BARROW FOOD BANK LIMITED

England & Wales · Charity number 1152753

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	08382130
Registered	2013-07-05
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	C/O Abbey Road Baptist Church Abbey Road Barrow-In-Furness Cumbria LA13 9BD
Phone	01229466886
Email	info@barrowfoodbank.co.uk
Website	http://barrow.foodbank.org.uk/

Activities

Objects: THE CHARITY'S OBJECTS ('OBJECTS') ARE SPECIFCALLY RESTRICTED TO THE FOLLOWING: TO RELIEVE FINANCIAL HARDSHIP, SICKNESS AND NEED FOR PERSONS IN SOUTH WEST CUMBRIA, IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY THE PROVISION OF FOOD AND ADVICE.

Activities: The relief of poverty in the Barrow in Furness area by providing food

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

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Geography

- Cumbria

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£193,600	£201,856	-	-
2024-03-31	£210,998	£110,967	-	-
2023-03-31	£208,189	£111,637	-	-
2022-03-31	£154,667	£68,802	-	-
2021-03-31	£250,808	£60,816	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Francis James Park Webster		2017-10-11
Karen Linda Edmondson		2021-07-14
Martin Cooper		2022-04-03
Peter Gardner		2023-11-20
Shirley Waters		2024-09-26
WILHELMINA JOHANNA ROBINSON		2015-04-27

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BARROW FOOD BANK LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1152753

Accounts

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Financial Statements

for the year ending

31st March 2025

Company Registration Number : 8382130
Charity Registration Number : 1152753

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Financial Statements
Year Ended 31st March 2025

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Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2025

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

I think we'll look back on last year as a turning point, hopefully in a good way. On one hand I don't think we've ever had to buy so much food. Now, we always have had to buy some food, because there are some things that people never think to give. So, for example, we cannot hand out fresh milk because of issues with shelf life and keeping it cool, so we hand out UHT. So, we've always had to buy UHT.

But now donations 'in kind' have dropped off. But people are still supporting us, and they've giving us the money we need. Given how squeezed people are feeling at the moment, we remain genuinely grateful for their generosity.

But there have been other changes as well. We have Ros who can now deliver the full financial inclusion package and we're getting more people trained to help with debt advice. When we went down this road and we hoped it would be a useful service. We were pretty sure it was necessary, but frankly we've been completely blown away by just how much help we have been able to give our clients. The figures are provably elsewhere in our report, but in simple terms, half the people helped no longer needed to rely on the foodbank.

Then we have the pots and pans library. It was an idea we were working on when I was told about on of our clients. Homeless, they had been rehoused in Barrow and told to get themselves down to the foodbank. We discovered their sole piece of crockery was the dog bowl. Owner and dog had to eat out of the same bowl, washing it between uses.

We can do better than that. And we do. A lot of people have given us spare crockery. Or perhaps they've changed to induction hobs and give us all their now obsolete pans.

And then there's furniture. We now have a storage container with furniture in that people have donated and which we can give to people who quite literally have nothing. Remember some people when housed, quite literally have little more than what they stand up in.

So as I said, we might look back on this year as a turning point. Previously we'd had ideas and pondered our way forward, but this year we've got a bit of momentum. We're still the Foodbank, but now we can provide more help and perhaps give you the help you need to ensure you don't need a foodbank at all.

But this hasn't happened by accident. There are a lot of people who have made it happen. Firstly, there are the people of the area who continue to be generous. Without those who support us, there wouldn't be a foodbank.

Then there are staff who habitually go over and above what anybody could expect. So a heartfelt thank you there.

Finally, there are our volunteers. I just want you to know how much you are appreciated. The amount of time people donate is staggering. So, thank you all.

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT (continued)

And at this point I want to pick out the one small group of volunteers who I have the privilege of working with. The trustees. These are the 'board of directors' of the foodbank. People often forget just what a complex operation the foodbank is and I'd like to thank them for their wisdom and generosity of spirit.

Jim Webster

---ooOoo---

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

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The Charity's objectives are:-

- To provide relief to individuals and families in crisis in Southwest Cumbria and surrounding areas, through the provision of emergency food supplies either directly or through approved partner agencies
- To provide physical, mental, and spiritual support, either directly or by referral to approved partner agencies, to enable the service users to avoid future crises
- To involve the community in collecting food, which is then banked and used to give to local people in food crises

Barrow Foodbank values diversity promotes equality and challenges discrimination.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year

Overview

This has been another challenging year for Barrow Foodbank. National and International factors continue to cause both an increased use of our service, and reductions in donations in both real and absolute terms. All that being sad, it is important to acknowledge the continued support of our local community through both individual and corporate benefactors; and the unwavering commitment of the volunteers, staff, trustees and member of the foodbank. Thanks, to you all – we have been able to supply emergency food, vouchers for fresh food, toiletries, gym passes, cooking appliances and kitchenware to those in need in our community.

Annual Figures

As a foodbank, we work with over 100 referral agencies to ensure that the referrals made are both appropriate and proportionate.

Key principles, to receive foodbank assistance

- The client should be in a state of actual food poverty (that is, having minimal food and insufficient means to purchase adequate food in the immediate term) or be demonstrably at imminent risk of being in that situation.
- The client's situation should be the result of an identifiable, current crisis.

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2025

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year (continued)

- The client's circumstances should be known to directly to the referring agency or the agency should be experienced in assessing the needs of members of the public and securing confirmatory evidence (where appropriate).
- The client has not already received foodbank assistance three times for the specific crisis, unless specific arrangements for further support have been made with the Foodbank Project Manager.

	Vouchers Redeemed	Number Adults	Number Children	Total
1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024	2625	3860	2189	8674
1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025	3310	4781	2481	10572

Highest Crisis Reasons for Using the Foodbank in 2025/2025

CRISIS TYPE	Vouchers filled	Adults	Children	Total
Rising cost of essentials	**528**	**800**	**317**	**1117**
Priority debt	**166**	**270**	**115**	**385**
No access to financial support due to immigration status	**151**	**190**	**60**	**250**
Ongoing impact of physical or mental health condition	**133**	**203**	**76**	**279**
Benefit delay	**131**	**198**	**75**	**273**
Other unexpected expense	**92**	**138**	**59**	**197**
Insecurely housed	**72**	**90**	**14**	**104**

The number of vouchers redeemed and therefore people fed has increased from last year. This has coincided with a reduction in donations of food.

There has been an increase in the number of people receiving more than three vouchers, however they still remain in the minority, with the average user if the foodbank accessing our service 1.4 times in 12 months.

The Year in Brief

There have been many changes over the last year. Ros Harrison, who was appointed as Deputy Project Manager in March 2024, expended her role to include 'Money Matters Advisor. This has allowed us to fulfil our Financial Inclusion provision mandated by our participation in Trussell's Pathfinder project. The role was jointly funded by a grant from Trussell and Barrow Foodbank Ltd. The gains to the local community so far from this project total over two thirds of a million pounds, which I'm sure we will all agree is remarkable. Sadley this project is currently on hold due to Ros's serious illness. We all wish

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year (continued)

her a full recovery and thank her for all she has done and will do again in the future. The project will resume in January 2026, and I hope to be able to report further success in next year's annual report.

In March of this year Julie Findley left us after two years of much appreciated service as Admin and Warehouse Coordinator to take on a managerial role in the care sector. We thank her and wish he well. Her time with us had been a part of the healing and growing process she needed after her bereavement, and I thank all of those who contributed to this. Not everything that Barrow Foodbank achieves is all about food.

In March Kieran McGlinchey interviewed for and was appointed as Admin and Warehouse Coordinator. He has been excellent in this role, but we have decided to take advantage of his skills in the financial sector and he will train to work in on the Money Matters Advice project.

We have recruited a number of new volunteers this year. Some have come through word of mouth recommendations and others have enjoyed the time spent at the foodbank as part of their volunteer days through local businesses, including Subsea, BAE and Furness Building Society. This has been made easier as we now offer evening deliveries as an option on Tuesdays and Thursdays and so people who are at work during the day can volunteer their time to help us meet our goal of reducing poverty in our local community.

The donations and grants we have received this year from organisations and individuals have been put to good use in funding projects such as our fresh food vouchers, pots and pans lending library and leisure centre passes. The fresh food voucher scheme has been modified and expanded this year so that foodbank users can spread their spending over three local shops. This has proved very popular and now includes a shop that caters to the increasingly multicultural demographic nature of Barrow in Furness. The pots and pans library and leisure centre passes have been funded by Westmorland and Furness Council and covers foodbank users in the borough of Barrow in Furness. This scheme has also proved very popular, and we are currently exploring whether or not the local councils of our satellites in Millom and Ulverston might be able to offer something similar.

It just remains for me to thank again our dedicated supporters, both inside and outside of our organisation, and in particular the minister and congregation of Abbey Road Baptist Church. Thank you.

Barrow Foodbank in Ulverston

Over the year from April 2024 to the end of March 2025, the two volunteer teams have worked harmoniously to provide a twice a week service to the people of Ulverston and surrounding areas including occasionally Grange-over-Sands and surrounding villages, and villages up from Greenodd and towards Coniston Water. Although in general voucher holders attend the Foodbank to collect, delivery is arranged as necessary for those without transport and at a distance, or who are frail.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year (continued)

Over the year we have said goodbye to Carol whose husband needed more care and Eileen whose hips have troubled her more; we are very grateful to both for their longstanding support of the service.

Local individuals drop by regularly with donations of food; the local Co-op support us, as do a selection of churches and communities. At Harvest Festival and Christmas, many schools join in also, sometimes sending their pupils on the delivery run to Bethany! Last Christmas, a local Golf Club got in touch with us, wanting to provide toys for children in need at Christmas; I explained that we are an emergency service who do not 'keep people on our books; but that we work closely with the Ulverston Foodshare who provide week by week support. Between the two organisations we managed to generate a list of around 100 children in families requiring regular support – the joy on parent's faces was a pleasure to see. Before Easter, a representative of Northern /competitions similarly got in touch offering Easter Eggs. We were therefore able to add them to all children's food parcels and share the bounty with the Foodshare.

The Ulverston Foodshare is the main source of fresh food in Ulverston. It operates to pick up surplus from supermarkets etc and has a Food Club scheme whereby those in financial need can pick up a box of food on a weekly basis for £6 providing both fresh food and choice. We heavily encourage all our clients to get to know them.

We also encourage clients to drop in to Bethany if passing for winter warmth, a cup of tea and a chat, thereby providing low key social support and further advice to those who want it. It is very noticeable how many reports autistic spectrum disorder or ADHD in either themselves or their offspring, making for additional difficulties in coping with the current financial climate. Yet again, approximately half of all vouchers fulfilled to go to single person households. There is very little designed to support these vulnerable people.

As ever we are grateful to the Bethany Church for hosting us so smoothly. It really provides an excellent venue. The staff of Ulverston Town Council are likewise part of the extended 'team', offering advice and vouchers as appropriate and contacting us to discuss where helpful, so we can keep a consistent but supportive approach to those in need in the town.

Vouchers fulfilled	206 - averaging 17 per month. (10% increase on 2024 - 185 vouchers were issued)
Adults Fed	266 - averaging 22 per month. (7% increase on 2024 when 249 adults were fed)
Children Fed	200 - averaging 17 per month. (46% increase on 2024 when 137 children were fed)
Single Persons fed	98 – averaging 8 per month. (figures remain similar with 2024 when 96 single persons were fed)
Donations received	2314kg – (in 2024 2667 kg were received – therefore a decrease of 13%)
Volunteer Hours	766 - (in 2024 the volunteer hours totalled 753)

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year *(continued)*

Barrow Foodbank in Millom

We continue to receive regular food and money donations. Some local individuals liaise with the volunteers and donate money/food regularly, which we appreciate. We also still receive food donations via the Tesco donation 'bin'.

We have families in Millom, who want to remain anonymous, who donate regularly, with a cheque, which we pass on to the treasurer, highlighting it for Millom Foodbank. We are grateful for the local support we receive.

School Holiday Meals

This is still not working despite all our efforts. There is one large family that gets school holiday vouchers from their children's school (Haverigg Primary)) but there seems to be some issues – which we will discuss with the school, when it reopens.

Social Media

We update our Face-book page and still occasionally receive enquiries via Messenger on our Millom Foodbank Facebook page. It seems to be a useful way for some people to contact us with their enquiries.

Drop In

The drip in is still not as effective as it was prior to COVID – we are undecided about the best way forward.

Millom Baptist Church have moved their coffee mornings from a Tuesday morning to a Monday morning. This doesn't seem to have made any effect on people attending the drop in.

We are continuing to operate a flexible mix of either delivery or pick up for clients – depending on what suits them individually. The delivery option may have affected the reason for the 'drop' in numbers – we still offer the 'pick-up' clients a chance to talk and offer them a cuppa and biscuits.

Signposting

We have updated our information folder detailing what is available for people in Millom. This has changed considerably since OOVID lockdown and the changeover of council boundaries.

Volunteers

Unfortunately, one of our very capable volunteers, Richard, has had a reoccurrence of a very serious medical condition and has not been able to help out for quite some time. One of our regular drivers has relocated out of the area and is no longer available to help. She had been a volunteer for many years, and we provided a small buffet to thank her for her service. We are covering her driving slots on an ad hoc basis, using other volunteers, when available.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year (*continued)*

We have regular volunteers who help out in the foodbank centre on Tuesdays and Fridays. Unfortunately, the Tuesday person cannot attend through the school holidays, and the Friday helper has a chronic degenerative condition, which sometimes affects his ability to volunteer. Millom is in need of more volunteers – at the moment we do not have a waiting list.

Client Numbers

Our client numbers seem completely unpredictable. Quiet for periods, then suddenly busy. We are also still seeing clients who are completely new to us, some with large families. There is obviously still a need for the foodbank in Millom.

We are still unclear about the effect that the newly opened 'community-based food shop' is having on the foodbank. Clare tried to liaise with one of the trustees but found out there was conflict between the new trustees. We will try again to hold a meeting with them.

There is no food pantry in the town, so when clients have "reached their limit" within Trussell procedures, we are still struggling with where to suggest they go for help. At the moment we are unable to recommend anywhere except 'Millom Network Centre' who are also having changes with personnel. Again, we will try to hold a meeting to discuss issues with them.

Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)

Back in May 2025 we contacted our local Citizens Advice about the difficulty we (and clients) were having getting any support or advice. We had had two clients come in, separately, about more or less the same issue (cessation of benefits and stoppage of PIP, with no understanding about why or what to do.) We have not as yet had a reply from Citizens Advice to our email. We could not get any support from Citizens Advice, not even an appointment; fortunately, we were able to access help from another agency which is only in Millom once a week. This agency was Phoenix Training, which we have just been informed is closing in Millom from, 26th August 2025. This leaves Millom people in a difficult situation. As a result of this new urgency, we have re-emailed CAB asking for an urgent response to our email sent in April.

E Vouchers

This seems to be working well. The only issue seems to be the initial difficulty in getting logged on as a referral agency. There has been an issue for organisations who are willing to become a referral agency, who are too busy to reply to the email within the time parameters given.

Networking

A worker from CADAS popped in a few weeks ago to let us know what the current situation was in Millom. We also had a very useful visit from Andy Deacon from Groundworks/The Green Doctor.

Pet Food Donations

The collection box for pet food has never arrived, instead a notice appeared above the Millom Tesco's food collection box, so now people put pet food in with the human food and it is stored in Barrow. The plan, which we agreed to was for a separate pet food collection bin, that we in Millom, could empty and use locally for clients. I can only presume that the pet charity contacted Tesco's directly.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year *(continued)*

We currently struggle getting any information from, our local Tesco's as there is no dedicated liaison person. We are currently looking into setting up a 'pet food voucher scheme' to run along the lines of the butchers' voucher scheme. This should be very useful as so may of Millom's clients, also have pets.

Emergency Food Boxes

These are regularly used in Millom. At the moment only Millom Baptist Church holds emergency food boxes.

Referral Agencies

Millom's Children's Centre lost its contract to Cumberland Council, and they are now called Millom Family Hub. This has been one of the key foodbank referral agencies and has now been set up to issue foodbank vouchers again. We are in discussion trying to find storage space to allow us to reinstate emergency food boxers at the centre.

We are still waiting for the head teacher from Captain Shaw's School in Bootle to run alongside St Michael's Church as a referral agency.

Fresh Meat Scheme

The butcher's voucher scheme is running successfully; the clients find the vouchers very useful.

Millom's situation

Some time ago a decision was taken for Millom ad Ulverston Foodbank volunteers to no longer attend the bi-monthly Core meetings. Quite a long time has now passed, and Millom Foodbank feels 'out of the loop' not really being kept informed about things happening in Barrow or Ulverston's foodbanks. We have also been told that Millom Foodbank does not need to know what has been discussed as we will be informed about anything we need to know. However, the recent report to the trustees from Ros Harrison – Deputy Manager and Money Matters Advisor, alerted Millom to the growing discrepancy between services available to Barrow Foodbank clients and those available to Millom Foodbank clients. To try and clarify the situation Millom wrote to Trussell Trust's CEO asking for clarification. A meeting has been arranged between the Trussell Trust Area Manager, The Chair of Barrow Trustees, Barrow Foodbank's Project Co-ordinator and Millom's Coordinator. The meeting will be in Millom, at 10.00 am, on the 9th September 2025.

We have always found Barrow's support invaluable, so are looking forward to find out how best we can continue to help Millom's clients.

Statistics so far:-

	2024	2023	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Sessions	104	100	101	102	100	104	99
Vouchers	166	156	174	120	140	270	300
Adults	281	261	306	225	233	453	486
Children	173	181	170	113	152	217	368

Volunteers

Barrow Foodbank is mainly staffed by volunteers, drawn from all sectors of the community and are a highly valued resource. A supported volunteer programme has been developed to ensure that no members of the community are excluded.

Across our 3 sites we have 75 active volunteers, who work in a variety of roles. We also have a number of church representatives who faithfully collect food in their churches and bring it to the foodbank. We have several volunteers who give extra time when collecting food at the supermarkets, as well as those who volunteer specifically for the collections. We have several core roles which take a larger amount of time. As things change, volunteers leave for a number of reasons, however we continue to recruit new volunteers who have brought freshness to the foodbank. In total all our volunteers have donated 4,246.25 hours of their time to the foodbank during the reporting period.

Our sincere thanks go to all the volunteers for their dedication and hard work. Without their help the foodbank would cease to exist.

Fund Raising Standards Information

We work with the fundraising regulator who set and maintain the standards for charitable fundraising. The fundraising regulator aims to ensure that fundraising is respectful, open, honest and accountable to the public.

The role of the regulator is to:

- Set and promote the standards for fundraising practice in consultation with the public, fundraising stakeholders and legislators
- Investigate cases where fundraising practices have led to significant public concern
- Adjudicate complaints from the public about fundraising practice, where these cannot be resolved by the charities themselves
- Operate a fundraising preference service to enable individuals to manage their contact with charities
- Where poor fundraising practice is judged to have taken place, recommend best practice guidance and take proportionate remedial action

In order to ensure we are fundraising appropriately we do all we can to ensure that fundraisers, volunteers and fundraising contractors working with us to raise funds:

- comply with the Codes and with this promise
- comply with the law including those that apply to data protection, health and safety and the environment
- are clear about who we are, what we do and how your gift is used
- give a clear explanation of how you can make a gift and amend a regular commitment
- respect the rights, dignities, and privacy of our supporters and beneficiaries
- will not put undue pressure on you to make a gift and if you do not want to give or wish to cease giving, we will respect your decision
- If you tell us that you don't want us to contact you in a particular way, we will not do so
- do not use any images or words that cause unjustifiable distress or offence - take care not to cause unreasonable nuisance or disruption

Fund Raising Standards Information (continued)
If you are unhappy with anything we have done while fundraising, you can contact us to make a complaint. We have a complaint procedure, a copy of which is available on request. If we cannot resolve your complaint, we accept the authority of the Fundraising Standards Board to make a final adjudication.

Financial Review
The trustees are satisfied that the Charity has adequate reserves to continue its work for the next twelve months.

Reserves Policy
The Charity follows the guidance issued by the Charity Commission and seeks to maintain adequate reserves to meet the charity's commitments. Due to the nature and operations of Barrow Foodbank, the trustees aspire to hold an extra amount of £385,000 comprising of the following:

a) Contingency funds - in a situation where food is lost due to e.g floods - £50K
b) Relocation costs – a minimum of £100K
c) The Board considered it prudent to set aside £65K for two year's funding for the Financial Inclusion programme.
d) Replenishment of food when stock run low - £60K
e) 6 months operating costs - £110K

Investment Policy
The recommended level of resources which the charity carries in its current account is maintained at not more than is required for a normal month's activity. A proportion of the remaining monies are held in an interest-bearing account giving as high a rate of return as possible whist retaining flexibility to be able to draw down monies as and when required. The funds designated for future investment are placed in a range of investments, to achieve maximum interest (within an acceptable balance of risk), so the organisation's strategic development plans are achieved.

Donations Policy
The policy of the charity is not to give grants/donations to other charities or organisations.

Plans for Future Periods
As the end of the year approached it remains apparent that millions of households across the UK are struggling to make their incomes stretch to cover the rising cost of living. With high heating bills, food and fuel price rises, many families must make difficult choices on how to manage their disposable

Structure, Governance and Management
income. The foodbank anticipates an increase of numbers who will require help and support to feed their families. Trustees are determined to make sure Barrow Foodbank continue to support those in need and has agreed to set aside reserves to maintain the current food stock held, continue with the fresh meat and vegetables voucher scheme to those in need. Future plans can only be summarised as Barrow Foodbank will respond as fully as practically possible to our community's needs within the financial constraints we may face.

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2025

Structure, Governance and Management

The Barrow Foodbank Ltd is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity governed under Articles of Association.

Appointment of trustees

Trustees are elected at the annual general meeting, are appointed to the Board following nomination by member organisations. The Barrow Foodbank has just two members namely, The Barrow Deanery Synod of the Church of England and Churches Together in Barrow who nominates three and four trustees respectively.

Recruitment, induction and training of trustees

The Trustee Board regularly conducts a skills audit of Board members and actively seeks out new Trustees as appropriate to ensure the Board has the most useful skill mix possible and is representative of the local community.

All trustees are expected to be committed to the aims and principles of Barrow Foodbank and be willing to take an active role in the governance of Barrow Foodbank. Induction for all new Trustees covers the structure, aims and principle of Barrow Foodbank, legal obligations under charity and company law, the objectives and activities of Barrow Foodbank and current business and development plans.

Organisational Structure and Networks

Barrow Foodbank is governed by the Board of Trustees. The Board is responsible for setting the strategic direction of the organisation and has ultimate responsibility for the conduct of Barrow Foodbank, for ensuring that the charity satisfies its legal and contractual obligations. Board meetings are held bi-monthly with additional meetings as necessary. The trustees meet annually to carry out a full review to determine the future strategic direction of the organisation. Non-Trustee members may be co-opted to attend meetings for a specific expertise they bring for time limited periods.

Operational management of Barrow Foodbank is delegated to the Foodbank Manager, who works closely with the Assistant Foodbank Manager and volunteers to ensure delivery of all services.

Services are delivered by a committed team of paid workers and volunteers. It is calculated that the contribution made by the volunteers equates to £51,846.83 per annum (based on national living wage costs only).

Risk Policy

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place, so timely action is taken to mitigate exposure to those risks.

The major risks to the organisation are two-fold and are reflected in the Reserve Policy.

- A major event for example flooding
- A need to relocate

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2025

Structure, Governance and Management

a) The Barrow Foodbank is currently located in the basement of the Abbey Road Baptist Church which has multiple users. If flooding was to occur, it would not be a simple case of replacing all stock. The Barrow Foodbank holds on average 20 tonnes of food worth approximately £47.4K. A specialist firm would need to be brought in to clear the site, then a full in depth clean would be required, repair/replacement of equipment and storage facilities and of course, a full restock. Plus of course a temporary venue would be needed. The Board has conservatively estimated the cost at a minimum £50K.

b) The Barrow Foodbank currently enjoys accommodation which is of sufficient size and serviced to just meet the Barrow Foodbank's needs, at less than commercial rates. If relocation became necessary (either planned or due to emergency), the Foodbank would have great difficulty locating suitable premises locally which would be at commercial rates.
In addition, significant costs would be incurred for example, relocation costs such as removals, supply and connection of services, IT and Telecommunications costs etc.

Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects and to ensure consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charitable company. These procedures are periodically reviewed by the trustees and staff to ensure they still meet the needs of the charity.

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

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

Year Ended 31 March 2025

Reference and Administrative Details

Registered charity name	Barrow Foodbank
Charity registration number	1152753
Company Registration number	8382130
Principal office and registered office	**c/o** Abbey Road Baptist Church Corner Abbey Road and Park Drive Barrow-in-Furness LA13 9BD
Trustees	Jim Webster (Chair) Jack-Knill Jones (resigned 31st March 2025) Peter Gardner Karen Edmondson Martin Cooper
Treasurer/Company Secretary	Welma Robinson

Key Management personnel

Matthew Burden	Project Manager
Ros Harrison	Deputy Project Manager
Judy Findlay	Admin and Warehouse Assistant
Welma Robinson	Treasurer
Carol Warwick	Volunteer Coordinator
Liz Goyder	Ulverston Coordinator
Jean Liney	Millom Coordinator
Clare Kingston	Millom Coordinator
Jayne Moorby	Newsletter Editor and Facebook Coordinator

Auditors	Knox Accounting Limited 6 Bath Street Barrow in Furness LA14 1LZ
Bankers	NatWest Bank Dalton Road Barrow in Furness LA14 1WY

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

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

Year Ended 31 March 2025

Trustees' Responsibilities Statement

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Auditor

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

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

The auditors are deemed to have been re-appointed in accordance with section 487 of the Companies Act 2006.

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

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

Year Ended 31 March 2025

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

The trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) was approved on 17th September 2025 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Jim Webster - Chairman

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2025
Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of Barrow Food Bank Limited
On The Accounts for The Year Ended 31st March 2025
Set Out on Pages 2 to 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 under section 144 of the Charities Act 2021 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiners report

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the 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
  (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
  (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) and the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2019).

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

Knox Accountants Limited
6 Bath Street
Barrow in Furness
Cumbria
LA14 1LZ

31st July 2025

Barrow Food Bank Limited

Statement of Financial Activities
For the Year ended
31 March 2024

	Notes	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total 2025 £	2024 £
Income					
Donations		7,380	107,147	114,528	159,995
Grants received	2	68,571	-	68,571	42,652
Dividend income			5,516	5,516	4,639
Interest		-	4,985	4,985	3,712
Total Income		75,952	117,648	193,600	210,998
Expenditure					
Direct Charitable Expenditure:					
Purchases		54121	11,026	65,147	36,477
Catering		-	-	-	160
Packaging		-	2,747	2,747	2,106
Furniture and appliances		-	1,341	1,341	1,471
Salaries		-	74,783	74,783	44,565
Pension costs		-	2,803	2,803	1,379
Employers NI			1,554	1,554	-
Supervision		1,040	-	1,040	-
Consultancy		-	360	360	-
Vehicle running expenses		-	3,034	3,034	1,830
Travelling costs		24	185	209	260
Printing stationery and publicity		5	1,027	1,032	2,215
Computer consumables		30	514	544	115
Postage		-	294	294	162
Telecommunication costs		939	1,423	2,362	3,032
Insurance		-	1,640	1,640	1,546
Premises costs		600	7,626	8,226	10,708
Uniforms		-	-	-	-
Functions and conferences		118	366	485	141
Training Costs		-	1,580	1,580	-
Subscriptions		-	4,876	4,876	1,465
Bank charges			603	603	550
Accountancy fees		-	659	659	631
Professional fees			-	-	-
Pots & Pans project		1,969	-	1,969	-
Acts 435		1,730	-	1,730	-
Swimming passes		21,220	-	21,220	-
Donations			-	-	-
Sundy expenses		164	81	245	437
Total Direct Expenditure		81,959	118,523	200,482	109,250
Depreciation of fixed assets		-	1,375	1,375	1,718
Total Expenditure		81,959	119,898	201,856	110,968
Net Surplus for the year		(6,007)	(2,250)	(8,256)	100,030
Funds at the start of the Year		60,506	551,606	612,112	512,082
Funds at the end of the Year		**54,499**	**549,357**	**603,856**	**612,112**

Barrow Food Bank Limited

Balance Sheet
As At
31 March 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
Fixed Assets					
Depreciating Assets	3		5,499		6,874
Current Assets					
Current Asset Investment		313,714		200,000	
Bank accounts - Restricted		35,768		70,409	
- Unrestricted		250,558		335,579	
Cash account		64		608	
		600,103		606,595	
Current liabilities		1,746		1,357	
Grants in advance		-		-	
Net Current Assets			598,357		605,239
			£ 603,856		**£ 612,112**
Represented By:					
Capital Account					
Accumulated Reserves	Unrestricted		549,357		551,606
	Restricted		54,499		60,506
			£ 603,856		**£ 612,112**

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on the 17 September 2025 and are signed on their behalf by:

The Chairman F J Webster

The Treasurer W Robinson

Dated 17th September 2025

Barrow Food Bank Limited

Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended
31 March 2025

Note 1 Accounting Policies

The accounts on pages 2 and 3 have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The motor van is depreciated at the rate of 20% per annum on the reducing balance.

Note 2 Grants and Subsidies

	2025		2024	
	£ Restricted	£ Unrestricted	£ Restricted	£ Unrestricted
Westmorland & Furness Council	38,290			-
Cumbria Community Foundation	-		2,000	
Trusell Trust	28,467		31,030	
Project John	-		9,000	
Glaxo Smith Kline	-		622	
Acts 435	1,740			
S Waters	74			
	68,571	-	42,652	-

Note 3 Tangible fixed assets

	Motor van £	Total £
Cost:		
At 1 April 2024	18,167	18,167
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
At 31 March 2025	18,167	18,167
Depreciation:		
At 1 April 2024	11,293	11,293
Depreciation on disposal	-	-
Charge for the year	1,375	1,375
At 31 March 2025	12,668	12,668
Net book value:		
At 31 March 2025	5,499	5,499
At 31 March 2024	6,874	6,874

Note 4 - Donated food stock

At the end of the accounting period the Foodbank was the custodian of donated food stock with an estimated value of £24,348.91.

Note 5 - Donated time

During the year volunteers supported the Foodbank with 4246.25 hours of their time across the three sites. At a rate of £12.21 per hour (National Living Wage), this would equate to an in kind contribution to the Foodbank of £51,846.71.

Note 6 - Reserves policy

The Charity follows the guidance issued by the Charity Commission and seeks to maintain adequate reserves to meet the charity's commitments. Due to the nature and operations of Barrow Foodbank, the trustees aspire to hold a significant reserve of £385K comprising the following:

a) Contingency funds - in a situation where food is lost due to e.g. flood/contamination - £50k
b) Relocation costs - a minimum of £100k
c) The Board considered it prudent to set aside £65k for two year funding for the Financial Inclusion programme.
d) Replenishment of food when stock run low - £60k
e) Six months operating costs - £110k

Barrow Food Bank Limited

Financial Statements

For The Year ended

31 March 2025

Trustees' Certificate

We certify that the books, vouchers and information produced to our independent examiner, from which the attached financial statements have been prepared, contain a full and correct record of our business transactions to the best of our knowledge.
Signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

F J Webster The Chairman

W Robinson The Treasurer

Dated 17th September 2025

BARROW FOOD BANK LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1152753

Accounts

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Financial Statements

for the year ending

31st March 2024

Company Registration Number : 8382130
Charity Registration Number : 1152753

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Financial Statements
Year Ended 31st March 2024

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Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2024

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

My first thought when I was reminded to write this was a smug 'I've already done it, I just must have forgotten to post it.' So, I looked in the appropriate file and there was the report I'd written, unfortunately it was dated 2023 and I'd emailed it a year ago. Still the first job you do when writing an annual report is to look at last year's report.

Overall, it's been a tough year. The amount of food we have in stock has steadily declined. More people want feeding, and the amount of food donations are not keeping up with it. We're buying more and more food. On the other hand, thanks to the generosity of the people of the area we have the money to buy more food. They gave us the money for a rainy day, and now it's raining and we're spending it.

But our team has grown. Claire Coulthurst our Project Manager, moved on to new employment. She still makes an appearance as a volunteer and now has a job which works better with her family responsibilities. Matt Burden took her place as Project Manager and his role as Deputy was taken by Ros Harrison who has joined our team.

More recently Ros has taken on a new responsibility with us, dealing with financial inclusion. After a concentrated period of study, she is now qualified to advise our clients on any number of financial issues which concern them. Having the ability to advise people 'in house' means that people are happier to seek the help because to some extent they already know us.

Over the last few years, we have been working with the Trussell Trust to try and combat the roots of poverty. In a perfect world we wouldn't need foodbanks. At the moment foodbanks exist because decent and caring people support them, but they are the sticking plaster our society needs. So with the Trussell Trust we felt that we could use our resources not merely to feed people, but to help them lift themselves out of poverty. Nobody wants a life of dependency, having to rely on going to a foodbank to feed their family. So, we have been exploring ways where we not merely give people the food they need today, but the support that means they are less likely to need us in the future.

It could well be that the foodbank is going to evolve into a hub where, if our clients need it, we can provide them with food. But where we and the organisations we work closely with, can give them the support the advice, they need to take control of their own destinies and build the life that they want for themselves and their families.

But at this point I do have something very important to do. Things are getting tough for everybody, so I feel it's really important to take this opportunity to reach out and thank those people who have given this year. People who are tightening their belts and still finding that bit of space in their budget to help others.

Jim Webster

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2024

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2024.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The Charity's objectives are:-

- To provide relief to individuals and families in crisis in Southwest Cumbria and surrounding areas, through the provision of emergency food supplies either directly or through approved partner agencies
- To provide physical, mental, and spiritual support, either directly or by referral to approved partner agencies, to enable the service users to avoid future crises
- To involve the community in collecting food, which is then banked and used to give to local people in food crises

Barrow Foodbank values diversity promotes equality and challenges discrimination.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year

Overview

This has been another challenging year for Barrow Foodbank. The continuing cost of living crisis, international wars and climate catastrophe, to name but a few factors, have impacted on the number of people needing to use our service, and the capacity of our supporters to donate to us. Despite these headwinds, the local community has provided us with donations of food, money and volunteer hours. We thank them for that.

There have been significant changes in personnel. In November Claire Coulthurst left to work in a job that better suit her family commitments. We were sad to see her leave, but she continued to be a staunch supporter of our mission returning as a volunteer. The staff team now consists of three paid employees supported by dedicated volunteers and a board of trustees that has also seen some changes. Many thanks to all of them for their work over the last year.

With reduced stock levels it has been sometimes difficult to find meaningful tasks for volunteers to undertake this year. To mitigate against this, we have spent quite some time looking at, and actioning, changes in both the warehouse and drop-in areas of the foodbank. These changes have been well received by both volunteers and people who use the foodbank.

We are always keen to move forward and expand our provision, both in terms of what we can offer to people who use our services, and those that support us. As well as food parcels we provide vouchers for fresh food, toiletries, cleaning products and pet food. This provision will, we hope, soon be expanded to include access to a 'Pots and Pans Library' free passes to Barrow or Dalton Leisure Centre, Money Matters Advice and meal making lessons. Watch this space.

We have worked with the Project Search initiative offering work experience to young adults with learning difficulties/disabilities. We hope to be able to offer at least a part of an internship for this project in September of 2024, and intend to increase that provision in the future.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year (continued)

We started to re-establish our links with schools, colleges, youth groups and other organisations that dropped off during the Covid era. We recognise that as well as our primary mission of supplying food to those in crisis, we place great importance on providing 'opportunities for young people' to contribute to their community through volunteering, work experience and service. We remain committed to enabling this.

We received a grant of £2,000 from Barrow Community Fund and £9,000 from Project John. These were used to provide 700 hampers of food at Christmas to local residents in need.

We also received a grant of £31,029.53 from the Trussell Trust towards the cost of running the Financial Inclusion project. We are already noticing a positive impact from this service as we continue to work towards reducing the need for people to use the foodbank.

Finally, again, many thanks to all our supporters however that support may manifest. We are all Barrow Foodbank. Thank you.

A Year in Brief

April 2023 – Two volunteers left the foodbank due to retirement and new job hours. We thanked them for all their hard work and wished them well for the future. We sent out volunteer feedback forms as part of our annual survey. The responses were very positive which was very pleasing. Another volunteer left us to move closer to her family in Bristol and having enjoyed her time at the Foodbank so much that she sought out a Trussell Trust Foodbank in her new location in order to continue her service to the community.

May 2023 – Joan Cockin's family donated monies received from her funeral donations to Barrow Foodbank. Joan was a longtime volunteer and she is much missed by many. Two agency training days were held with the intention of reinforcing Barrow Foodbank's mission and ethos. These were well received by those that attended them.

June 2023 – Information folders were completed to support the clients for signposting and placed in the drop-in for them to browse whilst having a drink and waiting to have their vouchers fulfilled.

July 2023 – The Tesco food drive collected 510.9kg of food which provided 1,548 meals.

August 2023 – Claire Coulthurst completed a fire walk which raised £260 for Hindpool Tiger and Barrow Foodbank. This also helped to keep the work of the foodbank in the public eye.

September 2023 – We received donations from local churches, schools and the general public for Harvest Festival and a total of 1,753.7kg of food was received.

October 2023 – Furness Funky Craft fair raised money to donate to buy food by having a craft fair at Rampside Village Hall. Victoria Infant and Nursery school donated enough food for 419 meals. Two members of the team were recognised at Cumbria Women of the Year – Welma Robinson, the Foodbank treasurer and Claire Coulthurst the Project Manager at the foodbank.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year (continued)

Following the announcement of Claire's decision to resign as project manager, advertisements for the position of Foodbank Manager were placed on social media and the Indeed website.

November 2023 – Information was provided to clients of the foodbank relating to 'warm hubs', free meals and free food projects in a drive to make help them to support themselves. A huge donation of food was made by William and Tori Heavyside. They collected, money, went shopping and delivered it to the Foodbank. They donated 291.3kg of food. The Keswick to Barrow Committee donated £10,000 at their awards ceremony. 416kg of food was collected at the Tesco manned collection on the last weekend of November.

December 2023 – Abbey House Hotel had a Christmas Jumper day food drive and donated the proceeds to the Foodbank. Donations for the Park Run were gratefully received. Pennington Girl Guides came to visit us at the foodbank. After a quick tour and explanation of how we work they spent some time making Christmas hampers for us. More hampers were made by our regular volunteers, and seasonal volunteers from Dowdales School, Furness Building Society and Gleeds.

January 2024 - **Former** Project Manager, Ann Mills retired from volunteering at the Foodbank. We thanked her for her long service and commitment to the project. BBC Northwest came to film at the Foodbank and interviewed Jayne Moorby, our Social Media Coordinator and Matthew Burden the Project Manager.

February 2024 – Ros Harrison started working at the Foodbank as the Deputy Project Manager. Ros was known to us from her work at Spring Mount Church and the Walney Community Trust, both longtime collaborators with Barrow Foodbank.

March 2024 – As part of the Trussell Trust Pathfinder project we advertised a job role regarding Financial Inclusion. We were happy to appoint Ros Harrison to this role. She would continue with his role as Deputy Foodbank Manager. The title of her role was changed to Money Matters Advisor with the Financial Inclusion project.

People Fed

As a foodbank, we work with our 150 referral agencies to ensure that the referrals made are both appropriate and proportionate.

People Fed:

	Vouchers Redeemed	No Adults	No Children	Total
1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023	3803	3803	2439	6242
1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024	2625	3862	2189	6051

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year (*continued*)

Highest crisis reasons for using the Foodbank in 2023/24

Crisis Type	Vouchers Redeemed	No Adults	No Children	Total
Benefits/not earning	1767	2507	1257	3764
Rising cost of Essentials	1089	1587	937	2534
Ongoing impact of physical/mental health	426	661	288	949
Benefit delay	198	297	139	436
Delaying or waiting other income	122	186	139	325
Insecurely Housed	107	135	30	165
Low Income	42	66	34	100

I would like to extend a sincere thank you to the Abbey Road Baptist Church who continue to support an accommodate us within their building.

Last but not at all least, a sincere thank you to the local community for their continuous donations and all the Supermarkets that facilitate these donations for the foodbank – Tesco (Extra, Metro, Millom and Express), Morrison's, Asda, Booths, Roose Co-op and One Stop. And a special thanks to Aldi and Greggs who regularly donate surplus food items for the Foodbank to distribute.

Barrow Foodbank in Ulverston

I took over as Coordinator for the Barrow Foodbank in Ulverston in November 2022, after a period when the regular volunteers had been nobly managing largely themselves. I think that this branch continues to work smoothly and efficiently – thanks to all its volunteer, who reliably give up their time to support it.

Sadly, Carol Galloway a long-standing stalwart had to step back, needing to care for her husband in his ill health, however, she remains on hand for back-up to cover for volunteer absences.

We welcomed new volunteer, Christine Stuart-Woodburn who has settled well into our routine and is now a valued member of the Thursday crew.

At present, the centre opens two days a week and this appears effective. Footfall is higher than it used to be, and it is now rare that no clients come in (Thursday being busier than Mondays when more stock and donation management occurs). We also function as a drop-in venue on a small scale. A few vulnerable ex/occasional clients call in for a cup of tea, social contact, and general support – interestingly they also offer peer support and local information to current clients on occasion.

We routinely signpost clients t the Ulverston Food Wast Project, which has around a hundred local households on its books for weekly food parcels, providing an invaluable resource for feeding the local area, as well as decreasing food waste.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year (*continued)*
We also very much appreciate the kindness and practical Christianity of the Bethany Church in hosting our foodbank branch.

Over the year, the service has continued smoothly. In May 2023 Ulverston Town Council donated £100.00, in June the Ulverston masonic lodge gifted £240.00 and in July, all volunteers attended Sign posting training. In July, after a suggestion by volunteers, we applied to the Glaxo Charitable Trust for funds for a new stock cupboard. The funds arrived in February 2024 and has been most successful in showcasing 'extras'. We invite clients to look through it and make their own selection of a few items that would be helpful to them, recognising that they know best what they need. It is stocked with household goods, some crockery and cutlery, towels, bedding, children's pyjamas and many other random items which turn up as donation, or we purchase in response to need (such as thermals). It has proved popular and helpful. In December, 25 Christmas hampers were given out. It is noticeable that as the year has gone on, donations of food have decreased (or the items donated have decreased in value) and it has been more frequently necessary to purchase stock, especially toiletries, washing up liquid and soap powder.

The most commonly quoted difficulty is with the increase in the cost of living, unexpected bill, domestic abuse, changes in health and difficulties with benefits including sanctions all add to this. Although Ulverston appears a prosperous area there are many vulnerable people struggling quietly to keep their heads above water.

Finally, over the 2023/24 Barrow Foodbank in Ulverson fulfilled 185 vouchers (52% for single adults who appear to be the most vulnerable group in this area). A total of 249 adults and 137 children were fed. A total of 2,667kg of food donations were received with peaks at Harvest Festival and at Christmas. The volunteers generously contributed with 753 volunteer hours.

Barrow Foodbank in Millom

We continue to receive regular food and money donations. Some local individuals liaise with the volunteers and donate money/food regularly, which is wonderful. We also still receive food donations via the Tesco donation 'bin'. We have again received Tesco vouchers totalling £400 from a member of the public. We have families in Millom, who want to remain anonymous, who donate regularly, with a cheque which we pass on to the treasurer, highlighting it is for Millom Foodbank. Recently we have very kindly received donations of £1,000 from Furness Building Society and £105 from Tottlebank Church. We are so grateful for the local support.

School Holiday Meals

Sandside School is still the only school routinely using this scheme. Using local contacts, we had hoped that St James School would come back on board with this, but nothing seems to have happened.

Social Media

We update our Face-book page and still occasionally receive enquiries via Messenger on our Millom Foodbank Facebook page. It seems to be a useful way for some people to contact us/find out more.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year (*continued*)

Drop In

The drop-in hasn't been as effective as we thought it might be but we are currently looking a updating our posters and giving a lot more information on voucher holders and contacts which will display on the church notice board – we are hoping that this will see an influx of visitors to our drop-in sessions.

Millom Baptist Church have moved their coffee mornings from a Tuesday morning to a Monday morning. This change has just happened recently, so no information on how it has affected the foodbank yet, though it has allowed us to operate consistently across the two days. We are still undecided about the best way forward in Millom.

We are continuing to operate a flexible mix of either delivery or pick up – depending on what suits the client. This means that there is no longer a situation where clients sit and chat over a cuppa, which is why the drop in isn't really happening anymore. We still offer a cuppa and biscuits, whenever we can.

Signposting

We are updating our information folder detailing what is available for people in Millom, this has changed considerably since COVID lockdown.

Volunteers

We now have a very capable volunteer, Richard, who will cover for Clare in her absence. We also have a regular third volunteer on a Tuesday and a rota for the third volunteer for Fridays. We have had to shuffle the rota for drivers around to cover for one of our regular drivers, who is having to take a long break, due to personal circumstances. We do not have any volunteers on a 'waiting list' at the moment.

Client Numbers

Our client numbers seem completely unpredictable. Quiet for periods, then suddenly busy. We are also still seeing clients who are completely new to us, some with large families. There is obviously still a need for the foodbank in Millom. We are unsure about the effect that Millom Network centre has on our client numbers; we try to liaise with the manager, but the situation seems constantly changing, so it is still a work in progress.

There is no food pantry in the town, so when clients have 'reached their limit' within Trussell Trust procedures, we struggle with where to suggest they go for help. The only option we know of is the Community Shop operated by Millom Network centre, which operates a membership scheme, allowing access to cheap food. The Network Centre often has free food, such as bread, available for whoever turns up.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year (*continued*)

E Vouchers

We have been informed that referral agencies are no longer able to use paper vouchers, when they run out. We are very concerned about this exclusion of 'non-IT-savvy' agencies. We are concerned that this might lead to the reduction of agencies willing to refer. Having said that one of the agencies we were concerned about losing has managed to issue an e-voucher. That particular agency was able to continue issuing paper vouchers to clients when the database wasn't working. We are in the process of trying to explain the system to one of our very 'non-IT-savvy agencies.

Networking

Two workers from The Phoenix Centre visited us at the beginning of the year and explained what they offered. They had not been aware that a foodbank operated in Millom. They were also not aware that a credit union operated in the town. We also didn't know that they gave out foodbank vouchers, so it was an information swap.

We had a visit from a group of local junior school children from St James School, with their teachers, to talk about poverty. One of the teachers/helpers was the ex-manager of Millom Children's Centre, she enquired about how the school could issue foodbank vouchers. We were thrilled to finally get back into local schools, as we know the need for food support is there, but nothing came of that contact.

By happenstance in updating our information folder for clients we are also networking. An example was a recent unannounced visit by the local CADAS (Cumbria Alcohol, Drug and Advice) worker, who we had been chatting to about what was currently available in Millom. Another unexpected contact was the local library who gave us packs advertising the library which included biscuits and a sachet of hot chocolate for our clients. One of our volunteers had recently visited the local library, seeing what services were being advertised to update our information folder.

Pet Food Donations

The collection box for pet food has never arrived, instead a notice appeared above the Millom Tesco's food collection box, so now people put pet food in with the human food and it is stored in Barrow. The plan, which we agreed to, was for a separate pet food collection bin, that we, in Millom could empty and use locally for clients. I can only presume that the pet charity contacted Tesco directly. We currently struggle getting any information from our local Tesco as there is no dedicated liaison person. We routinely offer dog poo bags to clients along with dog food.

Emergency Food Boxes

These are regularly used in Millom. Millom Children's Centre, Baptist Church and St Michael's in Bootle all have boxes.

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2024

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year (*continued*)

Referral Agencies

No new agencies have joined us in the last 12 months. We are still waiting for the head teacher from Captain Shaws, in Bootle to join with St Michael's Church. There seems to be an administrative hiccup, which we are trying to resolve.

Fresh Meat Scheme

The butcher's voucher scheme is running successfully, the clients find the vouchers very useful.

Tesco Christmas Collection

Snow almost stopped play, but our hardy volunteers managed to turn up despite it all. We collected a massive £486.41 in cash. The food collection was delayed being pick up due to the heavy snowfall in the area. Most volunteers were snowbound, but we managed.

Thank You

On the last foodbank day before Christmas, a buffet was laid on to say thank you to all the volunteers for all their hard work throughout the year.

Millom Baptist Church

Once again, this year, the church has had alterations done to their building but have always made sure that they accommodated Millom Foodbank during the disruption, making sure that the local community had access to this much needed amenity in the town.

Statistics so far:-

	2023	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Sessions	100	101	102	100	104	99	104
Vouchers	156	174	120	140	270	300	187
Adults	261	306	225	233	453	486	315
Children	181	170	113	152	217	368	215

Volunteers

Barrow Foodbank is mainly staffed by volunteers, drawn from all sectors of the community and are a highly valued resource. A supported volunteer programme has been developed to ensure that no members of the community are excluded.

Across our 3 sites we have 84 active volunteers, who work in a variety of roles. We also have a number of church representatives who faithfully collect food in their churches and bring it to the foodbank. We have several volunteers who give extra time when collecting food at the supermarkets, as well as those who volunteer specifically for the collections. We have several

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year *(continued)*

core roles which take a larger amount of time. As things change, volunteers leave for a number of reasons, however we continue to
recruit new volunteers who have brought freshness to the foodbank. In total all our volunteers have donated 5,524 hours of their time to the foodbank during the reporting period.

Our sincere thanks go to all the volunteers for their dedication and hard work. Without their help the foodbank would cease to exist.

Fund Raising Standards Information

We work with the fundraising regulator who set and maintain the standards for charitable fundraising. The fundraising regulator aims to ensure that fundraising is respectful, open, honest and accountable to the public.

The role of the regulator is to:

- Set and promote the standards for fundraising practice in consultation with the public, fundraising stakeholders and legislators
- Investigate cases where fundraising practices have led to significant public concern
- Adjudicate complaints from the public about fundraising practice, where these cannot be resolved by the charities themselves
- Operate a fundraising preference service to enable individuals to manage their contact with charities
- Where poor fundraising practice is judged to have taken place, recommend best practice guidance and take proportionate remedial action

In order to ensure we are fundraising appropriately we do all we can to ensure that fundraisers, volunteers and fundraising contractors working with us to raise funds:

- comply with the Codes and with this Promise
- comply with the law including those that apply to data protection, health and safety and the environment
- are clear about who we are, what we do and how your gift is used
- give a clear explanation of how you can make a gift and amend a regular commitment
- respect the rights, dignities, and privacy of our supporters and beneficiaries
- will not put undue pressure on you to make a gift and if you do not want to give or wish to cease giving, we will respect your decision
- If you tell us that you don't want us to contact you in a particular way, we will not do so
- do not use any images or words that cause unjustifiable distress or offence - take care not to cause unreasonable nuisance or disruption

If you are unhappy with anything we have done while fundraising, you can contact us to make a complaint. We have a complaint procedure, a copy of which is available on request. If we cannot resolve your complaint, we accept the authority of the Fundraising Standards Board to make a final adjudication.

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2024

Financial Review
The trustees are satisfied that the Charity has adequate reserves to continue its work for the next twelve months.

Reserves Policy
The Charity follows the guidance issued by the Charity Commission and seeks to maintain adequate reserves to meet the charity's commitments. Due to the nature and operations of Barrow Foodbank, the trustees aspire to hold an extra amount of £325,000 comprising of the following:

a) Contingency funds - in a situation where food is lost due to e.g floods - £50k
b) Relocation costs – a minimum of £100k
c) The Board considered it prudent to set aside £85k for two year's funding for the Financial Inclusion programme.
d) Replenishment of food when stock run low - £30k
e) 6 months operating costs - £60k

Investment Policy
The recommended level of resources which the charity carries in its current account is maintained at not more than is required for a normal month's activity. A proportion of the remaining monies are held in an interest-bearing account giving as high a rate of return as possible whist retaining flexibility to be able to draw down monies as and when required. The funds designated for future investment are placed in a range of investments, to achieve maximum interest (within an acceptable balance of risk), so the organisation's strategic development plans are achieved.

Donations Policy
The policy of the charity is not to give grants/donations to other charities or organisations.

Plans for Future Periods
As the end of the year approached it remains apparent that millions of households across the UK are struggling to make their incomes stretch to cover the rising cost of living. With high heating bills, food and fuel price rises, many families must make difficult choices on how to manage their disposable income. The foodbank anticipates an increase of numbers who will require help and support to feed their families. Trustees were determined to make sure that Barrow Foodbank could continue to support those in need and has agreed to set aside reserves to maintain the current food stock held, but also to provide fresh meat and vegetables to those in need. Future plans can only be summarised as Barrow Foodbank will respond as fully as practically possible to our community's needs within the financial constraints we may face.

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2024

Structure, Governance and Management
The Barrow Foodbank Ltd is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity governed under Articles of Association.

Appointment of trustees
Trustees are elected at the annual general meeting, are appointed to the Board following nomination by member organisations. The Barrow Foodbank has just two members namely, The Barrow Deanery Synod of the Church of England and Churches Together in Barrow who nominates three and four trustees respectively.

Recruitment, induction and training of trustees
The Trustee Board regularly conducts a skills audit of Board members and actively seeks out new Trustees as appropriate to ensure the Board has the most useful skill mix possible and is representative of the local community.

All trustees are expected to be committed to the aims and principles of Barrow Foodbank and be willing to take an active role in the governance of Barrow Foodbank. Induction for all new Trustees covers the structure, aims and principle of Barrow Foodbank, legal obligations under charity and company law, the objectives and activities of Barrow Foodbank and current business and development plans.

Organisational Structure and Networks
Barrow Foodbank is governed by the Board of Trustees. The Board is responsible for setting the strategic direction of the organisation and has ultimate responsibility for the conduct of Barrow Foodbank, for ensuring that the charity satisfies its legal and contractual obligations. Board meetings are held bi-monthly with additional meetings as necessary. The trustees meet annually to carry out a full review to determine the future strategic direction of the organisation. Non-Trustee members may be co-opted to attend meetings for a specific expertise they bring for time limited periods.

Operational management of Barrow Foodbank is delegated to the Foodbank Manager, who works closely with the Assistant Foodbank Manager and volunteers to ensure delivery of all services.

Services are delivered by a committed team of paid workers and volunteers. It is calculated that the contribution made by the volunteers equates to £57,560.08 per annum (based on national living wage costs only).

Risk Policy
The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place, so timely action is taken to mitigate exposure to those risks.

The major risks to the organisation are two-fold and are reflected in the Reserve Policy.

Structure, Governance and Management (*continued*)

- A major event for example flooding
- A need to relocate

a) The Barrow Foodbank is currently located in the basement of the Abbey Road Baptist Church which has multiple users. If flooding was to occur, it would not be a simple case of replacing all stock. The Barrow Foodbank holds on average 20 tonnes of food worth approximately £47.4K. A specialist firm would need to be brought in to clear the site, then a full in depth clean would be required, repair/replacement of equipment and storage facilities and of course, a full restock. Plus of course a temporary venue would be needed. The Board has conservatively estimated the cost at a minimum £50K.

b) The Barrow Foodbank currently enjoys accommodation which is of sufficient size and serviced to just meet the Barrow Foodbank's needs, at less than commercial rates. If relocation became necessary (either planned or due to emergency), the Foodbank would have great difficulty locating suitable premises locally which would be at commercial rates.
In addition, significant costs would be incurred for example, relocation costs such as removals, supply and connection of services, IT and Telecommunications costs etc.

Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects and to ensure consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charitable company. These procedures are periodically reviewed by the trustees and staff to ensure they still meet the needs of the charity.

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

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

Year Ended 31 March 2024

Reference and Administrative Details

Registered charity name	Barrow Foodbank
Charity registration number	1152753
Company Registration number	8382130
Principal office and registered office	**c/o** Abbey Road Baptist Church Corner Abbey Road and Park Drive Barrow-in-Furness LA13 9BD
Trustees	Jim Webster (Chair) Jack-Knill Jones Peter Gardner Paul Burden (Resigned 6th November 2023) Karen Edmondson Martin Cooper
Treasurer/Company Secretary	Welma Robinson

Key Management personnel

Matthew Burden	Project Manager
Ros Harrison	Deputy Project Manager
Judy Findlay	Admin and Warehouse Assistant
Welma Robinson	Treasurer
Carol Warwick	Volunteer Coordinator
Liz Goyder	Ulverston Coordinator
Jean Liney	Millom Coordinator
Clare Kingston	Millom Coordinator
Jayne Moorby	Newsletter Editor and Facebook Coordinator
Paul Burden	Fundraising Coordinator

Auditors	Knox Accounting Limited 6 Bath Street Barrow in Furness LA14 1LZ
Bankers	NatWest Bank Dalton Road Barrow in Furness LA14 1WY

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

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

Year Ended 31 March 2024

Trustees' Responsibilities Statement

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Auditor

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

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

The auditors are deemed to have been re-appointed in accordance with section 487 of the Companies Act 2006.

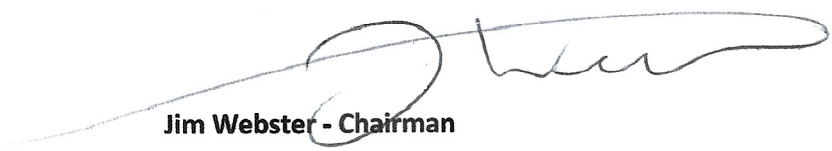
Barrow Foodbank Ltd

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

Year Ended 31 March 2024

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

The trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) was approved on 25th September 2024 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Jim Webster - Chairman

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2024
Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of Barrow Food Bank Limited
On The Accounts for The Year Ended 31st March 2024
Set Out on Pages 2 to 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 under section 144 of the Charities Act 2021 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiners report

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the 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
  (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
  (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) and the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2019).

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

Knox Accountants Limited
6 Bath Street
Barrow in Furness
Cumbria
LA14 1LZ

31st July 2024

Barrow Food Bank Limited

Statement of Financial Activities
For the Year ended
31 March 2024

	Notes	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total 2024 £	2023 £
Income					
Donations		9,494	150,501	159,995	183,495
Grants received	2	42,652	-	42,652	20,600
Dividend income			4,639	4,639	3,105
Interest		-	3,712	3,712	989
Total Income		52,147	158,851	210,998	208,189
Expenditure					
Direct Charitable Expenditure:					
Purchases		26468	10,008	36,477	22,991
Catering		-	160	160	87
Packaging		79	2,027	2,106	277
Furniture and appliances		833	638	1,471	4,188
Salaries		-	44,565	44,565	39,638
Pension costs		-	1,379	1,379	1,372
Consultancy fees		-	-	0	15,000
Vehicle running expenses		-	1,830	1,830	1,536
Travelling costs		-	260	260	149
Printing stationery and publicity		153	2,062	2,215	2,747
Computer consumables		-	115	115	2,136
Postage		-	162	162	57
Telecommunication costs		820	2,212	3,032	3,137
Insurance		-	1,546	1,546	1,561
Premises costs		600	10,108	10,708	11,890
Uniforms		-	-	-	449
Functions and conferences		-	141	141	150
Training Costs		-	-	-	396
Subscriptions		-	1,465	1,465	430
Bank charges			550	550	571
Accountancy fees		-	631	631	582
Professional fees			-	-	-
Donations			-	-	-
Sundy expenses		0	437	437	145
Total Direct Expenditure		28,953	80,296	109,249	109,489
Depreciation of fixed assets		-	1,718	1,718	2,148
Total Expenditure		28,953	82,015	110,967	107,341
Net Surplus for the year		23,194	76,837	100,031	100,848
Funds at the start of the Year		37,312	474,770	512,082	415,530
Funds at the end of the Year		**60,506**	**551,607**	**612,112**	**516,378**

Barrow Food Bank Limited

Balance Sheet
As At
31 March 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
Fixed Assets					
Depreciating Assets	3		6,874		8,592
Current Assets					
Current Asset Investment		200,000		200,000	
Bank accounts - Restricted		70,409		47,315	
- Unrestricted		335,579		257,073	
Cash account		608		454	
		606,595		504,842	
Current liabilities		1,357		1,352	
Grants in advance		-		-	
Net Current Assets			605,239		503,490
			£ 612,112		**£ 512,082**
Represented By:					
Capital Account					
Accumulated Reserves	Unrestricted		551,607		474,770
	Restricted		60,506		37,312
			£ 612,112		**£ 512,082**

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on the 8th September 2024 and are signed on their behalf by:

The Chairman F J Webster

The Treasurer W Robinson

Dated 25.9.2024

Barrow Food Bank Limited

Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended
31 March 2024

Note 1 Accounting Policies

The accounts on pages 2 and 3 have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The motor van is depreciated at the rate of 20% per annum on the reducing balance.

Note 2 Grants and Subsidies

	2024		2023	
	£ Restricted	£ Unrestricted	£ Restricted	£ Unrestricted
Cumbria County Council	-		10,600	-
Cumbria Community Foundation	2,000		5,000	
Trusell Trust	31,030		5,000	
Project John	9,000			
Glaxo Smith Kline	623			
	42,652	-	20,600	-

Note 3 Tangible fixed assets

	Motor van £	Total £
Cost:		
At 1 April 2022	18,167	18,167
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
At 31 March 2023	18,167	18,167
Depreciation:		
At 1 April 2022	9,575	9,575
Depreciation on disposal	-	-
Charge for the year	1,718	1,718
At 31 March 2023	11,293	11,293
Net book value:		
At 31 March 2023	6,874	6,874
At 31 March 2022	8,592	8,592

Note 4 - Donated food stock

At the end of the accounting period the Foodbank was the custodian of donated food stock with an estimated value of £18,492.68

Note 5 - Donated time

During the year volunteers supported the Foodbank with 4458.2 hours of their time across the three sites. At a rate of £11.44 per hour (National Living Wage), this would equate to an in kind contribution to the Foodbank of £51,001.81.

Note 6 - Reserves policy

The Charity follows the guidance issued by the Charity Commission and seeks to maintain adequate reserves to meet the charity's commitments. Due to the nature and operations of Barrow Foodbank, the trustees aspire to hold a significant reserve of £350K comprising the following:

a) Contingency funds - in a situation where food is lost due to e.g. flood/contamination - £60k
b) Relocation costs - a minimum of £100k
c) The Board considered it prudent to set aside £85k for two year funding for the Financial Inclusion programme.
d) Replenishment of food when stock run low - £40k
e) Six months operating costs - £65k

Barrow Food Bank Limited

Financial Statements

For The Year ended

31 March 2024

Trustees' Certificate

We certify that the books, vouchers and information produced to our independent examiner, from which the attached financial statements have been prepared, contain a full and correct record of our business transactions to the best of our knowledge.
Signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

F J Webster The Chairman

W Robinson The Treasurer

Dated 25.9.2024

BARROW FOOD BANK LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1152753

Accounts

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Financial Statements

for the year ending

31st March 2023

Company Registration Number : 8382130
Charity Registration Number : 1152753

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Financial Statements
Year Ended 31st March 2023

Chairman's Statement	Page 3
Report of the Trustees	Page 4 to 18
Independent Examiners Report	Page 19
Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure)	Page 20
Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet)	Page 21
Notes to the Accounts	Page 22
Trustees' Certificate	Page 23

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2023

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

Before I sit down to write my annual report, I always read my previous one. This has the advantage of reminding me what happened in which year. This year has not been without interest - the cost of living crisis, water damage, all human life is here.

On the positive side we were joined by Julie, our new Admin and Warehouse Assistant who is a real asset to the team.

I am glad to say that we continue to enjoy the support of the people of our area. Last year we saw demand increase. This year the trend continues. Our stocks, whilst still at a decent level, are less than they were. Indeed, baked beans have gone onto our 'urgently wanted' list. At one time we had an aisle of baked beans, (known as one of the staples of a foodbank, and in our family considered the only item I can reliably cook).

Across the world, food and energy prices rose to levels never really seen before. A lot of people have found it tough, and thanks to the generosity of people in this area, we have been able to continue to support those who needed us. But one issue that needs addressing is that we, as a foodbank, shouldn't really need to exist anyway.

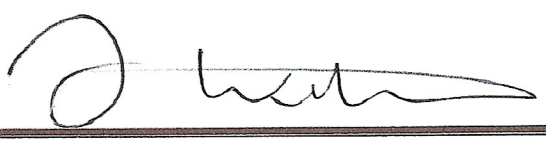
At times it can feel as if we're a sticking plaster applied because somebody, somewhere, hasn't got round to doing their job. They are doubtless overstretched and underfunded, but in many cases, they are the people who can provide far longer-term help to our clients. So, we need to make even greater efforts to get our clients the help they really need.

Yes, the food is important, at times vitally important. But even more important is the 'signposting' to support our clients so they can find those who can help them get their lives back on track. We merely feed people. Out there are people who can heal people, train people, or at the very least ensure they have the full benefits they are entitled to and get them on the road to employment and self-sufficiency.

The third thing that we try to do, as well as feed and signpost our clients, is treat them with respect as people equal to anybody else in the eyes of God. This can be difficult. Our clients are used to dealing with overworked professionals who are sometimes run ragged. Our clients are faced with busy people running esoteric systems - the client doesn't entirely understand (at times I have to ask, 'who does understand them?'). They go to meetings where one inadvertent wrong word seems to mean the difference between success and failure. So, when our clients see us they can be stressed, they can be depressed, they can be angry at a world that doesn't seem to care.

As well as feeding them, there is much else to do. We try to treat people with respect, win their trust, and help them move forward in their lives. In reality we've been doing this pretty much for as long as we've been a foodbank. But with more staff, we've hopefully freed up time to both support our volunteers as they signpost clients to where they should get help, but also to work with the organisations we signpost to.

Jim Webster



Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2023

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2023.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The Charity's objectives are:-

- To provide relief to individuals and families in crisis in Southwest Cumbria and surrounding areas, through the provision of emergency food supplies either directly or through approved partner agencies
- To provide physical, mental, and spiritual support, either directly or by referral to approved partner agencies, to enable the service users to avoid future crises
- To involve the community in collecting food, which is then banked and used to give to local people in food crises

Barrow Foodbank values diversity, promotes equality and challenges discrimination.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year

It has been a challenging year for the Foodbank in regard to the cost-of-living crisis. The need for our service increased by 30% from the previous year and we fed an additional 1,541 individuals. Without all the volunteers who give their time so faithfully, the Foodbank would not be able to provide a service to the community – so a huge thank you goes to all those that support the Foodbank in whatever capacity (in-house, remote, supermarket volunteers, centre coordinators and the trustees). In total our volunteer hours for the past financial year equate to 5,524 which would cost the Foodbank £57,560.08. We are very grateful to our volunteers, old and new, for their dedication. Some of them have been with us from the very start, but this year we have faced issues enlisting new volunteers to fill gaps in our team which I believe has been echoed right across the Third Sector.

Given the challenges around recruiting new volunteers and the expected increase in the need for our service, funding was allocated in summer 2022 by the Foodbank Board to employ an additional staff member at the Barrow centre. We initially welcomed Olivia to the team in August 2022, and following her resignation in December, Julie Findlay joined the ream as an Admin and Warehouse Assistant and has since then completed her probationary period and has become an integral part of the team.

We have made some significant changes within our drop-in centre, due to some flooding which occurred before Christmas. Repairs were carried out and new flooring was laid along with reorganising the furniture and the space is looking much brighter and inviting, especially following the donations of some plants from our volunteers. We have also made some positive changes to the Barrow centre. During the pandemic we moved to a very transactional approach, which both volunteers and service users have been accustomed to. We know this needed to change and we were keen to revert to that community environment. Both the staff and volunteers have been attending training to engage with service users and encourage them to sit and chat, which in turn helps us to obtain information about their situation which enables us to signpost for additional support.

In the summer of 2022 Barrow Foodbank engaged in a partnership with Citizen's Advice Barrow (CAB) and created a 12-month programme of support. Clients were referred to CAB by the staff and the partnership benefited from:-

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year (*continued*)

- Income maximisation – full benefit checks plus assistance to claim each benefit.
- Additional charitable support e.g., energy vouchers, clothing vouchers, white goods from their emergency fund.
- Debt casework leading to sustainable debt management, including fees paid for Debt Relief Orders from their emergency fund.

The partnership has now ended but we will continue to work closely with the CAB team in the future.

In the winter we were fortunate to receive some funding from Trussell Trust which meant we were able to offer blankets, hot water bottles and flasks to our service users to help keep them warm and reduce their utility bills over the harsh winter.

We received a £5,000 grant from Cumbria Community Foundation, who recognised the issue around hygiene poverty in the UK, which enable us to buy toiletries and cleaning products to pass on to those using the Foodbank.

Westmorland and Furness Council (previously Cumbria County Council) provided a grant of £10,000 to enable the Foodbank to provide fresh food vouchers. The Foodbank also received a further £600 for pet food, as pet poverty was highlighted as an issue across the area. Vouchers can be redeemed at a local pet store within Barrow Market where service users could choose £10.00 worth of pet food.

We are extremely grateful for all the donations we receive, whether it is from corporate/regular/one-off individual donations from the general public. As a charity we rely heavily on the goodwill and generosity of the community.

Annual Figures

As a foodbank, we work with our 187 referral agencies to ensure that the referrals made are both appropriate and proportionate.

Key principles to receive foodbank assistance are:

- The client should be in a state of actual food poverty (that is, having minimal food and insufficient means to purchase adequate food in the immediate term) or be demonstrably at imminent risk of being in the situation
- The client's situation should be the result of an identifiable, current crisis.
- The client's circumstances should be known directly to the referring agency, or the agency should be experienced in assessing the needs of members of the public and securing confirmatory evidence (where appropriate)
- The client has not already received foodbank assistance three times for the specific crisis, unless specific arrangements for further support have been made with the foodbank Project Manager

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year (*continued*)

- Income maximisation – full benefit checks plus assistance to claim each benefit.
- Additional charitable support e.g., energy vouchers, clothing vouchers, white goods from their emergency fund.
- Debt casework leading to sustainable debt management, including fees paid for Debt Relief Orders from their emergency fund.

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As a foodbank, we work with our 187 referral agencies to ensure that the referrals made are both appropriate and proportionate.

Key principles to receive foodbank assistance are:

- The client should be in a state of actual food poverty (that is, having minimal food and insufficient means to purchase adequate food in the immediate term) or be demonstrably at imminent risk of being in the situation
- The client's situation should be the result of an identifiable, current crisis.
- The client's circumstances should be known directly to the referring agency, or the agency should be experienced in assessing the needs of members of the public and securing confirmatory evidence (where appropriate)
- The client has not already received foodbank assistance three times for the specific crisis, unless specific arrangements for further support have been made with the foodbank Project Manager

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2023

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year (*continued*)

People Fed

As a foodbank, we work with our 187 referral agencies to ensure that the referrals made are both appropriate and proportionate. We believe this was also part of the reason for the 6% decrease on the number of people being fed in 2021.

People Fed:

	Vouchers Redeemed	No Adults	No Children	Total
1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023	3803	3803	2439	6242
1st April 2021 – 31st March 2022	1975	2894	1807	4701

Highest crisis reasons for using the Foodbank in 2022/23

Crisis Type	No Adults	No Children	Total
Low Income	2229	1489	3718
Debt	234	98	332
Benefit Changes	218	161	379
Benefit Delays	209	78	287
Sickness	158	106	291
Homeless	69	23	92
Child Holiday meals	102	134	236
Domestic Violence	40	37	77
No recourse to public funds	36	26	62
Other	422	255	677

A Year in Brief

April 2022	• Our coffee morning was attended by Age UK and Green Doctor • We received £450 from Bae's Monday Night Football Club • The 'Bags of Love' team raised nearly £100 for the Foodbank at their gig • The Poverty Truth Commission was launched
May 202	• The Foodbank attended the Asda Food Drive, collecting 165kg of food. • The Lakes Malayalee Association held an Indian Foodfest in aid of Barrow Foodbank raising £600.00 • Thanks to Painting and Decorating by Curwen for the paint donation and the Royal Navy for carrying out the painting of the drop-in centre

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2023

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year *(continued)*

June 2022	• In partnership with CanDo FM and Morrisons, the Foodbank provided free packed lunches for the Queen's Jubilee in aid of 'Jacob's Join' • Coast Road Festival donated free tickets and transport to the foodbank for their event • The Foodbank visited the newly opened Community Fridge in Ormsgill to show their support • Card Factory donated a huge amount of sweets and reading books for the Foodbank to distribute • Volunteers attended a food collection at Tesco Extra and Metro, collecting 1,288kg of food
July 2022	• Superdrug donated a huge number of toiletries to the Foodbank in light of the toiletry shortage at the foodbank • Bags of Love attended the Coast Road Festival and raised £67 for the foodbank • The Foodbank launched its Fresh Food Voucher scheme which has been extremely successful providing fresh food for thousands of people as well as supporting 5 local business in Barrow, Millom and Ulverston
August 2022	• Kreative Dance raised money to purchase food which created 327 meals • Jamie Bosanko donated his fee from the Coast Road Festival to the Foodbank
September 2022	• Staff, Volunteers and Trustees celebrated 10 years of Barrow Foodbank at the Fairfield in Fairfield Lane in Barrow. The cost of the room was donated by the Free Masons and Jo Ripley entertained those present with lovely songs • Due to a shortage of donations on toiletries, the foodbank was not able to continue to provide these items. The Foodbank was able to provide specific items when service users asked for those
October 2022	• Furness Craft and Gift Fair held a virtual autumn fair in aid of the foodbank • Harvest Festival donations brought in 2,941kg of food from local schools and churches • Sea House records held a showcase at Abbey Road Baptist Church where local artists performed raising £160 • Furness Multi-Cultural Community Men's Group came and painted the new office space free of charge

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2023

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year (*continued*)

November 2022	• Our very own volunteer Mark Curwen was nominated for Citizen of the Year through the Love Barrow Awards • Paul's Carpets of Dalton in Furness supplied and fitted a brand-new carpet in the new office space. • The Volunteer Coordinator attended the CVS Volunteer fair at the Form 28 in Barrow • Taylors held a Christmas Fair in aid of Barrow Foodbank
December 2022	• Barrow Eats ran a campaign to donate Christmas food items for the Christmas Hampers • Volunteers assisted with the three-day collection at Tesco Extra and Metro • Brian George held another Maxims, Scorpio, Whispers and Manhattans reunion in aid of the foodbank which brought in 50 crates of food • Dance Fusion asked all their dancers to bring a food item to donate to the foodbank at their presentation evening • Barrow Park Leisure Centre donated a large amount of selection boxes. • Barrow Community Support Trust assisted once again with Christmas Hamper deliveries • Hindpool Tigers allowed us a short-term rental of their property to store Christmas food
January 2023	• We had vital repairs done to our drop-in centre and a new floor fitted. • Hawcoat Park Junior Football Club had a foodbank collection day • Matties Chip shop donated £1,000.00 worth of vouchers for our service users to redeem in their shop
February 2023	• The Foodbank distributed blankets and hot water bottles along with food parcels • The Love Barrow Awards donated the proceeds of their raffle, raising £957.00.
March 2023	• The Barrow Foodbank received £5,000 from Cumbria Community Foundation to purchase toiletries • We received a grant of £600 to spend on pet food from Cumbria County Council • The Foodbank was notified of the passing of one of our cherished and longstanding volunteers – Joan Cockin. Joan was loved and respected by many

I would like to extend a sincere thank you to the Abbey Road Baptist Church who continue to support an accommodate us within their building.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year (*continued)*

Last but not at all least, a sincere thank you to the local community for their continuous donations and all the Supermarkets that facilitate these donations for the foodbank – Tesco (Extra, Metro, Millom and Express), Morrison's, Asda, Booths, Roose Co-op and One Stop. And a special thanks to Aldi and Greggs who regularly donate surplus food items for the Foodbank to distribute.

Claire Coulthurst
Barrow Foodbank Manager

Barrow Foodbank in Ulverston

I took over as Coordinator for the Barrow Foodbank in Ulverston in November 2022. The service has been nobly continued in the months since Gillian Ransom's departure by our very competent volunteer groups, who between them have many years of expertise and local knowledge; They have supported me most kindly in learning the role.

In the year April 2022 – March 2023 we fulfilled 150 vouchers, fed 202 adults and 112 children, given out 16 Christmas hampers and received donated food totalling 1,461kg.

Trends in vouchers therefore reflect a near return to 2020 activity, although there is increasing need from single people (becoming even more pronounced in the quarter just gone, with one in two parcels being for this demographic) and fewer children. Cost of living pressures are cited by an increasing number of clients.

Ulverston has been well supported by the Foodshare project previously based at the Parish Rooms in Church Walk. Clients tell us that the fresh food that they can obtain from the project is most helpful in keeping their heads above water. The project is very mindful of supporting and signposting the most vulnerable, subsidised by those who can contribute. They are in the process of moving premises, and it is unclear when they will re-open, so there may well be greater need apparent over the summer. Clients also very much value the fresh food vouchers from a local butcher and a greengrocer. Low incomes make healthy eating difficult, and they tell us that they find these vouchers helpful.

Donations remain well below 2020 and previous figures (though Gillian may have been counting in donations collected in Ulverston's Booths supermarket, which would have increased the figures to some extent). It is notable that there are fewer toiletries, fewer treats, and less expensive proteins coming in.

Re-opening to two days a week was clearly a good decision. Most days we see clients and, on the days, when we do not, time is well spent in discussion and stock management.

There have been substantial donations of money from the Ulverston Masonic Lodge, the Rotarians, the Town Council and many smaller local donors. We particularly appreciate these currently in facilitating us purchasing necessaries (especially toiletries). We also plan to re-organise the 'extras' section of the drop-in area, to allow clients more personal choice and to replace ageing shelving elsewhere.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year (*continued*)

Bethany Church still allows us to use their premises free of charge and we thank them for their generosity and support.

Liz Goyder
Ulverston Coordinator

Barrow Foodbank in Millom

Donations

We continue to receive regular food and money donations. Some local individuals liaise with the volunteers and donate money/food regularly, which is wonderful. We also still receive food donations via the Tesco donation 'bin'.

E-Vouchers

This continues to work very well, with more and more referral agencies using this system to issue vouchers. We are in the process of arranging for a couple more volunteers to be trained to use the database as a backup in case of sickness.

School Holiday Meals Scheme

Sandside is the only school routinely using this scheme. A parent with children at a local infant school, who use the foodbank during school holidays is going to speak to the head teacher of that school to try and get something arranged for this summer holidays.

Social Media

We still occasionally receive enquiries via Messenger on our Facebook page. It seems to be a useful way for some people to contact us/find out more.

Volunteer numbers

We are still running with as few people as possible to keep volunteers safe, using a delivery model. We have recently taken on a new volunteer, which enables us to open as a drop-in again on a Friday. We are also about to interview another possible volunteer to see if they can be used as a back up for absence of coordinator and/or warehouse person.

Drop In

This has not really 'caught on'. We are currently undecided on the way forward.

Client numbers

Our client numbers have remained very low since COVID, the clients we now have are often completely new to us. We are planning to continue as we are for the moment, as there is obviously still a need for the foodbank in Millom.

Fresh Food Voucher Scheme

The butcher's voucher scheme is running successfully. The client's find it very helpful.

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2023

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year (*continued*)

Training
On Tuesday 11th July we were introduced into some useful signposting training with our volunteers.

Work in the Hall
Throughout the summer the foodbank operated as normal with the changes that were put in place.

Statistics so far:-

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Sessions	101	102	100	104	99	104
Vouchers	174	120	140	270	300	187
Adults	306	225	233	453	486	315
Children	170	113	152	217	368	215

Jean Liney and Clare Brind
Millom Coordinators

Volunteers
Barrow Foodbank is mainly staffed by volunteers, drawn from all sectors of the community and are a highly valued resource. A supported volunteer programme has been developed to ensure that no members of the community are excluded.

Across our 3 sites we have 84 active volunteers, who work in a variety of roles. We also have a number of church representatives who faithfully collect food in their churches and bring it to the foodbank. We have several volunteers who give extra time when collecting food at the supermarkets, as well as those who volunteer specifically for the collections. We have several core roles which take a larger amount of time. As things change, volunteers leave for a number of reasons, however we continue to recruit new volunteers who have brought freshness to the foodbank. In total all our volunteers have donated 5,524 hours of their time to the foodbank during the reporting period.

Our sincere thanks go to all the volunteers for their dedication and hard work. Without their help the foodbank would cease to exist.

- Distribution coordinators
- Working in the warehouse - weighing food in, dating and ensuring stock rotation and packing food boxes ready for distribution
- Working in the distribution centre - welcoming clients and providing them with refreshments, distributing food and being available to talk to clients and signposting them to other forms of support as appropriate.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year *(continued)*

- Supporting collections at supermarkets
- Carrying out maintenance of the building
- Drivers collecting food from collection points and delivering food parcels to those in need
- General fundraising and promotion

Fund Raising Standards Information

We work with the fundraising regulator who set and maintain the standards for charitable fundraising. The fundraising regulator aims to ensure that fundraising is respectful, open, honest and accountable to the public.

The role of the regulator is to:

- Set and promote the standards for fundraising practice in consultation with the public, fundraising stakeholders and legislators
- Investigate cases where fundraising practices have led to significant public concern
- Adjudicate complaints from the public about fundraising practice, where these cannot be resolved by the charities themselves
- Operate a fundraising preference service to enable individuals to manage their contact with charities
- Where poor fundraising practice is judged to have taken place, recommend best practice guidance and take proportionate remedial action

In order to ensure we are fundraising appropriately we do all we can to ensure that fundraisers, volunteers and fundraising contractors working with us to raise funds:

- comply with the Codes and with this Promise
- comply with the law including those that apply to data protection, health and safety and the environment
- are clear about who we are, what we do and how your gift is used
- give a clear explanation of how you can make a gift and amend a regular commitment
- respect the rights, dignities, and privacy of our supporters and beneficiaries
- will not put undue pressure on you to make a gift and if you do not want to give or wish to cease giving, we will respect your decision
- If you tell us that you don't want us to contact you in a particular way, we will not do so
- do not use any images or words that cause unjustifiable distress or offence - take care not to cause unreasonable nuisance or disruption

If you are unhappy with anything we have done while fundraising, you can contact us to make a complaint. We have a complaint procedure, a copy of which is available on request. If we cannot resolve your complaint, we accept the authority of the Fundraising Standards Board to make a final adjudication.

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2023

Financial Review
The trustees are satisfied that the Charity has adequate reserves to continue its work for the next twelve months.

Reserves Policy
The Charity follows the guidance issued by the Charity Commission and seeks to maintain adequate reserves to meet the charity's commitments. Due to the nature and operations of Barrow Foodbank, the trustees aspire to hold an extra amount of £305,000 comprising of the following:

a) Contingency funds - in a situation where food is lost due to e.g floods - £50k
b) Relocation costs – a minimum of £100k
c) The Board considered it prudent to set aside £65k for two year's funding for the Financial Inclusion programme.
d) Replenishment of food when stock run low - £30k
e) 6 months operating costs - £60k

Investment Policy
The recommended level of resources which the charity carries in its current account is maintained at not more than is required for a normal month's activity. A proportion of the remaining monies are held in an interest-bearing account giving as high a rate of return as possible whist retaining flexibility to be able to draw down monies as and when required. The funds designated for future investment are placed in a range of investments, to achieve maximum interest (within an acceptable balance of risk), so the organisation's strategic development plans are achieved.

Donations Policy
The policy of the charity is not to give grants/donations to other charities or organisations.

Plans for Future Periods
As the end of the year approached it became apparent that millions of households across the UK are struggling to make their incomes stretch to cover the rising cost of living. With increasing heating bills, food and fuel price raises, many families must make difficult choices on how to manage their disposable income. The foodbank anticipates an increase of numbers who will require help and support to feed their families. Trustees were determined to make sure that Barrow Foodbank could continue to support those in need and has agreed to set aside reserves to maintain the current food stock held, but also to provide fresh meat and vegetables to those in need. Future plans can only be summarised as Barrow Foodbank will respond as fully as practically possible to our community's needs within the financial constraints we may face.

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2023

Structure, Governance and Management
The Barrow Foodbank Ltd is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity governed under Articles of Association.

Appointment of trustees
Trustees are elected at the annual general meeting, are appointed to the Board following nomination by member organisations. The Barrow Foodbank has just two members namely, The Barrow Deanery Synod of the Church of England and Churches Together in Barrow who nominates three and four trustees respectively.

Recruitment, induction and training of trustees
The Trustee Board regularly conducts a skills audit of Board members and actively seeks out new Trustees as appropriate to ensure the Board has the most useful skill mix possible and is representative of the local community.

All trustees are expected to be committed to the aims and principles of Barrow Foodbank and be willing to take an active role in the governance of Barrow Foodbank. Induction for all new Trustees covers the structure, aims and principle of Barrow Foodbank, legal obligations under charity and company law, the objectives and activities of Barrow Foodbank and current business and development plans.

Organisational Structure and Networks
Barrow Foodbank is governed by the Board of Trustees. The Board is responsible for setting the strategic direction of the organisation and has ultimate responsibility for the conduct of Barrow Foodbank and for ensuring that the charity satisfies its legal and contractual obligations. Board meetings are held bi-monthly with additional meetings as necessary. The trustees meet annually to carry out a full review to determine the future strategic direction of the organisation. Non-Trustee members may be co-opted to attend meetings for a specific expertise they bring for time limited periods.

Operational management of Barrow Foodbank is delegated to the Foodbank Manager, who works closely with the Assistant Foodbank Manager and volunteers to ensure delivery of all services.

Services are delivered by a committed team of paid workers and volunteers. It is calculated that the contribution made by the volunteers equates to £57,560.08 per annum (based on national living wage costs only).

Risk Policy
The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place, so timely action is taken to mitigate exposure to those risks.

The major risks to the organisation are two-fold and are reflected in the Reserve Policy.

Structure, Governance and Management (*continued*)

- A major event for example flooding
- A need to relocate

a) The Barrow Foodbank is currently located in the basement of the Abbey Road Baptist Church which has multiple users. If flooding was to occur, it would not be a simple case of replacing all stock. The Barrow Foodbank holds on average 20 tonnes of food worth approximately £47.4K. A specialist firm would need to be brought in to clear the site, then a full in depth clean would be required, repair/replacement of equipment and storage facilities and of course, a full restock. Plus of course a temporary venue would be needed. The Board has conservatively estimated the cost at a minimum £50K.

b) The Barrow Foodbank currently enjoys accommodation which is of sufficient size and serviced to just meet the Barrow Foodbank's needs, at less than commercial rates. If relocation became necessary (either planned or due to emergency), the Foodbank would have great difficulty locating suitable premises locally which would be at commercial rates.
In addition, significant costs would be incurred for example, relocation costs such as removals, supply and connection of services, IT and Telecommunications costs etc.

Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects and to ensure consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charitable company. These procedures are periodically reviewed by the trustees and staff to ensure they still meet the needs of the charity.

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

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

Year Ended 31 March 2023

Reference and Administrative Details

Registered charity name	Barrow Foodbank
Charity registration number	1152753
Company Registration number	8382130
Principal office and registered office	Abbey Road Baptist Church Corner Abbey Road and Park Drive Barrow-in-Furness LA13 9BD
Trustees	Jim Webster (Chair) Jack-Knill Jones Peter Gardner Paul Burden Karen Edmondson Martin Cooper (Appointed 1st April 2022)
Treasurer/Company Secretary	Welma Robinson

Key Management personnel

Claire Coulthurst	Project Manager
Matthew Burden	Assistant Project Manager/Warehouse Manager
Judy Findlay	Admin and Warehouse Assistant
Welma Robinson	Treasurer
Carol Warwick	Volunteer Coordinator
Liz Goyder	Ulverston Coordinator
Jean Liney	Millom Coordinator
Clare Brind	Millom Coordinator
Jayne Moorby	Newsletter Editor and Facebook Coordinator
Paul Burden	Fundraising Coordinator

Auditors	Knox Accounting Limited The Old Fire Station 1 Abbey Road Barrow in Furness LA14 1WY
Bankers	NatWest Bank Dalton Road Barrow in Furness LA14 1WY

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

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

Year Ended 31 March 2023

Trustees' Responsibilities Statement

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Auditor

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

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

The auditors are deemed to have been re-appointed in accordance with section 487 of the Companies Act 2006.

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

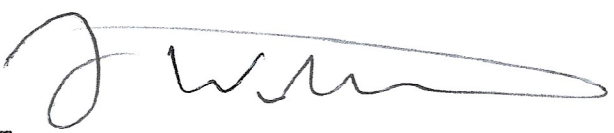
Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year Ended 31 March 2023

Small Company Provisions

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

The trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) was approved on 20th September 2023 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Jim Webster - Chairman

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2023
Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of Barrow Food Bank Limited
On The Accounts for The Year Ended 31st March 2023
Set Out on Pages 2 to 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 under section 144 of the Charities Act 2021 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiners report

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the 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
   (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
   (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) and the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2019).

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

Knox Accountants Limited
Unit 2 The Old Fire Station
1 Abbey Road
Barrow in Furness
Cumbria
LA14 1 XH

31st July 2023

Barrow Food Bank Limited

Statement of Financial Activities
For the Year ended
31 March 2023

	Notes	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total 2023 £	2022 £
Income					
Donations		10,781	172,714	183,495	158,099
Grants received	2	20,600	-	20,600	(3,458)
Dividend income			3,105	3,105	-
Interest		-	989	989	26
Total Income		31,381	176,808	208,189	154,667
Expenditure					
Direct Charitable Expenditure:					
Purchases		17734	5,257	22,991	3,470
Catering		-	87	87	196
Packaging		-	277	277	11
Furniture and appliances		806	3,382	4,188	2,764
Salaries		-	39,638	39,638	30,597
Pension costs		-	1,372	1,372	906
Consultancy fees		-	15,000	15,000	-
Vehicle running expenses		-	1,536	1,536	2,626
Travelling costs		-	149	149	129
Printing stationery and publicity		325	2,422	2,747	1,050
Computer consumables		99	2,037	2,136	-
Postage		-	57	57	125
Telecommunication costs		770	2,367	3,137	2,863
Insurance		-	1,561	1,561	-
Premises costs		600	11,290	11,890	13,833
Uniforms		-	449	449	192
Functions and conferences		-	150	150	-
Training Costs		-	396	396	288
Subscriptions		-	430	430	406
Bank charges			571	571	36
Accountancy fees		-	582	582	902
Professional fees			-	-	2,500
Donations			-	-	-
Sundy expenses		33	115	147	654
Total Direct Expenditure		20,366	89,123	109,489	63,548
Insurances		-	-	-	1,610
Depreciation of fixed assets		-	2,148	2,148	3,643
Total Expenditure		20,366	91,271	111,637	68,801
Net Surplus for the year		11,015	85,537	96,552	85,866
Funds at the start of the Year		26,297	389,233	415,530	329,664
Funds at the end of the Year		**37,312**	**474,770**	**512,082**	**415,530**

Barrow Food Bank Limited

Balance Sheet
As At
31 March 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
Fixed Assets					
Depreciating Assets	3		8,592		10,740
Current Assets					
Current Asset Investment		200,000		200,000	
Bank accounts - Restricted		47,315		36,350	
- Unrestricted		257,073		169,452	
Cash account		454		79	
		504,842		405,881	
Current liabilities		1,352		1,091	
Grants in advance		-		-	
Net Current Assets			503,490		404,790
			£ 512,082		**£ 415,530**
Represented By:					
Capital Account					
Accumulated Reserves	Unrestricted		474,770		389,233
	Restricted		37,312		26,297
			£ 512,082		**£ 415,530**

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on the 8th September 2023 and are signed on their behalf by:

The Chairman F J Webster

The Treasurer W Robinson

Dated 20th September 2023

Barrow Food Bank Limited

Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended
31 March 2023

Note 1 Accounting Policies

The accounts on pages 2 and 3 have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The motor van is depreciated at the rate of 20% per annum on the reducing balance.

Note 2 Grants and Subsidies

	2023		2022	
	£ Restricted	£ Unrestricted	£ Restricted	£ Unrestricted
Cumbria County Council	10,600			-
Cumbria Community Foundation	5,000			
Trussel Trust	5,000		(3,458)	
Sir James Fisher Foundation	-			
	20,600	-	(3,458)	-

Note 3 Tangible fixed assets

	Motor van £	Total £
Cost:		
At 1 April 2022	18,167	18,167
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
At 31 March 2023	18,167	18,167
Depreciation:		
At 1 April 2022	7,427	7,427
Depreciation on disposal	-	-
Charge for the year	2,148	2,148
At 31 March 2023	9,575	9,575
Net book value:		
At 31 March 2023	8,592	8,592
At 31 March 2022	10,740	10,740

Note 4 - Donated food stock

At the end of the accounting period the Foodbank was the custodian of donated food stock with an estimated value of £35,899.85.

Note 5 - Donated time

During the year volunteers supported the Foodbank with 5,377 hours of their time across the three sites. At a rate of £9.50 per hour (National Living Wage), this would equate to an in kind contribution to the Foodbank of £51,081.50.

Note 6 - Reserves policy

The Charity follows the guidance issued by the Charity Commission and seeks to maintain adequate reserves to meet the charity's commitments. Due to the nature and operations of Barrow Foodbank, the trustees aspire to hold a significant reserve of £180K comprising of the following:

- Six month operating cost - £45k
- Contingency funds - in a situation where food is lost due to e.g. floods - £50k
- Relocation costs - a minimum of £50k
- The Board considered it prudent to set aside £15k for future projects
- Purchase of needed food - £20k

Barrow Food Bank Limited

Financial Statements

For The Year ended

31 March 2023

Trustees' Certificate

We certify that the books, vouchers and information produced to our independent examiner, from which the attached financial statements have been prepared, contain a full and correct record of our business transactions to the best of our knowledge.
Signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

F J Webster The Chairman

W Robinson The Treasurer

Dated 20th September 2023

BARROW FOOD BANK LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1152753

Accounts

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Financial Statements

for the year ending

31st March 2022

Company Registration Number : 8382130
Charity Registration Number : 1152753

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Financial Statements
Year Ended 31st March 2022

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Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2022

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

As always, an interesting year. Of the four horsemen of the apocalypse, war, famine, pestilence, and death; famine is our reason for existing. We feed people. Pestilence we've met and learned to cope with, and now we have war. Thanks to the knock-on effects of the invasion of the Ukraine, everybody has seen their cost-of-living rise. Some of those who are just coping, they're starting to slide into 'just not coping.' When you're only just coping it doesn't take a lot to push a family over the edge. Grandma is rushed into hospital and suddenly there is no more childcare and one of you has to cut your hours.

Or perhaps the firm you work for is struggling because people are no longer spending money like they did before Covid. Even if they keep you on, they have to cut your hours.

It's surprising easy to need a foodbank. I read about one lady whose benefits were stopped because she was dead. The fact that she walked into the office with her ID and was ostentatiously alive wasn't evidence enough. Even when a doctor vouched for her it took some weeks before the system started paying her again.

Here at the Foodbank, we're coming up to our tenth anniversary. In ten years, we've fed well over sixty thousand people. When you look at the numbers, the number of people we've fed is getting awfully close to the number of people in our area. Having to fall back on a foodbank is far too common for it to carry any stigma.

But for those people who need us, we're here for them. With the help of the people of this area, which has as its core Millom, Ulverston and Barrow, but stretches more widely to Grange, Coniston and numerous other communities, we will continue to be here for them, working in partnership with others.

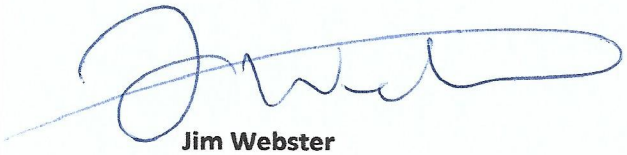
During the pandemic there was a lot of fuss about families who weren't getting free school meals during school holidays. Nobody ever got free school meals during school holidays, and we, along with other foodbanks, have for many years worked with schools to try and fill that gap. We are still doing this. We're also working with churches and others who are running holiday clubs or after school clubs, which provide fun, education, and a decent meal for those who otherwise might miss out on all three during the school holidays.

There are other ways we can help. There is more to helping people through crisis than just feeding them. We work in partnership with any number of local agencies to signpost people to where they can get help. Here the pandemic did do us a favour. Because of lockdowns and similar, most of those who refer people to us now do so electronically. Rather than just hand out a red voucher, they do it online. This immediately flags up people who are having repeated difficulties, meaning that we can have a discussion with the agency as to how that person can be best helped.

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2022

As we come out of the pandemic there is work to do. We had to change the way we worked, we have learned lessons and we want to build on the positive. Some of the changes we'll keep. During the pandemic we have built relationships with organisations that we perhaps hadn't worked with all that much before. These relationships we want to build on. But unfortunately, we perhaps lost touch with others. There are bridges we want to rebuild. So, I want to finish this with an invitation. If you want to work with us, or just want to know more about us, don't be afraid to just get in touch.



Jim Webster

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2022

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2022.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The Charity's objectives are:-

- To provide relief to individuals and families in crisis in Southwest Cumbria and surrounding areas, through the provision of emergency food supplies either directly or through approved partner agencies
- To provide physical, mental and spiritual support, either directly or by referral to approved partner agencies, to enable the service users to avoid future crises
- To involve the community in collecting food, which is then banked and used to give to local people in food crises

Barrow Foodbank values diversity, promotes equality and challenges discrimination

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year

A huge thank you to everyone who continues to support Barrow Foodbank – the staff, trustees, volunteers and donors. Without all the volunteers who give so faithfully their time, the foodbank would not be able to operate. Therefore, a big thank you to you all. Volunteers at the foodbank gave 5,377 hours of their time over the last 12 months – a total contribution of £51,081.50 when calculated at the rate of the current national living wage rate.

This year 41,474.32kg of food was donated to us allowing us to feed 4,701 people which is a decrease in usage from the previous year. We believe the decrease was due to a few reasons, the main one being several food distribution hubs that were setup as an emergency response throughout the pandemic. There were approximately 7 other churches/groups donating food within the Borough of Barrow and we worked closely with the Hubs, Barrow Borough Council and various other organisations to slowly phase them out as the emergency food need decreased. The last hub closed in September 2021 and since then we have begun to see an increase in referrals.

This year marks 10 years of being open. In that time between all our centres we have fed (as of the 1st June 2022) 67,025 people. Of those 27,056 have been children. I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to every single person that has been involved with the foodbank from the very start. It started as a small food cupboard, and it has now grown taking up significant space in Abbey Road Baptist Church and with two other centres in Millom and Ulverston. Thank you to the churches who have hosted the foodbanks, making it possible for us to deliver an efficient service – Abbey Road Baptist Church, Bethany Christian Church, and Millom Baptist Church.

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2022

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year

This past year has continued to be challenging in some respects. We are still operating with less volunteers each day than we did pre-pandemic. We kept our numbers low throughout Covid so we could operate safely with social distancing and bubbles. We are very proud that the foodbank remained open throughout the whole pandemic, and we didn't have to close our doors once to the public. This is a testament to the safety procedures in place but also the volunteer's willingness to follow, for which I am so grateful. We hope to start increasing volunteer numbers over the coming months.

We have been very lucky to receive so many monetary donations over the year (particularly large donations from BAE and Orsted again) which has allowed us to purchase a new foodbank van in May 2021. The van is slightly bigger than the last one we had and more suitable to our needs. The extra capacity means we are able to deliver food parcels as well as still continuing with our weekly collections.

In November 2021 we were bitterly disappointed to have to deal with a burglary incident at the Foodbank. Not only was money, vouchers and electronic equipment taken, but the perpetrators cause thousands of pounds worth of damage, smashing windows, doors and bursting a water pipe which caused a small flood. It was a truly devastating event which sent a ripple of sadness throughout the staff, volunteers, trustees and the local community. The awful event was then counteracted by the outpouring of support we received from local businesses and the community in general with money donations and the offer of manual labour to repair the damage. It reiterates to me how much Barrow Foodbank belongs to the community and no matter what hard times people themselves may be experiencing, they still find a way to support us.

Following restrictions being lifted, we realised there was a gap in the community with people getting together and so we arranged a monthly Foodbank Coffee Morning. This is free for anyone that attends and it is held on the 4th Wednesday of every month at Abbey Road Baptist Church. The coffee mornings have been well attended by service users, friends of the Foodbank and each month we have guest agencies in attendance to talk about what they offer – AgeUK Ltd, Green Doctor, Furness Carers and Drop Zone have been in attendance so far.

We are very excited to announce that we have been selected to be part of the Trussell Trust's 'Pathfinder Programme." The pathfinder is a shared resolve for a United Kingdom without the need for foodbanks and a strong belief that people who are currently accessing our services should not have to rely on emergency food in lieu of adequate local and national support systems. What this means for our foodbank in practice will need to be determined over time. In the ideal world there will not be a need for foodbanks, but in order to achieve this, much work will have to be done and some of the areas we will be addressing will be:

- Participation - participation is about meaningfully engaging people who use a particular service in the decision making, development and leadership of the service
- Referral Pathways – Foodbanks are to develop a clear understanding of who is being referred to their foodbanks and ensure referral partners are strong advocates for the vision of ending

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

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

Year Ended 31 March 2022

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year (*continued*)

the need for foodbanks and are engaging in actions that support this goal

- Financial Inclusion – ensuring income maximization support is available and accessible to everyone who is struggling to afford the essentials, as early as possible.

Annual Figures

As a foodbank, we work with our 175 referral agencies to ensure that the referrals made are both appropriate and proportionate. We believe this was also part of the reason for the 6% decrease on the number of people being fed in 2021.

People Fed:

	Vouchers Redeemed	No Adults	No Children	Total
1st April 2020 – 31st March 2021	1966	2982	2045	5027
1st April 2021 – 31st March 2022	1975	2894	1807	4701

Highest crisis reasons for using the Foodbank in 2021/22

Crisis Type	No vouchers fulfilled	No Adults	No Children	Total
Low Income	942	1374	849	2223
Debt	220	322	167	489
Benefit Changes	207	312	141	453
Benefit Delays	155	208	100	308
Sickness	115	168	109	277

A Year in Brief

April 2021	• We held a Virtual Dog Show as a fund raiser • Morrison's Barrow started selling pre-made pick-up bags in store that are donated directly to the foodbank
May 2021	• Bags of Love, Furness College and Lock-in held an online music event in aid of Barrow foodbank
June 2021	• 8-year-old Bobby from Newbarns School raised £250 for the foodbank by giving up chocolate for 100 days
July 2021	• A Summer Tesco collection was held where 311kg of food was collected
August 2021	• Nearly £500 was raised at Fudstock by the Bags of Love Team. A soul night at Roose Conservative Club raised £200 for Barrow Foodbank
September 2021	• Barrow Foodbank signed up as an official partner for Missing People's Safeguarding Briefing Network. • We held our Annual AGM via Zoom

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2022

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year (*continued*)

October 2021	• Another Bags of Love event was held at the Newton Arms Barrow, raising over £250. • Abbey Road Baptist Church provided foodbank volunteers with an afternoon tea to recognise their hard work • We were supported by various schools and churches with Harvest Festival donations. These included: Victoria Academy, Cambridge Street Primary School, Chapel Street Infants School, Dalton Community Church, Cartmel Priory, Chetwynde School, Dalton St Mary's School, Flookburgh School, Flookburgh Church, Askam and Ireleth Combined Churches, Grange Methodist Church, Kirkby and Broughton Churches, Newbarns School, Pennington Academy, Parkside Academy, South Walney Infants and Nursery, St George's School, St Mary's and St Michaels Church, Great Urswick, Victoria Academy and Victoria Infant School
November 2021	• Hindpool Tigers held a firework display in aid of the foodbank raising £600.00 • The foodbank supported Walney Community Centre with some food products for their Big Breakfast Event • Tesco's Christmas Collection gave us nearly 400 kg of food
December 2021	• Maxims and Scorpio Revival Night was held raising £526.00 • The foodbank had volunteer support from Barrow and Furness Rotary Clubs, PPM employees and the Cush Family • Barrow Eats donated over £2,000 from their takeaway • Barrow Foodbank received another amazing donation of £30,000 from BAE • Barrow Foodbank received large Christmas donations of food from St Bernard's Catholic School, Abbey Road Baptist Church, Co-workers of Mother Teresa, FGH Education Department, Medical, Radiology and Theatres, Ireleth St Peter's School, Ulverston Victoria High School, Victoria Infant School, Victoria Academy and West Lancashire Freemasons.
January 2022	• St Mary's Church, Dalton in Furness supported the foodbank with their annual Christmas Tree Festival.
February 2022	• The foodbank was able to buy some much needed food items with a voucher received from Morrison's Christmas Campaign. • A team of young people from the National Citizen's Scheme (NCS) change makers took part in a gruelling 10 mile walk to raise funds for the Foodbank. • Bags of Love held another gig at the Farmers raising a further £133.
March 2022	• Our first monthly coffee morning was held

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year (*continued)*

Lastly but not at all least, a sincere thank you to the local community for their continuous donations and also the Supermarkets that facilitate these donations for the foodbank – Tesco (Extra, Metro, Millom and Express), Morrison's, Asda, Booths, Roose Co-op and One Stop. And a special thanks to Aldi and Greggs who regularly donate surplus food items for the Foodbank to distribute.

Claire Coulthurst
Barrow Foodbank Manager

Barrow Foodbank in Ulverston

As things returned to normal after Covid restrictions we saw a drop in clients. We processed 91 vouchers feeding 117 Adults and 89 children which is down from 148 vouchers from the previous year. In contrast to that the food donations haven't faltered, we have seen an increase of donations being brought to the foodbank, compared to the previous year. The Ulverston community still very much support us, which we are grateful for as we believe in the coming year the Ulverston community may need us more than ever.

We currently only open to clients on Thursdays, (this is set to change later in the year) as demand has been low. We believe one of the contributing factors in the use of our service is from a positive aspect. People are choosing to use the Ulverston Waste Project which was primarily set up to reduce food going to landfill. However, we do feel there are clients that may need to use both facilities and so our Project Manager Claire has met with the coordinator of the waste project to see if we can work collaboratively to capture those people who may also need foodbank assistance.

Many of our referrers are now using e-vouchers and so far this year we have seen a few new agencies registering to issuing foodbank vouchers – Ulverston Town Council, Kendal Children's Services and Ulverston Children's Centre. This should help us reach a wider demographic of people. The Project Manager is still networking within Ulverston with other agencies, and we hope to increase the number of agencies able to refer to us as we feel this was also a contributing factor to the decrease in the use of our service.

Bethany Church still allows us to use their premises free of charge and we thank them for their support.

This is my last report as Coordinator as I am moving away, and I wish Ulverston Foodbank and the new Coordinator well.

Gillian Ransom
Ulverston Coordinator

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year (*continued)*

Barrow Foodbank in Millom

Donations

We are still receiving regular donations (financial & food) from many organisations in Millom, for which we are very grateful.

Volunteer numbers

We have been running with two or three regular volunteers in the Foodbank, packing and organising and four volunteer drivers delivering. The delivery model is working very well for volunteers

Delivery model

We sent out a questionnaire to all referral agencies asking for client feedback about the delivery model. We only had one replay and that as positive. Most clients now access our vouchers via the phone.

Referral Agencies

We have been working hard alongside local referral agencies to keep them involved with any local concerns/issues. Just recently the local Family Hub (used to be called The Children's Centre) reopened with completely new staff; they are still very keen to keep involved with the Foodbank. The Family Hub and the local Baptist Church both currently keep emergency food boxes.

E-Vouchers

These are now being used routinely by Choices, Citizen's Advice, a nearby special school and a few other miscellaneous agencies from outside the local area, such as the Probation Service and some Community Health Workers. We have got to grips with the electronic system and it is proving especially useful for both clients and volunteers particularly during Covid restrictions.

Local issues

Broughton Bakery is now under new management, and they were not aware of the past support the owners had given to the Foodbank. Jean Liney got in touch with them and made them aware of this past support, and the new owners agreed to carry on donating any bread/scones that were not sold in the shop. The Barrow Foodbank driver now calls in to the bakery every Tuesday on his way to do deliveries and collect surplus items.

School Holiday Meals Scheme

Only a special school outside of our own area, which Millom children attend, have shown an interest in the holiday meal scheme. We are aware of local families struggling but are at a loss how to re-engage schools. We continue to support three local schools with cereals, bread and baked beans for their breakfast clubs.

COVID19

We continue to be very careful following the lifting of all measures relating to Covid.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities for the Year (*continued)*

Disruption to Millom Foodbank

Millom Baptist Church Hall, where the foodbank operates from, is soon to have some major work done. The floor, the balcony and the toilet area are being replaced due to wood boring beetle, woodworm and timber fungal issues being present in some of the wood. This will mean the church will need to make some changes to access for the foodbank.

Whilst this work is happening throughout the summer, the foodbank should be able to operate as normal with the relevant changes in place and members of the church will have the use of other premises.

Statistics so far:-

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Sessions	102	100	104	99	104
Vouchers	120	140	270	300	187
Adults	225	233	453	486	315
Children	113	152	217	368	215

Jean Liney and Clare Brind
Millom Coordinators

Volunteers

Barrow Foodbank is mainly staffed by volunteers, drawn from all sectors of the community and are a highly valued resource. A supported volunteer programme has been developed to ensure that no members of the community are excluded.

Across our 3 sites we have 74 active volunteers and three Foodbank Champions, who work in a variety of roles. We also have a number of church representatives who faithfully collect food in their churches and bring it to the foodbank. We have a number of volunteers who give extra time when collecting food at the supermarkets, as well as those who volunteer specifically for the collections. We have a number of core roles which take a larger amount of time. As things change, volunteers leave for a number of reasons, however we continue to recruit new volunteers who have brought freshness to the foodbank. In total all our volunteers have donated 5,377 hours of their time to the foodbank during the reporting period.

Our sincere thanks go to all the volunteers for their dedication and hard work. Without their help the foodbank would cease to exist.

Volunteer activities include:-

- Distribution coordinators
- Working in the warehouse - weighing food in, dating and ensuring stock rotation and packing food boxes ready for distribution
- Working in the distribution centre - welcoming clients and providing them with refreshments, distributing food and being available to talk to clients and signposting them to other forms of support as appropriate
- Supporting collections at supermarkets
- Carrying out maintenance of the building
- Drivers collecting food from collection points and delivering food parcels to those in need
- General fundraising and promotion

Fund Raising Standards Information

We work with the fundraising regulator who set and maintain the standards for charitable fundraising. The fundraising regulator aims to ensure that fundraising is respectful, open, honest and accountable to the public.

The role of the regulator is to:

- Set and promote the standards for fundraising practice in consultation with the public, fundraising stakeholders and legislators
- Investigate cases where fundraising practices have led to significant public concern.
- Adjudicate complaints from the public about fundraising practice, where these cannot be resolved by the charities themselves
- Operate a fundraising preference service to enable individuals to manage their contact with charities
- Where poor fundraising practice is judged to have taken place, recommend best practice guidance and take proportionate remedial action

In order to ensure we are fundraising appropriately we do all we can to ensure that fundraisers, volunteers and fundraising contractors working with us to raise funds:

- comply with the Codes and with this Promise
- comply with the law including those that apply to data protection, health and safety and the environment
- are clear about who we are, what we do and how your gift is used
- give a clear explanation of how you can make a gift and amend a regular commitment
- respect the rights, dignities and privacy of our supporters and beneficiaries
- will not put undue pressure on you to make a gift and if you do not want to give or wish to cease giving, we will respect your decision
- If you tell us that you don't want us to contact you in a particular way, we will not do so
- do not use any images or words that cause unjustifiable distress or offence.- take care not to cause unreasonable nuisance or disruption

Fund Raising Standards Information (*continued*)

If you are unhappy with anything we have done while fundraising, you can contact us to make a complaint. We have a complaint procedure, a copy of which is available on request. If we cannot resolve your complaint, we accept the authority of the Fundraising Standards Board to make a final adjudication.

Financial Review
The trustees are satisfied that the Charity has adequate reserves to continue its work for the next twelve months.

Reserves Policy
The Charity follows the guidance issued by the Charity Commission and seeks to maintain adequate reserves to meet the charity's commitments. This amounts to the equivalent of 6 months running costs, currently £45,000. Due to the nature and operations of Barrow Foodbank, the trustees aspire to hold a significant reserve of £180,000 comprising of the following:

a) Contingency funds - in a situation where food is lost due to e.g floods - £50k
b) Relocation costs – a minimum of £50k
c) The Board considered it prudent to set aside £15k for future projects
d) Purchase of food – £20k

Investment Policy
The recommended level of resources which the charity carries in its current account is maintained at not more than is required for a normal month's activity. A proportion of the remaining monies are held in an interest-bearing account giving as high a rate of return as possible whist retaining flexibility to be able to draw down monies as and when required. The funds designated for future investment are placed in a range of investments, to achieve maximum interest (within an acceptable balance of risk), so the organisation's strategic development plans are achieved.

Donations Policy
The policy of the charity is not to give grants/donations to other charities or organisations.

Plans for Future Periods
As the end of the year approached it became apparent that millions of households across the UK are struggling to make their incomes stretch to cover the rising cost of living. With increasing heating bills, food and fuel price raises, many families have to make difficult choices on how to manage their disposable income. The foodbank anticipates an increase of numbers requesting help and support to feed their families. Trustees were determined to make sure that Barrow Foodbank could continue to support those in need and has agreed to set aside reserves to maintain the current food stock held, but also to provide fresh meat and vegetables to those in need. Future plans can only be summarised as Barrow Foodbank will respond as fully as practically possible to our community's needs within the financial constraints we may face.

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2022

Structure, Governance and Management
The Barrow Foodbank Ltd is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity governed under Articles of Association.

Appointment of trustees
Trustees are elected at the annual general meeting, are appointed to the Board following nomination by member organisations. The Barrow Foodbank has just two members namely, The Barrow Deanery Synod of the Church of England and Churches Together in Barrow who nominates three and four trustees respectively.

Recruitment, induction and training of trustees
The Trustee Board conducts an annual skills audit of Board members and actively seeks out new Trustees as appropriate to ensure the Board has the most useful skill mix possible and is representative of the local community.

All trustees are expected to be committed to the aims and principles of Barrow Foodbank and be willing to take an active role in the governance of Barrow Foodbank. Induction for all new Trustees covers the structure, aims and principle of Barrow Foodbank, legal obligations under charity and company law, the objectives and activities of Barrow Foodbank and current business and development plans.

Organisational Structure and Networks
Barrow Foodbank is governed by the Board of Trustees. The Board is responsible for setting the strategic direction of the organisation and has ultimate responsibility for the conduct of Barrow Foodbank and for ensuring that the charity satisfies its legal and contractual obligations. Board meetings are held bi-monthly with additional meetings as necessary. The trustees meet annually to carry out a full review to determine the future strategic direction of the organisation. Non-Trustee members may be co-opted to attend meetings for a specific expertise they bring for time limited periods.

Operational management of Barrow Foodbank is delegated to the Foodbank Manager, who works closely with the Assistant Foodbank Manager and volunteers to ensure delivery of all services.

Services are delivered by a committed team of paid workers and volunteers. It is calculated that the contribution made by the volunteers equates to £51,081.50 per annum (based on national minimum wage costs only).

Risk Policy
The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place, so timely action is taken to mitigate exposure to those risks.

The major risks to the organisation are two-fold and are reflected in the Reserve Policy.

Structure, Governance and Management (*continued)*

- A major event for example flooding
- A need to relocate

a) The Barrow Foodbank is currently located in the basement of the Abbey Road Baptist Church which has multiple users. If flooding was to occur, it would not be a simple case of replacing all stock. The Barrow Foodbank holds on average 20 tonnes of food worth approximately £35K. A specialist firm would need to be brought in to clear the site, then a full in depth clean would be required, repair/replacement of equipment and storage facilities and of course, a full restock. Plus of course a temporary venue would be needed. The Board has conservatively estimated the cost at a minimum £50K.

b) The Barrow Foodbank currently enjoys accommodation which is of sufficient size and serviced to just meet the Barrow Foodbank's needs, at less than commercial rates. If relocation became necessary (either planned or due to emergency), the Foodbank would have great difficulty locating suitable premises locally which would be at commercial rates.
In addition, significant costs would be incurred for example, relocation costs such as removals, supply and connection of services, IT and Telecommunications costs etc.

Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects and to ensure consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charitable company. These procedures are periodically reviewed by the trustees and staff to ensure they still meet the needs of the charity.

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

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

Year Ended 31 March 2022

Reference and Administrative Details

Registered charity name	Barrow Foodbank
Charity registration number	1152753
Company Registration number	8382130
Principal office and registered office	Abbey Road Baptist Church Corner Abbey Road and Park Drive Barrow-in-Furness LA13 9BD
Trustees	Jim Webster(Chair) Mike Bailey (Resigned 25th January 2022) Jack-Knill Jones Peter Gardner Paul Burden Karen Edmondson (Appointed 14th July 2021)
Treasurer/Company Secretary	Welma Robinson

Key Management personnel

Claire Coulthurst	Project Manager
Matthew Burden	Assistant Project Manager/Warehouse Manager
Welma Robinson	Treasurer
Carol Warwick	Volunteer Coordinator
Gillian Ransom	Ulverston Coordinator
Jean Liney	Millom Coordinator
Clare Brind	Millom Coordinator
Jayne Moorby	Newsletter Editor and Facebook Coordinator
Paul Burden	Fundraising Coordinator

Auditors	Knox Accounting Limited The Old Fire Station 1 Abbey Road Barrow in Furness LA14 1WY
Bankers	NatWest Bank Dalton Road Barrow in Furness LA14 1WY

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

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

Year Ended 31 March 2022

Trustees' Responsibilities Statement

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Auditor

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

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

The auditors are deemed to have been re-appointed in accordance with section 487 of the Companies Act 2006.

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

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

Year Ended 31 March 2022

Small Company Provisions

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

The trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) was approved on 7th September 2022 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

Mr Jim Webster - Chairman

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)
Year Ended 31 March 2022
Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of Barrow Food Bank Limited
On The Accounts For The Year Ended 31st March 2022
Set Out on Pages 2 to 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 under section 144 of the Charities Act 2021 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiners report

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the 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
  (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
  (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) and the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2019).

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

Knox Accountants Limited
Unit 1 The Old Fire Station
1 Abbey Road
Barrow in Furness
Cumbria
LA14 1 XH

31st July 2022

Barrow Food Bank Limited

Statement of Financial Activities
For the Year ended
31 March 2022

	Notes	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total 2022 £	2021 £
Income					
Donations		7,124	150,975	158,099	240,756
Grants received	2	(3,458)	-	(3,458)	10,000
Interest		-	26	26	53
Total Income		3,665	151,002	154,667	250,809
Expenditure					
Direct Charitable Expenditure:					
Purchases		1967	1,504	3,470	8,102
Catering		196	-	196	-
Packaging		-	11	11	67
Furniture and appliances		-	2,764	2,764	6,599
Salaries		15,432	15,165	30,597	30,812
Pension costs		679	226	906	481
Consultancy fees		-		-	-
Vehicle running expenses		-	2,626	2,626	1,219
Travelling costs		-	129	129	231
Printing stationery and publicity		-	1,050	1,050	1,827
Postage		-	125	125	200
Telecommunication costs		713	2,149	2,863	2,273
Premises costs		600	13,233	13,833	5,921
Uniforms		-	192	192	98
Functions and conferences		-	-	-	720
Training Costs		-	288	288	50
Subscriptions		-	406	406	214
Bank charges			36	36	-
Accountancy fees		-	902	902	298
Professional fees			2,500	2,500	-
Donations			-	-	-
Sundy expenses		-	656	656	90
Total Direct Expenditure		19,587	43,961	63,549	59,202
Insurances		-	1,610	1,610	1,299
Depreciation of fixed assets		-	3,643	3,643	315
Total Expenditure		19,587	49,214	68,802	60,816
Net Surplus for the year		(15,922)	101,787	85,865	189,993
Funds at the start of the Year		42,219	287,445	329,664	139,670
Funds at the end of the Year		**26,297**	**389,232**	**415,530**	**329,663**

Barrow Food Bank Limited

Balance Sheet
As At
31 March 2022

	Notes	2022		2021	
Fixed Assets					
Depreciating Assets	3		10,740		1,258
Current Assets					
Current Asset Investment		200,000		15,000	
Bank accounts - Restricted		36,350		37,974	
- Unrestricted		169,452		276,710	
Cash account		79		132	
		405,881		329,816	
Current liabilities		1,091		1,410	
Grants in advance		-		-	
Net Current Assets			404,790		328,406
			£ 415,530		**£ 329,664**
Represented By:					
Capital Account					
Accumulated Reserves	Unrestricted		389,232		287,445
	Restricted		26,297		42,219
			£ 415,530		**£ 329,664**

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on the 8th September 2022 and are signed on their behalf by:

The Chairman F J Webster

The Treasurer W Robinson

Dated _____

Barrow Food Bank Limited

Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended
31 March 2022

Note 1 Accounting Policies

The accounts on pages 2 and 3 have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The motor van is depreciated at the rate of 20% per annum on the reducing balance.

Note 2 Grants and Subsidies

	2022		2021	
	£ Restricted	£ Unrestricted	£ Restricted	£ Unrestricted
Cumbria County Council			1,000	-
Francis C Scott		-	15,000	
Trussel Trust	(3,458)		-	
Sir James Fisher Foundation		-	12480	
	(3,458)	-	28,480	-

Note 3 Tangible fixed assets

	Motor van £	Total £
Cost:		
At 1 April 2021	6,000	6,000
Additions	13,425	13,425
Disposals	(300)	(300)
At 31 March 2022	19,125	19,125
Depreciation:		
At 1 April 2021	4,742	4,742
Depreciation on disposal	958	958
Charge for the year	2,685	2,685
At 31 March 2022	8,385	8,385
Net book value:		
At 31 March 2022	10,740	10,740
At 31 March 2021	1,258	1,258

Note 4 - Donated food stock

At the end of the accounting period the Foodbank was the custodian of donated food stock with an estimated value of £35,899.85.

Note 5 - Donated time

During the year volunteers supported the Foodbank with 5,377 hours of their time across the three sites. At a rate of £9.50 per hour (National Living Wage), this would equate to an in kind contribution to the Foodbank of £51,081.50.

Note 6 - Reserves policy

The Charity follows the guidance issued by the Charity Commission and seeks to maintain adequate reserves tc meet the charity's commitments. Due to the nature and operations of Barrow Foodbank, the trustees aspire to hold a significant reserve of £180K comprising of the following:

- Six month operating cost - £45k
- Contingency funds - in a situation where food is lost due to e.g. floods - £50k
- Relocation costs - a minimum of £50k
- The Board considered it prudent to set aside £15k for future projects
- Purchase of needed food - £20k

Barrow Food Bank Limited

Financial Statements

For The Year ended

31 March 2022

Trustees' Certificate

We certify that the books, vouchers and information produced to our independent examiner, from which the attached financial statements have been prepared, contain a full and correct record of our business transactions to the best of our knowledge.
Signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

F J Webster The Chairman

W Robinson The Treasurer

Dated 7th September 2022

BARROW FOOD BANK LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1152753

Accounts

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended

31st March 2021

Company Limited by Guarantee: 8382130

Registered Charity: 1152753

Barrow Foodbank Ltd

Report and Financial Statements
Year ended - 31st March 2021

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CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

Where do I start? Other than by saying 'thank you' to an awful lot of people. On the 10th March 2020 we had a scheduled Board Meeting and one of the things we discussed was the possibility of a pandemic and what we would have to do. A week later the midden had already hit the windmill.

So, at this point I think I have to thank Claire and Matt, Manager and Deputy, who just got on with it. The changes they put in place have proved their worth. Immediately, because people over a certain age or with certain medical conditions were asked to shield, we lost the majority of our volunteers. In the middle of a pandemic our two staff members had to recruit and train more.

We had to alter the way we work, people keeping to their areas in the warehouse, keeping socially distanced and sticking to the rules with regard to hygiene. These precautions showed their worth when we did have a volunteer test positive for COVID19. They hadn't passed it on to anybody else within the Foodbank and we got a company in to fog the warehouse down, just to be absolutely safe.

Then with so many of our clients shielding, we had to change the way we worked. We now do a lot more deliveries and far fewer people visit the drop-in.

As usual, the community rallied round. We got regular consignments of food from retailers and as always, the folk of this town rallied round and backed us to the hilt.

One thing that helped was that right at the start, all sorts of people set up their own community foodbanks or similar. The fear was that either we would be swamped, or calamity of calamities, we'd have to close because our staff had succumbed to the virus. The success of these organisations is shown by the fact that in spite of everything, we saw fewer people than we had the previous year. Actually, the bald figures are deceptive, we have provided a lot of food to these groups, so we've still been supporting people, but at one remove.

But whilst we were still getting food out, we have another role which is at least as important. The proverb says "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime." People have asked me why at the foodbank we only hand out three food parcels (9 days food). This isn't any lack of care on our part, it's because those food parcels create a window in which our other partners can work.

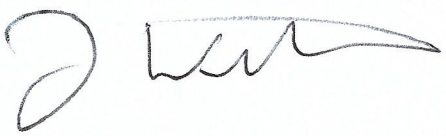
When somebody arrives at our drop-in with a voucher, the food we give them is important. But every bit as important is the conversation we have. Once we know the source of their problem, we can signpost them to somebody who can help solve that problem. I'd just like to take this opportunity to thank our partners among the agencies who rejigged their systems to cope with a new world and who continued to provide the support people needed. As an aside here, people forget how many of these people put themselves at risk, because to do their job they had to go out and meet vulnerable people. The group of women employees who suffered the highest level of deaths from COVID19 were social workers. At the foodbank we are grateful for the efforts our partners made.

And work continues as we try to see how to do our job better in the new world. When clients came to the drop-in they didn't just get food and signposting. They met people who took an interest in them, they got conversation. They were treated as people worth every bit as much as anybody else.

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

There are few things you can give people more precious than time. We took time to ensure that our clients felt they were listened to as people, valuable in their own right, not merely as problems that needed to be solved. Somehow, we have got to ensure we can still do this in a post-Covid world.

Jim Webster
Chairman



REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Barrow Foodbank's Objectives are:-

- To provide relief to individuals and families in crisis in Southwest Cumbria and surrounding areas, through the provision of emergency food supplies either directly or through approved partner agencies
- To provide physical, mental and spiritual support, either directly or by referral to approved partner agencies, to enable the service users to avoid future crises
- To involve the community in collecting food, which is then banked and used to give to local people in food crises

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

It has been a year of change and as always, the volunteers have responded with commitment and encouragement and the Foodbank has prospered for another year. Without all the volunteers who dedicate their time so faithfully we would not be able to continue the vital work we do. In total volunteers gave 7,500 volunteer hours this year – hours which would cost the Foodbank £65,400 - so a big thank you to all involved, including the Trustees and those that have supported us remotely from the safety of their own homes. Many of our experienced volunteers found themselves having to shield throughout the pandemic.

This year 70,380.2 kg of food was donated, allowing us to feed 5,023 people which is a 30% decrease in usage from the previous year. We believe the decrease is down to two main factors.

1. Throughout the pandemic multiple 'volunteer run' Community Hubs were set up across Barrow and have supported some of the area's most vulnerable people and families during the COVID19 pandemic and lockdown, supplying food parcels. Barrow Foodbank supported many of these Hubs by donating over 3,000kg of food to multiple hubs for the food parcels.
2. The second factor for the decline in our service is due to the uplift of the Universal Credit scheme. Payments were increased by £20 a week in April 2020 to help struggling families during the pandemic, but this is set to finish in September 2021. This is when we expect to see a huge increase in the need for our service again.

It has certainly been an eventful year due to the Pandemic. We have said goodbye to our very own Ann Mills as she retired after 8 years of co-ordinating and managing the Foodbank. We also welcomed Matthew Burden as a permanent member of the team as he was appointed the new

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

Assistant Manager. The last 12 months have enforced change and we have had to adapt accordingly. We initiated a delivery service and were primarily assisted by British Gas with this for

approximately 6 weeks, but when the furloughed employees needed to return to work, we continued with deliveries ourselves. Doing this has meant a lot of juggling around with collections etc as our van was initially used 5 days a week for collecting food from supermarkets and delivering food to both centres in Millom and Ulverston. We have been very fortunate to be assisted by some local businesses such as Fussells Coach Service, Stollers and Barrow AFC with food collections and we would like to extend our gratitude to them for their help and support. Another change meant adapting the drop-in centre. We could no longer offer refreshments which also meant we had to re-arrange the area, to enable us to still welcome clients, whilst adhering to social distancing measurers. We are extremely proud that the Foodbank has managed to keep its doors open and provide food every weekday throughout the Pandemic – we never stopped our face-to-face service.

Another adaptation made was that the majority of referral agencies moved away from handling the Foodbank's 'Red Vouchers' and signed up for an e-referral service instead. This meant code-only referrals can be generated which can be emailed, text or given verbally to clients. This was a real lifeline for both clients and agencies as most had closed their face-to-face services. We still currently work with over 165 referral agencies and are very grateful for their continued support and we hope our relationship with them continue to prosper.

Our fundraising team were very quick to adapt to changing times and created an online virtual Fayre through social media which has been a huge success. They have raised over £800.00 holding a Christmas Fayre, Hazy Shade of Winter Fayre, Spring events, a virtual Dog Show and Summer stalls. Thank you to all the volunteers for facilitating this.

I would like to thank the churches who have hosted the Foodbank making it possible for us to deliver an efficient service – Abbey Road Baptist Church in Barrow, Bethany Christian Church in Ulverston and Millom Baptist Church.

A huge thank you to the Supermarkets – Tesco (Extra, Metro, Millom and Express), Asda, Booths, Roose Co-op and Morrisons and all their customers that continue to donate weekly to the foodbank. A special thank you to Aldi and Greggs who regularly donate surplus food items for us to distribute.

And lastly, we have been very fortunate to receive so much support from individuals, the local community and businesses, with not only volunteer support but food and monetary donations. We have been overwhelmed with your generosity, especially throughout lockdown when people have struggled themselves. Every single donation is appreciated and help us to continue the vital work we do. I would like to specially mention the employees of Orsted and BAE Systems for nominating Barrow Foodbank and donating the very generous sum of £40,000 – you are amazing!

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

A Year in Brief

April 2020	• We were assisted by Aldi who allowed us to buy in bulk as we were facing difficulties replenishing stock when the supermarkets-imposed limitations due to customers 'panic buying.' • Kwik Fit very kindly helped us out with a tyre repair on our van for free. • Wax Lyrical diverted their production to hand sanitiser and very kindly donated some to Barrow Foodbank. • Hawcoat Park Cricket raised £1,000 for the Foodbank by doing a collection. • C M Home Fragrance raised over £600 to donate to the Foodbank. • The Lock-in raised £2,060 by streaming an online DJ set. • Bici Café pledged support by donating 20 pence to the Foodbank for every pizza they sell – this donation has continued through the year.
May 2020	• 16 men and 1 woman shaved their heads and raised £8,000 in the #Shave4food campaign. Celtic Football Club raised over £600 in their 2,000 mile run challenge. • Extinction Rebellion supported the Foodbank with numerous collections in both Ulverston and Barrow. • Signal Films and Media donated 100 activity packs for children to the Foodbank. • BAE Systems began fundraising for both Barrow Foodbank and Cumbria Community Foundation. • Robin Ham from Churches Together put together a passing on the 'Love video' to raise awareness of Barrow Foodbank. • NetFest raised over £500 for Barrow Foodbank by streaming singers and musicians online. • Thrive Renewables donated £2,000 to Millom Foodbank.
June 2020	• Bags of Love was started and an album with 18 tracks was created with all proceeds from sales going to the Foodbank. • Heartfelt Tips donated lots of filled pencil cases for children, to distribute from the Foodbank. • Ann Mills the long-standing Project Manager retired from the Foodbank.
July 2020	• BAE Systems (Shipyard employees) donated over £5,000 to the Foodbank. • Asda did a campaign to collect toiletries for the Foodbank under their Fight Hunger - Create Change initiative.
August 2020	• Oxley Group donated some needed face-shields to the Foodbank that had been manufactured by them. • Tesco held a 3-day unmanned food collection for the Foodbank. • Barrow Foodbank supported the Brunch Club held at Abbey Road Baptist Church with biscuits, crisps and food items

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

September 2020	• Urswick Women's Institute Craft Group donated some handmade cloth masks. • Barrow Foodbank was nominated to receive £300 by the Asda Foundation • Barrow Foodbank was registered with Amazon Smile where we could be nominated for a donation from sales.
October 2020	• Bici Café continue to support the Foodbank with their Pizza sales • Cambridge Primary School, Hollingarth Day Nursery both held Food collections for the Foodbank. • Barrow Eats very generously organised their 'Take Out to Help Out' campaign by donating one food item for every order put through their App. • Liz Smith dressed up as a Unicorn and ran a lap of Barrow Park, raising over £600 for the Foodbank. • Transfigure Fitness donated over £700 to the Foodbank. • Morrisons donated over 30 packed lunches to the Foodbank to distribute throughout half-term
November 2020	• The residents of Hill Road donated over 200 food items to the Foodbank. • The Bake Shed donated a large amount of selection boxes to the Foodbank. • Barrow Foodbank Virtual Fayre was born and has gone from strength to strength. • The Rotary Club of Furness Peninsula donated £500 to the Foodbank. • Soccer Minions donated a large food collection and over £200 to the Foodbank. • Digital Subsea made a £500 donation to the Foodbank. • Laserlights alive raised over £200 for the Foodbank. • Coniston Priory School gave a large food donation to the Foodbank. • Country Tots, Yarlside Academy and Newbarns School (Joshua), donated large quantities of food. • St Mary's Hospice nominated the Foodbank as part of their Christmas Tree Recycling campaign.
December 2020	• 'Bags of Love 2' online event went ahead raising £1,300 for the Foodbank. • Barrow AFC collected and created Christmas Hampers for the Foodbank. • Employees from BAE DN Alliance came to help making Christmas Hampers. • We received large food donations from Ulverston Victoria High School, Furness Building Society, GlaxoSmithKline, St Columbus School, Morrisons, Bags of Love, The Best of Barrow and Delkia. • Orsted donated £10,000 to the Foodbank. • £3,700 was donated by the Furness and South Lakeland Freemasons. • Charlotte Park raised over £500 selling Christmas Wreaths. • BAE Systems donated £30,000 to the Foodbank.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

January 2021	• Touchline Disco raised over £100 for the Foodbank. • Barrow AFC continued to support the Foodbank with logistics. • St. Mary's Church in Dalton made a donation from their Christmas Tree Appeal. • MitieClean did a free fogging service within the Foodbank. • Industry 13 raised over £500 by running a Million Metres. • Furness Roller Derby donated food to the Foodbank
February 2021	• Rachel Jesson donated money raised from her hand-made Valentine Cards. • Caddick Construction donated some masks and visors to the Foodbank. • St Bernard's School raised £471 for the Foodbank. • Jack Peet ran a half-marathon to raise fund for the Foodbank. • They Royal Navy came to assist within the Foodbank warehouse.
March 2021	• Bags of Love began organising another event to raise money for the Foodbank.

Claire Coulthurst
Barrow Foodbank Manager

Barrow Foodbank in Ulverston

As we faced COVID19 several of our volunteers had to stay away from the Foodbank due to age or shielding. In order to keep the remaining volunteers safe, we implemented social distancing measures and worked in two teams so that if one team had to self-isolate, we could still operate.

The expected numbers of people requiring food did not materialise and in fact we have had less clients than last year. We reduced opening hours to two days instead of three.

From April 2020 to March 2021, we issued 148 vouchers (down from 233 in the previous year), feeding 216 adults (314) and 148 children (229). Food issued was 2,689.8 kgs and food donated in Ulverston was £10,392.97 kgs. Food donated was up on the previous year as people were so generous during lockdown and 'Two Tin Tuesday.'

Christmas passed in a hive of activity, unlike the rest of the year, but we were still less busy than in previous years. We issued 22 Christmas Hampers whereas last year we gave 40. Schools were the main referrers, giving 2 vouchers to some families.

The main reason people are not using the Foodbank seems to be the opening of the Ulverston Waste project in the town. Many of our clients are using this facility without the need for a voucher. Some families say they use both. Government School Vouchers have also meant schools did not issue many vouchers during school holidays.

As we emerged from the worst of the COVID situation we were pleased to have some of our volunteers who were shielding back with us. Three volunteers felt it was time to retire from the

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

Foodbank and my grateful thanks go to them for all their hard work with us. There are seven regular volunteers which is adequate for the two days when we are open.

We are indebted to Bethany Church for the free use of their building and their volunteers who open up each day for us. They are always willing to accommodate any requests we have, and we are extremely grateful to them.

Gillian Ransome
Ulverston Coordinator

Barrow Foodbank in Millom

Donations
We are still receiving regular donations (financial & food) from many organisations in Millom, for which we are very grateful.

Volunteer numbers
We have been running with two or three regular volunteers in the Foodbank, packing and organising and four volunteer drivers delivering. The delivery model is working very well for volunteers.

Delivery model
We sent out a questionnaire to all referral agencies asking for client feedback about the delivery model. We only had one reply and that was positive. Most clients now access vouchers via the phone, although a few still come to the Foodbank.

Referral Agencies
We have been working hard alongside local referral agencies to keep them involved with any local concerns/issues. Just recently the local Family Hub (used to be called The Children's Centre) reopened with completely new staff; they are still very keen to keep involved with the Foodbank. We have also been approached by staff from the Home Group who expressed an interest in becoming voucher holders for their own clients. They used to be a local referral agency until the local office was closed. The Family Hub and the local Baptist Church both currently keep emergency food boxes.

E-Vouchers
These are now being used routinely by Choices, Citizen's Advice, a nearby special school and a few other miscellaneous agencies from outside the local area, such as the Probation Service and some Community Health Workers.

Local issues
Numbers using the foodbank have decreased markedly since lockdown. We believe this is because we have a very committed Town Council who have been working alongside a local community group collecting and giving out Food/meals to people in need during the Pandemic.

School Holiday Meals Scheme
We appointed one of our volunteers, Helen Jenkin, to act as School Co-ordinator. We sent out a further mailing informing all schools about the Foodbank's new procedures during the pandemic,

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

with again very little, in fact, no interest shown, by any schools, apart from a special school outside of our own area, which Millom children do attend. We continue to support three local schools with cereals, bread and baked beans for their breakfast clubs.

COVID19

We continue to adhere to guidelines and are following the Government's 'Roadmap' to the lifting of restrictions.

Statistics so far:-

	2020	2019	2018	2017
Session	100	104	99	104
Vouchers	140	270	300	187
Adults	233	453	486	315
Children	152	217	368	215

Jean Liney and Clare Brind
Millom Coordinators
31st March 2021

Volunteers

Barrow Foodbank Ltd is mainly staffed by volunteers, drawn from all sectors of the community and are a highly valued resource. A supported volunteer programme has been developed to ensure that no members of the community are excluded.

Across our 3 sites we have 103 volunteers and 3 Foodbank Champions, who work in a variety of roles. We also have a number of church representatives who faithfully collect food in their churches and bring it to the foodbank. We have a number of volunteers who give extra time when collecting food at the supermarkets, as well as those who volunteer specifically for the collections. We have a number of core roles which take a larger amount of time. As things change, volunteers leave for a number of reasons, however we continue to recruit new volunteers who have brought freshness to the foodbank. In total all our volunteers have donated 7,500 hours of their time to the foodbank during the reporting period.

Our sincere thanks go to all the volunteers for their dedication and hard work. Without their help the foodbank would cease to exist.

Volunteer activities include:-

- Distribution coordinators,
- Working in the warehouse - weighing food in, dating and ensuring stock rotation and packing food boxes ready for distribution;
- Working in the distribution centre - welcoming clients and providing them with refreshments, distributing food and being available to talk to clients and sign-posting them to other forms of support as appropriate;
- Supporting collections at supermarkets;

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

- Carrying out maintenance of the building;
- Drivers collecting food from collection points and delivering food parcels to those in need
- General fundraising and promotion;

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Fund Raising Standards Information

We work with the fundraising regulator who set and maintain the standards for charitable fundraising. The fundraising regulator aims to ensure that fundraising is respectful, open, honest and accountable to the public.

The role of the regulator is to:

- Set and promote the standards for fundraising practice in consultation with the public, fundraising stakeholders and legislators.
- Investigate cases where fundraising practices have led to significant public concern.
- Adjudicate complaints from the public about fundraising practice, where these cannot be resolved by the charities themselves.
- Operate a fundraising preference service to enable individuals to manage their contact with charities.
- Where poor fundraising practice is judged to have taken place, recommend best practice guidance and take proportionate remedial action.

In order to ensure we are fundraising appropriately we do all we can to ensure that fundraisers, volunteers and fundraising contractors working with us to raise funds:

- comply with the Codes and with this Promise.
- comply with the law including those that apply to data protection, health and safety and the environment.
- are clear about who we are, what we do and how your gift is used.
- give a clear explanation of how you can make a gift and amend a regular commitment.
- respect the rights, dignities and privacy of our supporters and beneficiaries.
- will not put undue pressure on you to make a gift and if you do not want to give or wish to cease giving, we will respect your decision.
- If you tell us that you don't want us to contact you in a particular way, we will not do so.
- do not use any images or words that cause unjustifiable distress or offence.- take care not to cause unreasonable nuisance or disruption.

If you are unhappy with anything we have done while fundraising, you can contact us to make a complaint. We have a complaint procedure, a copy of which is available on request. If we cannot resolve your complaint, we accept the authority of the Fundraising Standards Board to make a final adjudication.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial Position

The trustees are satisfied that the Charity has adequate reserves to continue its work for the next twelve months.

Reserves Policy

The Charity follows the guidance issued by the Charity Commission and seeks to maintain adequate reserves to meet the charity's commitments. Due to the nature and operations of Barrow Foodbank, the trustees aspire to hold a significant reserve of £180.4k comprising of the following:

a) Six months operating costs - £41.9k
b) Contingency funds - in a situation where food is lost due to e.g floods - £45.5k
c) Relocation costs – a minimum of £50k
d) Employees are normally externally funded however trustees consider it prudent to hold reserves equally to two staff salaries. However, it is anticipated a further part-time position will have to be created to deal with the expected increase in numbers of clients attending the foodbank - £8k
e) An additional vehicle - £20k
f) The Board considered it prudent to set aside £15k for future projects

Investment Policy

The recommended level of resources which the charity carries in its current account is maintained at not more than is required for a normal month's activity. A proportion of the remaining monies are held in an interest-bearing account giving as high a rate of return as possible whist retaining flexibility to be able to draw down monies as and when required. The funds designated for future investment are placed in a range of investments, to achieve maximum interest (within an acceptable balance of risk), so the organisation's strategic development plans are achieved.

Donation Policy

The policy of the charity is not to give grants/donations to other charities or organisations.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Barrow Foodbank Ltd is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity governed by its Articles of Association.

Recruitment and Appointment of trustees/directors

The Barrow Foodbank has just two members namely, The Barrow Deanery Synod of the Church of England and Churches Together in Barrow who nominated three and four directors respectively. Trustees/Directors are elected at the Annual General Meeting.

In addition, the Board can nominate or co-opt Trustees/Directors at an ordinary meeting of the Board. Such Trustees must stand down at the following Annual General Meeting and cannot be counted towards the rotation of Trustees.

One-third of the trustees/directors, or, if the numbers is not three or a multiple of three, the number nearest to one-third, must retire from office. The trustees/directors to retire by rotation shall be those who have been longest in office since their last appointment. If any trustee/directors became or were appointed trustees/director on the same day those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by lot.

Organisational structure

The Barrow Foodbank Ltd is governed by the Board of Trustees. The Board is responsible for setting the strategic direction of the organisation and has ultimate responsibility for the conduct of Barrow Foodbank Ltd and for ensuring that the charity satisfies its legal and contractual obligations. Board meetings are held bi-monthly with additional meetings as necessary.

Operational management of Barrow Foodbank Ltd is delegated to the Foodbank Manager, who works closely with the Assistant Foodbank Manager to ensure delivery of all services.

Barrow Foodbank Ltd is an independent foodbank working to the Trussell Trust operating model.

Services are delivered by a committed team of paid workers and volunteers. It is calculated that the contribution made by the volunteers equates to £66,825 per annum (based on pay costs only).

Risk Policy

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place so timely action is taken to mitigate exposure to those risks.

The major risks to the organisation are two-fold and are reflected in the Reserve Policy.

- A major event for example flooding
- A need to relocate

a) The Barrow Foodbank is currently located in the basement of the Abbey Road Baptist Church which has multiple users. If flooding was to occur, it would not be a simple case of replacing all stock. The Barrow Foodbank holds on average between 15 and 20 tonnes of food worth approx. £35K. A specialist firm would need to be brought in to clear the site, then a full in depth clean would be required, repair/replacement of equipment and storage facilities and

of course a full restock. Plus of course a temporary venue would be needed. The Board has conservatively estimated the cost at a minimum £50K.

b) The Barrow Foodbank currently enjoys accommodation which is of sufficient size and serviced to just meet the Barrow Foodbank's needs, at less than commercial rates. If relocation became necessary (either planned or due to emergency), the Foodbank would have great difficulty locating suitable premises locally which would be at commercial rates. In addition, significant costs would be incurred for example relocation costs such as removals, supply and connection of services, IT and Telecommunications costs etc.

Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects and to ensure consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charitable company. These procedures are periodically reviewed by the trustees and staff to ensure they still meet the needs of the charity.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT
Reference and Administrative Details

Registered charity name	Barrow Foodbank
Charity registration number	1152753
Company Registration number	8382130
Principal office and registered office	Abbey Road Baptist Church Corner Abbey Road and Park Drive Barrow-in-Furness LA13 9BD
Trustees	Jim Webster(Chair) Mike Bailey Jack-Knill Jones Jennet McLeod (Retired 7th October 2020) Peter Gardner Paul Burden Karen Edmondson (Appointed 14th July 2021)
Treasurer/Company Secretary	Welma Robinson

Key Management personnel

Claire Coulthurst	Project Manager
Matthew Burden	Assistant Project Manager/Warehouse Manager
Welma Robinson	Treasurer
Carol Warwick	Volunteer Coordinator
Gillian Ransom	Ulverston Coordinator
Jean Liney	Millom Coordinator
Clare Brind	Millom Coordinator
Jayne Moorby	Newsletter Editor and Facebook Coordinator
Paul Burden	Fundraising Coordinator

Auditors	Knox Accounting Limited The Old Fire Station 1 Abbey Road Barrow in Furness LA14 1WY
Bankers	NatWest Bank Dalton Road Barrow in Furness LA14 1WY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

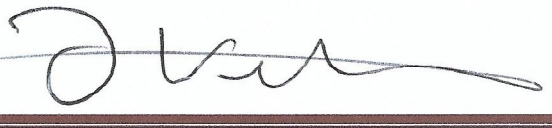
The auditors are deemed to have been re-appointed in accordance with section 487 of the Companies Act 2006.

Small Company Provisions

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

The trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) was approved on 8th September 2021 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

Mr Jim Webster - Chairman



Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of Barrow Food Bank Limited Year Ended 31st March 2021

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 under section 144 of the Charities Act 2021 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiners report

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the 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
   (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
   (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) and the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2019).

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

Knox Accountants Limited
Unit 1 The Old Fire Station
1 Abbey Road
Barrow in Furness
Cumbria
LA14 1 XH

30th June 2021

Barrow Food Bank Limited

Statement of Financial Activities
For the Year ended
31 March 2021

	Notes	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total 2021 £	2020 £
Income					
Donations		19,631	221,125	240,756	56,231
Grants received	2	10,000	-	10,000	28,832
Interest		-	53	53	210
Total Income		29,631	221,178	250,808	85,273
Expenditure					
Direct Charitable Expenditure:					
Purchases		8102	-	8,102	4,108
Catering		-	-	-	82
Packaging		-	67	67	-
Furniture and appliances		-	6,599	6,599	1,858
Salaries		17,165	13,647	30,812	28,583
Pension costs		361	120	481	188
Consultancy fees		-		-	10,374
Vehicle running expenses		-	1,219	1,219	1,614
Travelling costs		-	231	231	911
Printing stationery and publicity		-	1,827	1,827	1,900
Postage		-	200	200	229
Telecommunication costs		503	1,769	2,273	2,869
Premises costs		600	5,321	5,921	4,986
Uniforms		-	98	98	453
Functions and conferences		-	720	720	275
Training Costs		-	50	50	1,421
Subscriptions		-	214	214	510
Accountancy fees		-	298	298	701
Donations			-	-	-
Sundy expenses		-	90	90	411
Total Direct Expenditure		26,730	32,471	59,202	61,473
Insurances		-	1,299	1,299	1,201
Depreciation of fixed assets		-	315	315	393
Total Expenditure		26,730	34,085	60,816	63,067
Net Surplus for the year		2,900	187,092	189,993	22,206
Funds at the start of the Year		39,318	100,353	139,671	117,465
Funds at the end of the Year		**42,219**	**287,445**	**329,664**	**139,671**

Barrow Food Bank Limited

Balance Sheet
As At
31 March 2021

	Notes	2021		2020	
Fixed Assets					
Depreciating Assets	3		1,258		1,573
Current Assets					
Current Asset Investment		15,000			
Bank accounts - Restricted		37,974		39,947	
- Unrestricted		276,710		99,360	
Cash account		132		107	
		329,816		139,414	
Current liabilities		1,410		1,315	
Grants in advance		-		-	
Net Current Assets			328,406		138,098
			£ 329,664		**£ 139,671**
Represented By:					
Capital Account					
Accumulated Reserves	Unrestricted		287,445		100,353
	Restricted		42,219		39,318
			£ 329,664		**£ 139,671**

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on the 8th September 2021 and are signed on their behalf by:

The Chairman F J Webster

The Treasurer W Robinson

Dated 8.9.2021

Barrow Food Bank Limited

Notes to the Accounts
For the year ended
31 March 2021

Note 1 Accounting Policies

The accounts on pages 2 and 3 have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The motor van is depreciated at the rate of 20% per annum on the reducing balance.

Note 2 Grants and Subsidies

	2021		2020	
	£ Restricted	£ Unrestricted	£ Restricted	£ Unrestricted
Barrow Borough Council	-		-	
Cumbria County Council	10,000		1,000	-
RC Diocese of Lancaster	-		-	
Francis C Scott	-		15,000	
Trussel Trust	-		-	
Sir James Fisher Foundation	-		12480	
	10,000	-	28,480	-

Note 3 Tangible fixed assets

	Motor van £	Total £
Cost:		
At 1 April 2020	6,000	6,000
Additions	-	-
At 31 March 2021	6,000	6,000
Depreciation:		
At 1 April 2020	4,427	4,427
Charge for the year	315	315
At 31 March 2021	4,742	4,742
Net book value:		
At 31 March 2021	1,258	1,258
At 31 March 2020	1,573	1,573

Note 4 - Donated food stock

At the end of the accounting period the Foodbank was the custodian of donated food stock with an estimated value of £54,489.

Note 5 - Donated time

During the year volunteers supported the Foodbank with 7,500 hours of their time across the three sites. At a rate of £8.72 per hour (National Living Wage), this would equate to an in kind contribution to the Foodbank of £65,400.

Note 6 - Reserves policy

The Charity follows the guidance issued by the Charity Commission and seeks to maintain adequate reserves to meet the charity's commitments. Due to the nature and operations of Barrow Foodbank, the trustees aspire to hold a significant reserve of £180.4K comprising of the following:

- Six months operating costs - £41.9k
- Contingency funds - in a situation where food is lost due to e.g.floods - £45.5k
- Relocation costs - a minimum of £50k
- Employees are normally externally funded however trustees consider it prudent to hold reserves equally to two staff salaries. However, it is anticipated a further part-time position will have to be created to deal with the expected increase in numbers of clients attending the foodbank - £8k
- An additional vehicle - £20k
- The Board considered it prudent to set aside £15k for future projects

Barrow Food Bank Limited

Financial Statements

For The Year ended

31 March 2021

Trustees' Certificate

We certify that the books, vouchers and information produced to our independent examiner, from which the attached financial statements have been prepared, contain a full and correct record of our business transactions to the best of our knowledge.
Signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

F J Webster The Chairman

W Robinson The Treasurer

Dated 8.9.2021