 28 Church Street. Food parcels have been augmented with some extra provisions, including bread and fresh fruit & vegetables directed to us by the Food Network, "veggie boxes" from the Vegetarian Society – and fresh milk and dairy products from Embleton Dairies. Many thanks to all of these on behalf of our clients!

The Foodbank is a franchisee of the Trussell Trust, a nation-wide charity that is connected with more than 400 foodbanks, operating from around 1200 centres. In 2020 Trussell Trust published its 5-year strategy Together for Change with the vision of creating the conditions under which foodbanks would no longer be needed. Hartlepool Foodbank applied for, and was granted, funding from Trussell Trust to develop its own 5-year strategy. We chose Hartlepower to be our delivery partner, building on work Hartlepower has already done facilitating Hartlepool's Food Council. It hosted a first stakeholder consultation in early December and we plan to hold another event in a few months' time before publishing the strategy towards the end of 2022. We already realise that the new strategy will change the way we operate, helping us to be more proactive (from reacting to need to finding ways of addressing the causes of need); work more effectively with other organizations; and generate and use data better to inform policy makers, both locally and nationally.

We have always worked closely with our local authority, Hartlepool Borough Council. This last year we have continued helping the Council deliver food relief for which additional Government funding was provided to ameliorate poverty during the pandemic and we look forward to contributing to its review of services to the most vulnerable in our town. The Food Council has given for improving communications and developing stronger relationships for the better coordination of food aid, focussing on reducing wastage and improving nutrition as well as providing emergency relief.

Thanks are due to my fellow trustees, especially vice chair and assistant treasurer Susan Atkinson the importance of whose support applying for and monitoring funding from charities and trusts cannot be overstated; and our treasurer Angela Carrick who also provides payroll services at the same time as carrying out her own full-time job. We are looking to strengthen the Board of Trustees to help lead the foodbank through the developments of the next few years. I am interested to hear from any individuals who might consider contributing in this way by joining us.

I am also grateful to many individuals, businesses and charitable trusts, as well as the Council, for their financial support. Our sources of funds are listed in Appendix 1 to this Annual Report. I am especially grateful to those who have committed to

regular giving, giving us some confidence in financial sustainability over the next few years.

Our three employees, Lisa Lavender and Teagan Burns, now joined by Paul Anderson, are all capable, hard-working and dedicated. Together with our corps of volunteers they are the essential heart of our operation. As well as our employees and volunteers, I would like to thank Mrs. Josie Watson who continues to let us use 28 Church Street rent free, the owners and managers of Middleton Grange for providing us premises free of charge and Clive Rathbone, our pro bono auditor.

To all our supporters, employees, volunteers and funders, thank you very much for your generosity, your commitment and your love of the individuals and families in difficulties that we serve. I look forward, with all your contributions, to us continuing and developing this work in 2022. And I thank God for it all.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrew Craig".

Rev'd Dr Andrew Craig
Chair of Trustees

Hartlepool Foodbank Coordinator's Annual Report

Summary

At the beginning of 2021 we continued with our support of delivering food parcels to those in need. We re-opened the doors in June for face-to-face contact. With some diligence and care we have managed to remain open for clients to come into the building. At the moment we continue to make deliveries to those who have Covid-19 and we will continue to do this until it is no longer needed. We are also continuing with the 7-day parcels for those in isolation due to Covid-19.

It was a joy to have face to face contact once again and give those who need us the opportunity to receive our full service. This also enables us to give more effective sign posting where needed or just a listening ear.

We continue to work well with our partner agencies and look forward to the future. We continue to have strong links within the food network across Hartlepool and enjoy being part of the Food Council. This has been running for a year now. It keeps all of the food providers in touch and enables collaborative working.

A special thank you to Julie Colin, the Coordinator of the food council, for all her hard work and support.

Personnel

This last year we welcomed in a new member of staff, Paul Anderson. Paul has joined the team as part of a job share with Teagan Burns as Deputy Coordinator. Paul manages the warehouse and takes care of the logistics amongst many other things. He is an asset to the team.

Teagan is concentrating on our Hands Up for Hartlepool premises and is working with partner agencies. This space continues to be available for agencies to come in and be available for drop-ins or arrange for their own scheduled appointments. Louise Sawyer, a volunteer, assisted with the work of the Deputy Coordinator while we were awaiting the appointment to the post. For this she was paid an honorarium. Thank-you Louise for your help.

Our volunteers continue to be loyal and faithful in their roles within the foodbank. They carry a passion in all that they do. We cannot thank them enough for their hard work and commitment to us. We have recently welcomed new volunteers and hope they enjoy being part of the Foodbank Family.

It was a joy to be able to celebrate our volunteers with a summer BBQ and Christmas Pie 'n' Peas Quiz night.

Thank you, Our Fabulous Volunteers!

It was also a time to say farewell to Peter and Jackie Buckle. Peter and Jackie have been with the foodbank since it first opened in 2012. They supported the work of the warehouse every Tuesday and Friday including doing some of the supermarket collections. Peter's skills included assisting with odd jobs around the warehouse and sharing his knowledge as an electrician. Both Peter and Jackie were hands-on when it came to stock taking amongst the other duties required in the effective running of the warehouse.

It has been a joy to have been blessed with Peter and Jackie over the last 9 years.

Training

During the year volunteers received training in First Aid, Loan Shark Awareness, Loneliness and life after the pandemic.

New staff were trained in Safeguarding procedures and also dealing with those with No Recourse to Public Funding.

Donations and Distribution

The Community of Hartlepool continue to be generous and faithful in their giving, both with monetary and food donations.

Some highlights include:

- Local football club
- Mecca Bingo providing sweet hampers at Christmas
- 18th Hartlepool Scouts – A joy to visit and receive a generous donation
- Individual donations
- Continued milk supply from Embleton Dairy
- Fresh Bread from Warburton
- Foresters Financial – providing savory hampers at Christmas

Our continued indebted thanks go to all who continue to give so generously. I cannot name you all, but your support is valued and precious to those we help.

I would like to honour Gill Barrett who tirelessly provides us with extra bread from the Food Network.

Gill, you are a star! Thank you.

As in previous years we have continued to distribute bulk donations. This has included a small supply of food parcels to the Food Network for key partner agencies to access out of hours, this is working well and means that agencies can access a parcel at any time. Our 7-day parcel provision continues for those who are isolating.

During 2021 we provided the following:

- 118,742 meals
- 1976 vouchers processed
- 3752 people, of which 1178 were children, supported with food parcels.

This was a slight increase from last year which saw 3,714 people supported.

There are many and varied reasons why we are needed but last year our top 3 reasons were Low Income, Debt and Benefit Changes.

Christmas

We saw yet another bountiful December with 9 tonnes of food and toiletries donated. This was alongside another huge support from Mecca Bingo and Foresters Financial.

Michelle's team at Mecca provided a wonderful donation of sweet hampers, this went above and beyond their goal. Savoury hampers were provided by Rebecca Gray from Foresters Financial. A tremendous amount of effort went into these hampers from both businesses.

Again, a big thank you for your support and kindness.

Partnerships

Our partnerships continue to grow and strengthen. This has been enhanced since we became part of the Food Council. We are beginning the journey of learning to think differently about the provision of food, looking at the wider issues surrounding this and how we can become more effective at supporting the need.

We currently have around 80 referral agencies. Our main referrers are:

- Local Welfare Support
- CAB
- Advice @ Hart
- START

This year we received finance to provide 333 food parcels as part of the Government funding. These parcels were divided between 2 agencies on top of our normal provision to enable them to help without the need for a voucher. This will be completed at the end of March.

A new Van

We were privileged to be able to purchase a new van using money received in 2020. The van was only 18 months old. We were able to afford this due to the generous price we received in part exchange for our old van. This was a real highlight for us this last year.

Hands Up for Hartlepool (HUFH) – Progress thus far.

HUFH has had a slow uptake with agencies and the public but Teagan has worked hard to build links with previous and new agencies. The space was opened in 2020 but its popularity was hindered by the pandemic. We hope to see that change over the coming weeks.

Advice @ Hart have a regular time slot and we look forward to Age UK coming into the space. Age UK have shown a good level of interest and have made arrangements to attend over the next few months to see how it goes for them. In the near future, we are to be a school uniform distribution point for the local council and are hoping that a member from the Community Nursing Team and Cornerstone will get on board and use the space.

The space has potential to be used for training and Teagan will liaise with the relevant agencies. A meter is due to be installed and we hope to offer free WI-FI shortly.

Supermarkets

Our continued thanks to our Partner Supermarkets and those who have a permanent collection point in aid of Hartlepool Foodbank:

- Asda
- Morrisons
- Sainsburys – Murray Street, Seaton Lane and Middle Warren
- Spar
- One Stop
- Tesco and Tesco Extra

Donations from supermarkets in 2021 totaled 24.5 tonnes

Warehouse

Our thanks and appreciation go to Mark Rycroft and his team at Middleton Grange for their continued support, providing our warehouse and Hands up for Hartlepool space.

Future Plans

Over the next few years, we hope to see the face of foodbank change. With the support of Trussell Trust, plans are afoot to work with their strategy *Together for Change*. This has begun by teaming with Hartlepower, assisting and working with us on our strategy.

The Trussell Trust's mission is to end hunger and the need for foodbanks in the UK. This will not change overnight and requires time and effort to ensure the wider needs of those who come to us are being met. By the end of this year, we hope to have the strategy in place and be in a position assist more effectively with the wider needs.

The foodbank will be here for as long as is needed but the hope is that people will, one day, have enough resources to make their own choices and decisions about their circumstances.

Financial Report

The accounts are unaudited. The independent examiner's report on the 2020 accounts is given in Appendix IV (the 2021 accounts will be examined later in the year).

Many thanks are due to our independent examiner, Clive Rathbone, for contributing to the work of the foodbank by carrying out the independent examination of the accounts without payment.

Income 2021

Description	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2022 budget £
Private donations		24,481.36	0.00	24,481.36	25,000.00
Church donations		505.00	0.00	505.00	1,000.00
Corporate donations	1	25,810.29	0.00	25,810.29	26,000.00
Grant funding	2	4,716.40	49,109.34	53,825.74	20,000.00
Gift aid tax recovered		1,867.48	0.00	1,867.48	1,500.00
Restricted Grants received (Budget)		0.00	0.00	0.00	33,337.00
Total receipts		57,380.53	49,109.34	106,489.87	106,837.00

Expenditure 2021

Description	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2022 budget £
Premises					
Premises maintenance, repairs & alterations		3,358.16	0.00	3,358.16	3,500.00
Premises insurances & rates		1,577.97	0.00	1,577.97	1,500.00
Utilities		1,903.93	0.00	1,903.93	2,500.00
Equipment		3,675.71	0.00	3,675.71	2,000.00
Middleton Grange Project		0.00	1,130.47	1,130.47	1,870.00
Running Expenses					
Subscriptions		6,243.51	6,000.00	12,243.51	18,000.00
Telephone & Broadband		537.05	0.00	537.05	600.00
Office Supplies		1,459.18	0.00	1,459.18	1,200.00
Food Purchases		5,374.53	0.00	5,374.53	7,000.00
Transport		3,046.96	0.00	3,046.96	3,000.00
Depreciation		3,149.80	0.00	3,149.80	6,300.00
Volunteers					
Volunteers Training		525.00	0.00	525.00	500.00
Expenses	3	1,382.31	0.00	1,382.31	1,000.00
Hospitality	4	668.99	0.00	668.59	700.00
Employee Costs		32,034.75	15,453.69	47,488.44	48,191.00
Total payments		64,937.45	25,589.20	90,526.65	104,861.00

Balance Sheet as at 31/12/2021

Description	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Assets			
Fixed assets		15,749.00	0.00
Foodbank a/c		86,338.72	134,970.16
Deposit a/c		50,000.00	0.00
Debtors		418.25	464.55
Total Assets		136,756.97	135,434.71
Liabilities			
Creditors (falling due within 1 year)	5	2,169.08	1,061.04
Total Liabilities		2,169.08	1,061.04
Net current assets (Total assets less current liabilities)		150,336.89	134,373.67
Creditors (falling due after 1 year)		0.00	0.00
Total Net Assets		150,336.89	134,373.67
Funds			
Unrestricted		116,999.92	114,556.85
Restricted	6	33,336.97	19,816.82
Endowment		0.00	0.00
Total Funds		150,336.89	134,373.67

The notes to the account can be found in Appendix I

The main contributions are from employers, corporate donors and charitable trusts and these are listed in Appendix I. The Foodbank's trustees, partners, employees, and volunteers are very grateful to all the individuals and organizations that have

provided financial support. We try to acknowledge all gifts over £100 (for corporations) and £50 (for individuals and churches) by letter, providing we have the necessary contact details.

For individuals who are income taxpayers, we would also be able to claim your income tax back on donations you made if you endorsed a declaration form* including your address and postcode. The treasurer would be very pleased to hear from any individual or organization where a donation has not been acknowledged, or you have not signed a Gift Aid declaration. To donate please see the website.

Grant funding enables us to continue to run our services and pay the staff. In 2021 we were fortunate to be the recipients of a major grant towards the future development of the Foodbank.

*Download a form from the website or contact the treasurer on angela.carrick@vishay.com.

Appendix I: Notes to the Accounts

	Donor over £500.00	Amount £	Restricted to:
1	Tesco (via Trussell Trust)	673.41	
	Hart Biologicals	600.00	
	Hartlepool Borough Council	1000.00	
	Hartlepool Borough Council Covid support	2500.00	
	Teesside Philanthropic Trust	2350.00	
	Making a difference locally	944.58	
	Asda (via Trussell Trust)	2843.25	
	L Bassam	1000.00	
	Cubic Staff	849.80	
	Premier League Football	500.00	
	Karbon Homes	1000.00	
	Trussell Trust TTU	848.18	
	H M Thornton	650.00	
	Friends in Greatham	540.00	
	Neighbourly Sainsburys	2000.00	
	BM Software	500.00	
	Tanglewood Games	500.00	
	Total	30299.22	
	Grants	Amount	Restricted to:
2	Asda Foundation Salaries	18,109.34	Staff salaries
	Asda Foundation Unrestricted	2,715.50	
	Sherburn House	3,000.00	Staff salaries
	Trussell Trust Strategic Resources	18,000.00	Resource Planning
	Hartlepool Borough Council	10,000.00	Family Support
	Total	51,824.84	

3	Includes cost of volunteer refreshments																																																																	
4	Includes Christmas party and BBQ for volunteers																																																																	
5	Utility and maintenance/Telephone accruals paid in 2022 and PAYE																																																																	
6	<table><tr><th>Description</th><th>£ Carried over from previous year (2020)</th><th>£ Restricted grants received</th><th>£ Spent during 2021</th><th>£ Restricted reserve at year end</th></tr><tr><td>Asda Foundation Salaries (Co-ordinator)</td><td>5,538.11</td><td>8,556.37</td><td>7,677.20</td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>6,417.28</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Asda Foundation Salaries (Deputy Co-ordinator)</td><td>0</td><td>9,552.97</td><td>4,776.49</td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>4,776.49</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Asda Foundation Middleton Grange</td><td>1,278.71</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1,278.71</td></tr><tr><td>CDCF Post Covid Costs HUFH</td><td>3,000.00</td><td>0</td><td>1,130.47</td><td>1,869.53</td></tr><tr><td>Allocated Van Fund (Internal Allocation 2020)</td><td>0</td><td>10,000.00</td><td>0</td><td>10,000.00</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>0</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Sherburn House Salaries</td><td>0</td><td>3,000.00</td><td>3,000.00</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Trussell Trust Strategic Resources</td><td>0</td><td>18,000.00</td><td>6,000.00</td><td>12,000.00</td></tr><tr><td>HBC Family Support</td><td>0</td><td>10,000.00</td><td>3,005.04</td><td>6,994.96</td></tr><tr><td>Total restricted funds</td><td>19,816.82</td><td>49,109.34</td><td>35,589.20</td><td>33,336.97</td></tr></table>	Description	£ Carried over from previous year (2020)	£ Restricted grants received	£ Spent during 2021	£ Restricted reserve at year end	Asda Foundation Salaries (Co-ordinator)	5,538.11	8,556.37	7,677.20			6,417.28				Asda Foundation Salaries (Deputy Co-ordinator)	0	9,552.97	4,776.49			4,776.49				Asda Foundation Middleton Grange	1,278.71	0	0	1,278.71	CDCF Post Covid Costs HUFH	3,000.00	0	1,130.47	1,869.53	Allocated Van Fund (Internal Allocation 2020)	0	10,000.00	0	10,000.00		0				Sherburn House Salaries	0	3,000.00	3,000.00	0	Trussell Trust Strategic Resources	0	18,000.00	6,000.00	12,000.00	HBC Family Support	0	10,000.00	3,005.04	6,994.96	Total restricted funds	19,816.82	49,109.34	35,589.20	33,336.97
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Appendix II: Registration Details

Hartlepool Foodbank CIO

Hartlepool Foodbank is registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organization (CIO)(Charity Number 1152046).

Address: 28 Church Street, Hartlepool TS24 7DH; telephone 01429 598404;
Website: www.hartlepool.foodbank.org.uk

Its **Objects** are:

The relief and prevention of poverty for persons in Hartlepool who are in a condition of need, hardship or distress ('Beneficiaries') in such ways as the Trustees think fit, in particular but not exclusively by:

- A) Supplying food packages to beneficiaries
- B) Such other means, including (but not limited to) the provision of support and advice.

The **Trustees** are:

Rev'd Dr Andrew Craig - Chair of Trustees
Mrs Angela Carrick – Treasurer
Ms Finola Andelic – Secretary
Mrs Susan Atkinson
Mr Barry Lewis
Mrs Pauline Screeton
Mr Colin Reid
Ms Abigail Knowles

Appendix III: Member Churches

Church of the Nazarene
Grace Church

Grange Road Methodist Church
Headland Baptist Church
New Life Fellowship
Owton Manor Baptist Church
Oxford Road Baptist Church
St Aidan's Church
St George's URC
St Hilda's Church
St John the Baptist Church, Greatham
St John Vianney RC Church
St Joseph's RC Church
St Lukes Church
St Mary Magdalene Church, Hart
St Mary's RC Church
St Oswald's Church
St Patrick's RC Church
St Paul's Church
St Peters Church, Elwick
Stranton Church

In order to become a member of foodbank, a Church should:

- Worship regularly within the Borough boundary of Hartlepool
- Subscribe to a Trinitarian belief about God as articulated in the ancient (Athanasian and Apostle's) creeds of the Church

Provide the trustees with names and contact details of at least one, and preferably two, members of the church as well as of the minister responsible for the church, these members having been given authority to represent their church at a General Meeting of the Foodbank

Appendix IV: Examiners Report

EXAMINER'S REPORT

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of the Hartlepool Food Bank CIO

I report on the accounts of the Community Interest Organisation for the year ended 31st December 2020, which are set out on pages 1 - 4

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

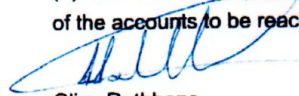
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Clive Rathbone
59 Claremont Drive,
Hartlepool, TS26 9PE
Dated: 14/11/2021



Annual Report

2021

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Chairman's Letter

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To all our supporters, employees, volunteers and funders, thank you very much for your generosity, your commitment and your love of the individuals and families in difficulties that we serve. I look forward, with all your contributions, to us continuing and developing this work in 2022. And I thank God for it all.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrew Craig".

Rev'd Dr Andrew Craig
Chair of Trustees

Hartlepool Foodbank Coordinator's Annual Report

Summary

At the beginning of 2021 we continued with our support of delivering food parcels to those in need. We re-opened the doors in June for face-to-face contact. With some diligence and care we have managed to remain open for clients to come into the building. At the moment we continue to make deliveries to those who have Covid-19 and we will continue to do this until it is no longer needed. We are also continuing with the 7-day parcels for those in isolation due to Covid-19.

It was a joy to have face to face contact once again and give those who need us the opportunity to receive our full service. This also enables us to give more effective sign posting where needed or just a listening ear.

We continue to work well with our partner agencies and look forward to the future. We continue to have strong links within the food network across Hartlepool and enjoy being part of the Food Council. This has been running for a year now. It keeps all of the food providers in touch and enables collaborative working.

A special thank you to Julie Colin, the Coordinator of the food council, for all her hard work and support.

Personnel

This last year we welcomed in a new member of staff, Paul Anderson. Paul has joined the team as part of a job share with Teagan Burns as Deputy Coordinator. Paul manages the warehouse and takes care of the logistics amongst many other things. He is an asset to the team.

Teagan is concentrating on our Hands Up for Hartlepool premises and is working with partner agencies. This space continues to be available for agencies to come in and be available for drop-ins or arrange for their own scheduled appointments. Louise Sawyer, a volunteer, assisted with the work of the Deputy Coordinator while we were awaiting the appointment to the post. For this she was paid an honorarium. Thank-you Louise for your help.

Our volunteers continue to be loyal and faithful in their roles within the foodbank. They carry a passion in all that they do. We cannot thank them enough for their hard work and commitment to us. We have recently welcomed new volunteers and hope they enjoy being part of the Foodbank Family.

It was a joy to be able to celebrate our volunteers with a summer BBQ and Christmas Pie 'n' Peas Quiz night.

Thank you, Our Fabulous Volunteers!

It was also a time to say farewell to Peter and Jackie Buckle. Peter and Jackie have been with the foodbank since it first opened in 2012. They supported the work of the warehouse every Tuesday and Friday including doing some of the supermarket collections. Peter's skills included assisting with odd jobs around the warehouse and sharing his knowledge as an electrician. Both Peter and Jackie were hands-on when it came to stock taking amongst the other duties required in the effective running of the warehouse.

It has been a joy to have been blessed with Peter and Jackie over the last 9 years.

Training

During the year volunteers received training in First Aid, Loan Shark Awareness, Loneliness and life after the pandemic.

New staff were trained in Safeguarding procedures and also dealing with those with No Recourse to Public Funding.

Donations and Distribution

The Community of Hartlepool continue to be generous and faithful in their giving, both with monetary and food donations.

Some highlights include:

- Local football club
- Mecca Bingo providing sweet hampers at Christmas
- 18th Hartlepool Scouts – A joy to visit and receive a generous donation
- Individual donations
- Continued milk supply from Embleton Dairy
- Fresh Bread from Warburton
- Foresters Financial – providing savory hampers at Christmas

Our continued indebted thanks go to all who continue to give so generously. I cannot name you all, but your support is valued and precious to those we help.

I would like to honour Gill Barrett who tirelessly provides us with extra bread from the Food Network.

Gill, you are a star! Thank you.

As in previous years we have continued to distribute bulk donations. This has included a small supply of food parcels to the Food Network for key partner agencies to access out of hours, this is working well and means that agencies can access a parcel at any time. Our 7-day parcel provision continues for those who are isolating.

During 2021 we provided the following:

- 118,742 meals
- 1976 vouchers processed
- 3752 people, of which 1178 were children, supported with food parcels.

This was a slight increase from last year which saw 3,714 people supported.

There are many and varied reasons why we are needed but last year our top 3 reasons were Low Income, Debt and Benefit Changes.

Christmas

We saw yet another bountiful December with 9 tonnes of food and toiletries donated. This was alongside another huge support from Mecca Bingo and Foresters Financial.

Michelle's team at Mecca provided a wonderful donation of sweet hampers, this went above and beyond their goal. Savoury hampers were provided by Rebecca Gray from Foresters Financial. A tremendous amount of effort went into these hampers from both businesses.

Again, a big thank you for your support and kindness.

Partnerships

Our partnerships continue to grow and strengthen. This has been enhanced since we became part of the Food Council. We are beginning the journey of learning to think differently about the provision of food, looking at the wider issues surrounding this and how we can become more effective at supporting the need.

We currently have around 80 referral agencies. Our main referrers are:

- Local Welfare Support
- CAB
- Advice @ Hart
- START

This year we received finance to provide 333 food parcels as part of the Government funding. These parcels were divided between 2 agencies on top of our normal provision to enable them to help without the need for a voucher. This will be completed at the end of March.

A new Van

We were privileged to be able to purchase a new van using money received in 2020. The van was only 18 months old. We were able to afford this due to the generous price we received in part exchange for our old van. This was a real highlight for us this last year.

Hands Up for Hartlepool (HUFH) – Progress thus far.

HUFH has had a slow uptake with agencies and the public but Teagan has worked hard to build links with previous and new agencies. The space was opened in 2020 but its popularity was hindered by the pandemic. We hope to see that change over the coming weeks.

Advice @ Hart have a regular time slot and we look forward to Age UK coming into the space. Age UK have shown a good level of interest and have made arrangements to attend over the next few months to see how it goes for them. In the near future, we are to be a school uniform distribution point for the local council and are hoping that a member from the Community Nursing Team and Cornerstone will get on board and use the space.

The space has potential to be used for training and Teagan will liaise with the relevant agencies. A meter is due to be installed and we hope to offer free WI-FI shortly.

Supermarkets

Our continued thanks to our Partner Supermarkets and those who have a permanent collection point in aid of Hartlepool Foodbank:

- Asda
- Morrisons
- Sainsburys – Murray Street, Seaton Lane and Middle Warren
- Spar
- One Stop
- Tesco and Tesco Extra

Donations from supermarkets in 2021 totaled 24.5 tonnes

Warehouse

Our thanks and appreciation go to Mark Rycroft and his team at Middleton Grange for their continued support, providing our warehouse and Hands up for Hartlepool space.

Future Plans

Over the next few years, we hope to see the face of foodbank change. With the support of Trussell Trust, plans are afoot to work with their strategy *Together for Change*. This has begun by teaming with Hartlepower, assisting and working with us on our strategy.

The Trussell Trust's mission is to end hunger and the need for foodbanks in the UK. This will not change overnight and requires time and effort to ensure the wider needs of those who come to us are being met. By the end of this year, we hope to have the strategy in place and be in a position assist more effectively with the wider needs.

The foodbank will be here for as long as is needed but the hope is that people will, one day, have enough resources to make their own choices and decisions about their circumstances.

Financial Report

The accounts are unaudited. The independent examiner's report on the 2020 accounts is given in Appendix IV (the 2021 accounts will be examined later in the year).

Many thanks are due to our independent examiner, Clive Rathbone, for contributing to the work of the foodbank by carrying out the independent examination of the accounts without payment.

Income 2021

Description	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2022 budget £
Private donations		24,481.36	0.00	24,481.36	25,000.00
Church donations		505.00	0.00	505.00	1,000.00
Corporate donations	1	25,810.29	0.00	25,810.29	26,000.00
Grant funding	2	4,716.40	49,109.34	53,825.74	20,000.00
Gift aid tax recovered		1,867.48	0.00	1,867.48	1,500.00
Restricted Grants received (Budget)		0.00	0.00	0.00	33,337.00
Total receipts		57,380.53	49,109.34	106,489.87	106,837.00

Expenditure 2021

Description	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2022 budget £
Premises					
Premises maintenance, repairs & alterations		3,358.16	0.00	3,358.16	3,500.00
Premises insurances & rates		1,577.97	0.00	1,577.97	1,500.00
Utilities		1,903.93	0.00	1,903.93	2,500.00
Equipment		3,675.71	0.00	3,675.71	2,000.00
Middleton Grange Project		0.00	1,130.47	1,130.47	1,870.00
Running Expenses					
Subscriptions		6,243.51	6,000.00	12,243.51	18,000.00
Telephone & Broadband		537.05	0.00	537.05	600.00
Office Supplies		1,459.18	0.00	1,459.18	1,200.00
Food Purchases		5,374.53	0.00	5,374.53	7,000.00
Transport		3,046.96	0.00	3,046.96	3,000.00
Depreciation		3,149.80	0.00	3,149.80	6,300.00
Volunteers					
Volunteers Training		525.00	0.00	525.00	500.00
Expenses	3	1,382.31	0.00	1,382.31	1,000.00
Hospitality	4	668.99	0.00	668.59	700.00
Employee Costs		32,034.75	15,453.69	47,488.44	48,191.00
Total payments		64,937.45	25,589.20	90,526.65	104,861.00

Balance Sheet as at 31/12/2021

Description	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Assets			
Fixed assets		15,749.00	0.00
Foodbank a/c		86,338.72	134,970.16
Deposit a/c		50,000.00	0.00
Debtors		418.25	464.55
Total Assets		136,756.97	135,434.71
Liabilities			
Creditors (falling due within 1 year)	5	2,169.08	1,061.04
Total Liabilities		2,169.08	1,061.04
Net current assets (Total assets less current liabilities)		150,336.89	134,373.67
Creditors (falling due after 1 year)		0.00	0.00
Total Net Assets		150,336.89	134,373.67
Funds			
Unrestricted		116,999.92	114,556.85
Restricted	6	33,336.97	19,816.82
Endowment		0.00	0.00
Total Funds		150,336.89	134,373.67

The notes to the account can be found in Appendix I

The main contributions are from employers, corporate donors and charitable trusts and these are listed in Appendix I. The Foodbank's trustees, partners, employees, and volunteers are very grateful to all the individuals and organizations that have

provided financial support. We try to acknowledge all gifts over £100 (for corporations) and £50 (for individuals and churches) by letter, providing we have the necessary contact details.

For individuals who are income taxpayers, we would also be able to claim your income tax back on donations you made if you endorsed a declaration form* including your address and postcode. The treasurer would be very pleased to hear from any individual or organization where a donation has not been acknowledged, or you have not signed a Gift Aid declaration. To donate please see the website.

Grant funding enables us to continue to run our services and pay the staff. In 2021 we were fortunate to be the recipients of a major grant towards the future development of the Foodbank.

*Download a form from the website or contact the treasurer on angela.carrick@vishay.com.

Appendix I: Notes to the Accounts

	Donor over £500.00	Amount £	Restricted to:
1	Tesco (via Trussell Trust)	673.41	
	Hart Biologicals	600.00	
	Hartlepool Borough Council	1000.00	
	Hartlepool Borough Council Covid support	2500.00	
	Teesside Philanthropic Trust	2350.00	
	Making a difference locally	944.58	
	Asda (via Trussell Trust)	2843.25	
	L Bassam	1000.00	
	Cubic Staff	849.80	
	Premier League Football	500.00	
	Karbon Homes	1000.00	
	Trussell Trust TTU	848.18	
	H M Thornton	650.00	
	Friends in Greatham	540.00	
	Neighbourly Sainsburys	2000.00	
	BM Software	500.00	
	Tanglewood Games	500.00	
	Total	30299.22	
	Grants	Amount	Restricted to:
2	Asda Foundation Salaries	18,109.34	Staff salaries
	Asda Foundation Unrestricted	2,715.50	
	Sherburn House	3,000.00	Staff salaries
	Trussell Trust Strategic Resources	18,000.00	Resource Planning
	Hartlepool Borough Council	10,000.00	Family Support
	Total	51,824.84	

3	Includes cost of volunteer refreshments																																																																	
4	Includes Christmas party and BBQ for volunteers																																																																	
5	Utility and maintenance/Telephone accruals paid in 2022 and PAYE																																																																	
6	<table><tr><th>Description</th><th>£ Carried over from previous year (2020)</th><th>£ Restricted grants received</th><th>£ Spent during 2021</th><th>£ Restricted reserve at year end</th></tr><tr><td>Asda Foundation Salaries (Co-ordinator)</td><td>5,538.11</td><td>8,556.37</td><td>7,677.20</td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>6,417.28</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Asda Foundation Salaries (Deputy Co-ordinator)</td><td>0</td><td>9,552.97</td><td>4,776.49</td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>4,776.49</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Asda Foundation Middleton Grange</td><td>1,278.71</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1,278.71</td></tr><tr><td>CDCF Post Covid Costs HUFH</td><td>3,000.00</td><td>0</td><td>1,130.47</td><td>1,869.53</td></tr><tr><td>Allocated Van Fund (Internal Allocation 2020)</td><td>10,000.00</td><td>0</td><td>10,000.00</td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>0</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Sherburn House Salaries</td><td>0</td><td>3,000.00</td><td>3,000.00</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Trussell Trust Strategic Resources</td><td>0</td><td>18,000.00</td><td>6,000.00</td><td>12,000.00</td></tr><tr><td>HBC Family Support</td><td>0</td><td>10,000.00</td><td>3,005.04</td><td>6,994.96</td></tr><tr><td>Total restricted funds</td><td>19,816.82</td><td>49,109.34</td><td>35,589.20</td><td>33,336.97</td></tr></table>	Description	£ Carried over from previous year (2020)	£ Restricted grants received	£ Spent during 2021	£ Restricted reserve at year end	Asda Foundation Salaries (Co-ordinator)	5,538.11	8,556.37	7,677.20			6,417.28				Asda Foundation Salaries (Deputy Co-ordinator)	0	9,552.97	4,776.49			4,776.49				Asda Foundation Middleton Grange	1,278.71	0	0	1,278.71	CDCF Post Covid Costs HUFH	3,000.00	0	1,130.47	1,869.53	Allocated Van Fund (Internal Allocation 2020)	10,000.00	0	10,000.00			0				Sherburn House Salaries	0	3,000.00	3,000.00	0	Trussell Trust Strategic Resources	0	18,000.00	6,000.00	12,000.00	HBC Family Support	0	10,000.00	3,005.04	6,994.96	Total restricted funds	19,816.82	49,109.34	35,589.20	33,336.97
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Appendix II: Registration Details

Hartlepool Foodbank CIO

Hartlepool Foodbank is registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organization (CIO)(Charity Number 1152046).

Address: 28 Church Street, Hartlepool TS24 7DH; telephone 01429 598404;
Website: www.hartlepool.foodbank.org.uk

Its **Objects** are:

The relief and prevention of poverty for persons in Hartlepool who are in a condition of need, hardship or distress ('Beneficiaries') in such ways as the Trustees think fit, in particular but not exclusively by:

- A) Supplying food packages to beneficiaries
- B) Such other means, including (but not limited to) the provision of support and advice.

The **Trustees** are:

Rev'd Dr Andrew Craig - Chair of Trustees
Mrs Angela Carrick – Treasurer
Ms Finola Andelic – Secretary
Mrs Susan Atkinson
Mr Barry Lewis
Mrs Pauline Screeton
Mr Colin Reid
Ms Abigail Knowles

Appendix III: Member Churches

Church of the Nazarene
Grace Church

Grange Road Methodist Church
Headland Baptist Church
New Life Fellowship
Owton Manor Baptist Church
Oxford Road Baptist Church
St Aidan's Church
St George's URC
St Hilda's Church
St John the Baptist Church, Greatham
St John Vianney RC Church
St Joseph's RC Church
St Lukes Church
St Mary Magdalene Church, Hart
St Mary's RC Church
St Oswald's Church
St Patrick's RC Church
St Paul's Church
St Peters Church, Elwick
Stranton Church

In order to become a member of foodbank, a Church should:

- Worship regularly within the Borough boundary of Hartlepool
- Subscribe to a Trinitarian belief about God as articulated in the ancient (Athanasian and Apostle's) creeds of the Church

Provide the trustees with names and contact details of at least one, and preferably two, members of the church as well as of the minister responsible for the church, these members having been given authority to represent their church at a General Meeting of the Foodbank

Appendix IV: Examiners Report

EXAMINER'S REPORT

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of the Hartlepool Food Bank CIO

I report on the accounts of the Community Interest Organisation for the year ended 31st December 2020, which are set out on pages 1 - 4

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

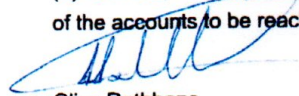
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Clive Rathbone
59 Claremont Drive,
Hartlepool, TS26 9PE
Dated: 14/11/2021

EXAMINER'S REPORT

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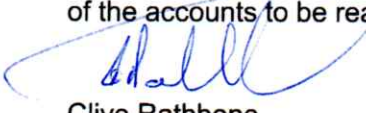
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Clive Rathbone
21 Wolviston Road,
Hartlepool, TS25 5AP
Dated: 17/01/2022

HARTLEPOOL FOODBANK CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1152046

Accounts



Annual Report

2020



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Chairman's Letter 2020

It's been an extraordinary year for Hartlepool's foodbank.

In January we were about to launch *Hands up for Hartlepool*, giving us a shop front in Middleton Grange Shopping Centre so that we and our partner organizations could have longer, informal meetings with clients, building on work we are able to do during lunchtime sessions on Tuesdays and Fridays. As well as giving out food to individuals and families in crisis, we spent time listening, signposting and occasionally helping them in other ways. Abi Knowles was our coordinator and Rev'd Clive Hall was chair of trustees.

All that changed during the year. Abi left in February to have a baby. Lisa Lavender took over as coordinator; Clive resigned as chair to give more time for his other responsibilities. The pandemic took hold, forcing us to suspend *Hands up for Hartlepool* after only a month of opening and change the way we operate.

I would like to offer sincere thanks to Clive who led the trustees from Foodbank's inception at the end of 2012; congratulations to Abi on the birth of a baby son; and huge thanks to Lisa for taking over as coordinator and to Teagan Burns who came in to manage the warehouse.

For most of 2020 our operation has changed to comply with the restrictions needed to reduce the risk of infection by Covid 19. Although we have continued to serve a few clients at the door of our HQ, 28 Church Street, in May we instituted home deliveries to vulnerable individuals and families. Initially we used drivers and vans provided by *British Gas*, but then we continued making deliveries using our own van and teams of volunteers. We also provided food directly through our main referral agencies, particularly the Council's Hub. As the Council also asked us to provide food boxes for its wider programme of food relief during the first lock-down, our warehouse operation was exceptionally busy during this period.

The pandemic brought about a greater public awareness of the problem of food poverty. Many people have responded hugely generously to the challenge with substantial donations of both money and food so that warehouse stocks have remained solid and we are able to plan to replace our ageing van next year. We have received terrific support from businesses, including some retailers, for example: Tesco, giving financial support as the national partner to Trussell Trust as well as food collections; The ASDA Foundation; Embleton Dairies, providing fresh milk, yoghurt and butter for clients during the lockdown; Mecca Bingo, providing hampers for families at Christmas; and Hart Biologicals, committing financial support over 7 years. Churches and individuals have contributed liberally, with some extremely generous single donations and a number of people adding themselves to the list of regular donors – this is especially welcome as we seek to make the foodbank, including our employees, more financially secure. The Council has maintained its support, a partnership which we greatly value. More information about this public and private generosity towards the most vulnerable of our town is given later in this Annual Report in the coordinator's report and the financial reports and appendices. I pay tribute to our vice chair, Mrs Susan Atkinson, for continuing to give generously of her time, applying to the charities and trusts that continue to provide core and development funding and to Mrs Angela Carrick our



treasurer who gives this service without payment alongside a full time job. I thank God for it all.

In recent years, a number of other organizations and individuals have joined in providing food relief in Hartlepool. The Trussell Trust model is based on emergency relief, but other initiatives have, over time, provided food kitchens and informal foodbanks that help sustain more people, for example St Aidan's Kitchen and Poolie Time Exchange. The *Food Network* is a small number of individuals who have developed pathways to direct surplus food from supermarkets (including Morrisons) and wholesalers to families that need it. The Council recently let a contract to deliver subsidised food to families living near the margins ("*The Bread and Butter Thing*"). Together with these organizations, we have helped found an umbrella organization, *Hartlepool Food Council*, facilitated by Hartleypower, to deliver a more coordinated approach to food relief in our town. Developing our own 5 year strategy, we look forward to abolishing unavoidable food poverty, identifying real need and reducing dependency whilst channelling the town's generosity to those who are hungry.

As well as our employees, I would like to thank Mrs Josie Watson who continues to let us use 28 Church Street rent free, the owners of Middleton Grange for providing premises free of charge, Clive Rathbone our *pro bono* auditor, and our corps of volunteers - both those who have taken on new challenges and worked hard in the warehouse and hub and also those who, by virtue of age or vulnerability, have been unable to do as much as they wanted to. To all our supporters, employees, funders and volunteers, thank you very much for your generosity, your commitment and your love of those we serve. We are in good shape for the challenges of 2021.

Yours sincerely, Andrew Craig

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Am", with a small dot to the right.



Hartlepool Foodbank Coordinator's Annual Report

Summary

At the beginning of this last year we saw the safe arrival of Abi Knowles' first child and a new deputy in post, Teagan Burns. I, Lisa Lavender, then stepped into the Coordinator's role to cover maternity leave.

By March we had all embarked on our journey through the national lockdown. This led to weekly decisions being made on how best to run the foodbank to ensure, along with many others in the town, that those needing help and support with food received it. We saw the temporary closure of Hands Up for Hartlepool during this time after it being launched in February.

A small team of volunteers were amazing with their commitment and loyalty turning up each week both at the warehouse and Church Street to keep us up and running. Donations have been incredible. The generosity of the community did not stall with the commitment of regular food and monetary donations.

This was a very different year in the life of the foodbank and one we are yet to come out of but the support of Trussell Trust, British Gas, The Community and Fantastic Volunteers has meant that we could stay open and give support to the town.

Personnel

The volunteers are the most valuable asset to us as an organisation. I cannot thank them enough for their part in getting us through this last year, whether this was being able to come in and help or make a contribution to our WhatsApp page, helping us all laugh and keeping connected. Both are equally important. We also had the provision of two extra volunteers from the council, who very soon became part of the foodbank family. Both Emad and James were a valuable asset through this time.

September saw the return of some of our volunteers who were unable to serve through the initial lockdown. With the announcement of the third lockdown we have once again asked those who are vulnerable to wait before returning to serve. We do look forward to when we can invite everyone back and be open fully offering our full service.

I would also like to honour Teagan Burns for her hard work at the warehouse and support as interim Deputy Coordinator. To begin a new role and then have to adapt quickly because of the pandemic, has been a challenge. This challenge was met with perseverance, grit and commitment.

Thank you Teagan.



Donations and Distribution

Donations have been exceptional. The Community of Hartlepool have been amazing. We have seen such generous contributions both in food and money. The kindness is incredible. Some high lights of generosity include: -

1. Sponsored Bike rides
2. Gifted birthday money
3. Donated pocket money
4. Christmas Hampers
5. Whole displays full of selection boxes
6. Donated fresh produce
7. The rest of stock from a local store which had closed

These are just a few examples of the generosity we have seen and are continuing to see. Many, who give, choose to remain anonymous, both in food donations and financial contributions. Without them we would not be able to serve the community.

We have also been blessed by Embleton Dairy. Each week we are given fresh milk, butter and yoghurt to give out in our parcels. This is added to by a weekly donation from the Food Network. Each week Jill Barrett faithfully brings a contribution of bread and fresh produce.

Our indebted thanks go to all who tirelessly give and support the Foodbank.

During 2020 we continued to share bulk donations and therefore we also report our outputs as the equivalent number of meals alongside vouchers and number of people: -

145,557 meals were provided

2,033 vouchers were processed

3,714 people were supported with food parcels

2020 also saw a change in the size of our food parcels. Alongside our 3 day emergency parcel the Trussell Trust enabled us to extend this to a 7 day parcel. This has been specifically for those who are self-isolating or suffering with the virus. We will continue to do this throughout this time.

We have also adapted to a delivery service throughout the pandemic. This began during the first lockdown with the Trussell Trust partnering with British Gas. For around 7-8 weeks the British Gas drivers turned up to take out our deliveries. Once this had stopped, as the team returned back to their normal working, we were able to continue with this service using our own van. British Gas also facilitated the delivering of bulk donations directly to our warehouse facility.



Christmas

In spite of the pandemic Christmas time saw a further abundance of donations. Throughout the month of December we took 7.7 tonnes in food and toiletry donations. On top of this we were blessed with hampers which were made up and donated by Mecca Bingo. Michelle and her team worked hard to put the hampers together. These were distributed along with our normal food parcels.

Thank you Michelle.

Partnerships

Since the foodbank first opened its doors in 2012, it has built up a working relationship with multiple agencies across the town. Our biggest referrer still remains The Children's Hub at the Civic Centre. It is a neutral place for those who are not working with a tailored agency, to access the help provided by the foodbank. At the beginning of the pandemic we were able to work with the Council through our joint partnering. We supported them with the making up of food parcels which were distributed into the community. No vouchers were required for these parcels as they were to assist while assessments were made; learning who in the community needed help with shopping and those facing a crisis. The cost of the boxes was met by the Council. We were a tool to help get food out quickly. This was done alongside providing food parcels for those facing a crisis.

A lot of the partnering agencies have now signed up to the E Referral System. The E referral system has taken the place of the initial red written vouchers. The system has proved effective during this last year.

The Foodbank is now a member of the Hartlepool Food Council. This has been birthed out of the pandemic. Please see the Chairman's report.

Hands Up For Hartlepool

In the February of 2020 we saw the launch of Hands Up For Hartlepool. Funding for this project was gained from the Trussell Trust's partnership with Asda. This was set up to complement our emergency food provision. The project is designed to provide a neutral and central space for partnering agencies to meet with clients and provide information, advice and guidance to tackle problems sustainably. By the end of March this provision was on hold. It remains on hold until we see a break through with the pandemic but we will resume as soon as is safe to do so.

We do look forward to the time when we can freely meet up and invite agencies back to the Hands Up for Hartlepool space in Middleton Grange. This will once again help us to offer the full wrap around service to assist with addressing the wider needs.



Supermarkets

Our continued thanks to the following Supermarkets for their support of the Foodbank with collection points in store:-

Asda
Morrisons
Sainsbury – Murray Street
Sainsbury – Station Lane
Spar
Tesco Extra

Donations from supermarkets in 2020 totalled 36 tonnes.

Warehouse

We are thankful once again to Middleton Grange Shopping Centre for the provision of both the warehouse and Hands Up for Hartlepool space. Both of these spaces are greatly appreciated. Our thanks go to Mark Rycroft and the management team, and to the team, who work in the outside space of the warehouse emptying the bins, answering our queries and willing to help.

Future Plans

In 2021 our aim is to fully open Church Street and Hands Up For Hartlepool to once again offer our full service for those who need it. We will continue to work alongside and support our partner agencies.



Financial Report

The accounts are unaudited. The independent examiner's report on the 2019 accounts is given in Appendix IV (the 2020 accounts will be examined later in the year).

Many thanks are due to our independent examiner, Clive Rathbone, for contributing to the work of the foodbank by carrying out the independent examination of the accounts without payment.

Income 2020

Description	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2021 budget £
Private donations		33,481.20	0.00	33,481.20	20,000.00
Church donations		2,184.70	0.00	2,184.70	2,200.00
Corporate donations	1	89,236.11	0.00	89,236.11	30,000.00
Grant funding	2	5,000.00	26,197.23	31,197.23	30,000.00
Gift aid tax recovered		966.97	0.00	966.97	1,500.00
Total receipts		130,868.98	26,197.23	157,066.21	87,300.00

Expenditure 2020

Description	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2021 budget £
Premises					
Premises maintenance, repairs & alterations		4,380.27	0.00	4,380.27	4,200.00
Premises insurances & rates		1,699.27	0.00	1,699.27	1,500.00
Utilities		2,518.73	0.00	2,518.73	2,500.00
Equipment		333.45	2,000.00	2,333.45	2,000.00
Middleton Grange Project		0.00	3,066.29	3,066.29	2,000.00
Running Expenses					
Subscriptions		238.99	0.00	238.99	1,000.00
Telephone & Broadband		537.10	0.00	537.10	600.00
Office Supplies		739.97	500.00	1,239.97	1,200.00
Food Purchases		640.71	10,144.00	10,784.71	7,000.00
Transport		1,612.43	1,000.00	2,612.43	2,500.00
Depreciation		3,516.33	0.00	3,516.33	4,000.00
Volunteers					
Volunteers Training		0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Expenses	3	265.99	0.00	265.99	520.00
Hospitality	4	429.95	0.00	429.95	700.00
Employee Costs		32,959.83	8,145.85	41,105.68	52,938.00
Total payments		49,873.02	24,856.14	74,729.16	83,158.00



Balance Sheet as at 31/12/2020

Description	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
Assets			
Fixed assets		0.00	3,516.33
Foodbank a/c		134,970.16	45,647.67
Debtors		464.55	4,525.85
Total Assets		135,434.71	50,173.52
Liabilities			
Creditors (falling due within 1 year)	5	1,061.04	1,653.23
Total Liabilities		1,061.04	1,653.23
Net current assets (Total assets less current liabilities)		134,373.67	52,036.62
Creditors (falling due after 1 year)		0.00	0.00
Total Net Assets		134,373.67	52,036.62
Funds			
Unrestricted		114,556.85	42,314.42
Restricted	6	19,816.82	9,721.80
Endowment		0.00	0.00
Total Funds		134,373.67	52,036.62

The notes to the account can be found in Appendix I

The main contributions from employers, corporate donors and charitable trusts are listed in Appendix II. The Foodbank's trustees, partners, employees and volunteers are very grateful to all the individuals and organizations that have provided financial support. We try to acknowledge all gifts over £100 (for corporations) and £50 (for individuals and churches) by letter. We have not been able to do this in all cases because we have not had the necessary contact details. For individuals who are income taxpayers, we would also be able to claim your income tax back on donations you made if you endorsed a declaration form* including your address and postcode. The treasurer would be very pleased to hear from any individual or organization where a donation has not been acknowledged, or you have not signed a Gift Aid declaration. Donations may also be made through Virgin Money (www.virginmoneygiving.com & search for Hartlepool Foodbank)

*Download a form from the website, or contact the treasurer on angela.carrick@vishay.com.

Grant funding enables us to continue to run our services and pay the staff. In 2020 we were fortunate to be the recipients of a number of grants for extra food and other costs arising from the pandemic.

Appendix I

Notes to the Accounts

	Donor over £500.00	Amount £	Restricted to:
	Hartlepool Borough Council	12,000.00	
	Hartlepool Borough Council Councillors' Funds	1,975.00	
	Hartlepool Borough Council Covid Support	15,000.00	
	Rates grants Church Street and Middleton Grange	35,000.00	
	SABIC	8,000.00	
	Northern trains	1,500.00	
	Borowalkers	1,500.00	
	B & M	1,500.00	
	Hospital Of God	1,000.00	
1	Tesco (via Trussell Trust)	2,894.32	
	Hart Biologicals	600.00	
	Teesside Philanthropic Trust	1,500.00	
	TUUT Trust	1,000.00	
	Sap Users	1,325.00	
	Asda	683.29	
	Wynyrd Hall	844.00	
	PD Management Group	500.00	
	Making a Difference Locally	887.15	
	Unison NTH	500.00	
	Total	87,708.76	
	Grants	Amount	Restricted to:
	Asda Foundation Salaries	8,307.16	Co-ordinator's Salary
	Asda Foundation Unrestricted	1,246.07	
	Sir James Knott Trust	5,000.00	
2	Caf Arm Trust Covid	2,000.00	Food
	Grantscape Covid	3,644.00	Food
	Caf Covid	3,000.00	Covid costs
	CDCF Covid	5,000.00	Covid costs
	CDCF Post Covid Costs HUFH	3,000.00	Covid Recovery
	Total	31,197.23	
3	Includes cost of volunteer refreshments		
4	Includes Christmas gifts for volunteers		
5	Utility and maintenance/Telephone accruals paid in 2021 and PAYE		

	Description	£ Carried over from previous year (2019)	£ Restricted grants received	£ Spent during 2020	£ Restricted reserve at year end
6	Asda Foundation Salaries	5,376.80	8,307.16	8,145.85	5,538.11
	Asda Foundation Middleton Grange	4,345.00	0.00	3,066.29	1,278.71
	Caf Arm Trust Covid Food	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
	Grantscape Covid Food	0.00	3,644.00	3,644.00	0.00
	Caf Covid costs	0.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	0.00
	CDCF Covid costs	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00
	CDCF Post Covid Costs HUFH	0.00	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
	Allocated Van Fund	0.00	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00
	Total restricted funds	9,721.80	34,951.16	24,856.14	19,816.82



Appendix II

Hartlepool Foodbank CIO

Hartlepool Foodbank is registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organization (CIO)(Charity Number 1152046).

Address: 28 Church Street, Hartlepool TS24 7DH; telephone 01429 598404;
Website: www.hartlepool.foodbank.org.uk

Its **Objects** are:

The relief and prevention of poverty for persons in Hartlepool who are in a condition of need, hardship or distress ('Beneficiaries') in such ways as the Trustees think fit, in particular but not exclusively by:

- A) Supplying food packages to beneficiaries
- B) Such other means, including (but not limited to) the provision of support and advice.

The **Trustees** are:

Rev'd Dr Andrew Craig - Chair of Trustees
Mrs Angela Carrick – Treasurer
Mrs Finola Snow – Secretary
Mrs Susan Atkinson
Mr Barry Lewis
Mrs Pauline Screeton
Mr Colin Reid

Appendix III

Member Churches

Church of the Nazarene
Grace Church
Grange Road Methodist Church
Headland Baptist Church
New Life Fellowship
Owton Manor Baptist Church
Oxford Road Baptist Church
St Aidan's Church
St George's URC
St Hilda's Church
St John the Baptist Church, Greatham
St John Vianney RC Church
St Joseph's RC Church
St Lukes Church
St Mary Magdalene Church, Hart
St Mary's RC Church
St Oswald's Church
St Patrick's RC Church
St Paul's Church
St Peters Church, Elwick
Stranton Church

In order to become a member of foodbank, a Church should:

- Worship regularly within the Borough boundary of Hartlepool
- Subscribe to a Trinitarian belief about God as articulated in the ancient (Athanasian and Apostle's) creeds of the Church
- Provide the trustees with names and contact details of at least one, and preferably two, members of the church as well as of the minister responsible for the church, these members having been given authority to represent their church at a General Meeting of the Foodbank

Appendix IV

EXAMINER'S REPORT

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of the Hartlepool Food Bank CIO

I report on the accounts of the Community Interest Organisation for the year ended 31st December 2019, which are set out on pages 1 - 4

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

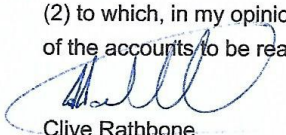
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.


Clive Rathbone

59 Claremont Drive,
Hartlepool, TS26 9PE

Dated: 25th March 2020

EXAMINER'S REPORT

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have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Clive Rathbone
59 Claremont Drive,
Hartlepool, TS26 9PE

Dated: 14/11/2021