

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

England & Wales · Charity number 1157691

Details

Other names	THE NEED PROJECT
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2014-07-02
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address 5 Hitchin Road
Stotfold
Hitchin
Hertfordshire
SG5 4HP

Phone 07496833940

Email admin@theneedproject.org

Website www.theneedproject.org

Activities

Objects: TO RELIEVE PERSONS IN CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE AND THE SURROUNDING AREA THAT ARE IN POVERTY OR FINANCIAL HARDSHIP IN SUCH WAYS AS THE TRUSTEES FROM TIME TO TIME THINK FIT, IN PARTICULAR, BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY:1. PROVIDING FOOD PACKAGES TO SUPPORT INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES WHO ARE EXPERIENCING FOOD DEPRIVATION.2. PROVIDING OTHER ITEMS TO MEET IMMEDIATE AND ESSENTIAL NEEDS, AS RESOURCES ALLOW.3. DEVELOPING OTHER FORMS OF SUPPORT TO MEET IMMEDIATE NEED AND ALLEVIATE FINANCIAL HARDSHIP.

Activities: The Need Project exists to provide compassionate and practical Christian responses to all our neighbours who are experiencing the effects of poverty and hardship. Our responses include the provision of food parcels for as long as required and resources allow, and where possible access to a safe place where our neighbours can come and be supported in finding the help they need in their journey.

Classification

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

Geography

- Bedford
- Central Bedfordshire
- Hertfordshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£231,206	£209,490	-	-
2024-03-31	£368,334	£273,265	-	-
2023-03-31	£212,113	£197,957	-	-
2022-03-31	£167,399	£160,577	-	-
2021-03-31	£233,818	£102,304	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Ian David Adams	Chair	2022-03-17
ANDREW PETER NOCK		2025-11-06
DAWN MICHELLE ADDAMS		2022-08-18
Eleanor Hamilton		2026-03-05
GORDON HAMILTON		2022-08-18
PENELOPE MARYALYN HOLLANDER		2025-11-06
Stephen James Backhouse		2021-05-19

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1157691

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1157691

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 DECEMBER 2024
FOR
THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

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FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 DECEMBER 2024

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THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 DECEMBER 2024

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the period 1 April 2024 to 31 December 2024. 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).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

OUR OBJECTIVES VALUES AND AIMS OF THE CHARITY.

Our Objectives are:

To relieve persons in central Bedfordshire and the surrounding area that are in poverty or financial hardship in such ways as the Trustees from time to time think fit, in particular, but not exclusively by:

1. Providing food packages to support individuals and families who are experiencing food deprivation.
2. Providing other items to meet immediate and essential needs, as resources allow.
3. Developing other forms of support to meet immediate need and alleviate financial hardship.

To achieve these objects The Need Project has the following:

Our Values are:

We are a Christian organisation motivated by Jesus' teaching on poverty and injustice. We operate according to Christian principles of compassion, honesty, integrity, openness, kindness and care of all people, regardless of backgrounds or beliefs (or none). We are passionate about inclusion and being non-judgemental is central to what we do. We believe that everyone has the right to have food on their plate, dignity, skills, a chance to work and hope for the future.

Our Aims are:

The Trustees employ a number of strategies to assist The Need Project to alleviate poverty or financial hardship and meet its Objectives by:

- Providing free food parcels.
- By providing food and other essentials to families and individuals referred to the charity by recognised social work agencies, local authorities, community bodies, churches, charities or other organisations whose purpose includes the prevention or relief of poverty ('referral agencies').
- Developing effective relationships with local councils (County, unitary, parish and town), referral agencies, faith groups and community groups.
- Ensuring wide community participation in the charity's projects through giving and raising awareness.
- Developing a culture of lifelong learning throughout the organisation to allow the trustees, core staff and volunteers to do their allotted jobs effectively.
- Building strong links with the local media and regularly updating the charity's website to stimulate public awareness of the charity's work and the issues facing people in poverty and distress.
- Setting up social enterprises which add value to the charity's existing projects by generating surpluses.
- Identifying, evaluating and incorporating best practice in project templates to ensure that projects become self-sustaining and are easy to replicate.
- Working closely with churches to help the Christian faith community to take a more active, practical and effective role in social action.
- Providing educational support to enable those referred to become more self-sufficient where it is appropriate, and resources allow

"OUR" KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

We have summarised below the outputs, outcomes, impacts and benefits of the work of the Need Project, but as Christian Charity it is our conviction that the Lord has done His work of meeting peoples' needs through our labours.




















THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 DECEMBER 2024

WHAT WE HAVE DONE

We have established partnerships with the following organisations:

Community Supporters

 Alameda Middle School	 Cranfield University	 Etonbury Academy	 Fairfield Park Lower School	 Falbrook Middle School
 Gothic Mede Academy	 Gravenhurst Academy	 Henlow	 LABURNUM PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY	 Langford Village Academy
 Lawnside Academy	 Little Squirrels Nursery	 Mareton Moreynhoe VC School	 PIX BROOK ACADEMY	 Redborne
 Robert Bloomfield Academy	 ROBERT PEEL Primary School	 ROECROFT Lower School	 SAMUEL WHITBREAD ACADEMY	 Sandy Secondary School
 SHEFFIELD LOWER SCHOOL	 Standon Lower School	 St Mary's Convent Lower School	 ST SWITHINS CONVENT PRIMARY SCHOOL	

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 DECEMBER 2024

Business - Best Before



Bridge Farm Shop



Co-Op



Discalicious



M&S



Sainsbury's



Tesco



The Fruit Basket



Waitrose

Councils



Central Bedfordshire Council



Flitwick Town Council



Shefford Town Council



Stotfold Council

Business - Other



Boxall Taxis



Cultivo Lounge
Lechworth



Meadowcroft
Foodservice



The-Therapy Lounge



Rebecca L Farey
Solicitors



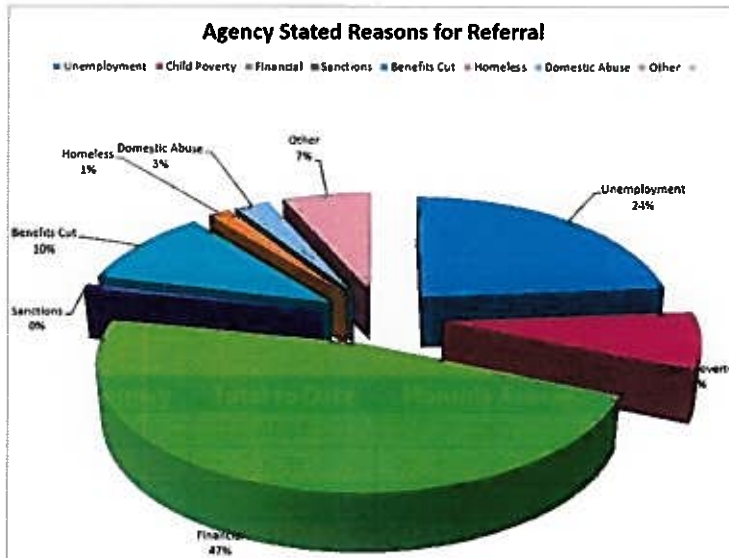
Harrisons Accountancy



Strictly Beds & Bunks

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 DECEMBER 2024

These are the stats for the year:
April 2024 - December 2024



Total value to date at £65 per parcel (Apr - Dec) £ 452,150.00

Hub Summary	Total to Date	Monthly Average
Stotfold	4384	365
Flitwick	670	56
Biggleswade	462	39
Cranfield	420	35
Gamlingay	857	71

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

Record number of food parcels delivered – an increase of 54% on the previous year.

Our updated website, which now includes an online referral system which reduces the hands-on administration of this key process and has significantly improved our operating efficiency.

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 DECEMBER 2024

WHAT DIFFERENCE WE HAVE MADE

A sample of expressions of gratitude from those we are called to serve

*Thank you so much for the delivery made this morning. With my husband's terminal cancer and late-stage dementia it's been very stressful to pop out even for basic supplies as he cannot be left alone for long. It's very difficult to encourage him to eat anything. Apart from the odd one slice sandwich, biscuits, cakes and occasional clear soup or fruits. Hopefully I can tempt him with the contents sent. I can't express my appreciation of your kindness.
Respectfully yours*

The client advised the food parcel was delivered yesterday and the people who came to her property were lovely. She said she is very grateful for all the support. She said the lady had previously been to the property and she is particularly thankful to her.

PROJECT LEADER'S REPORT

As in last year's report, we are still very busy with numbers. It's not slowing down. but we continue to meet the challenge and through God's grace and mercy, we continue to successfully feed our hungry neighbours. Our volunteers continue to amaze us, with their commitment and passion for our ministry and so does the incredible ongoing support from the public, who buy into what we do, sometimes quite literally.

We are averaging 754 parcels a month and 400 top up bags of food that would otherwise be in landfill, which totals approximately £50,000 per month. This always amazes us, as we continue to be in a position to carry out our ministry.

As this goes to print, I can confirm, we are the owners of the chapel we were in the process of purchasing and are in the process of developing the premises, (Praise God for his incredible provision), to suit our present and future needs and that of our community.

We continue to operate out of our usual hubs throughout Central Beds and beyond, with some additional volunteers joining our team. Christmas was very busy, as always, with us having to reshape our system, due to problems with premises, but it was a great success and we learnt from it for next year.

In closing, I am so grateful to those employed by the Project, those amazing volunteers and the wonderful public, without whom we couldn't function.

Praise God always

Gordon 🙏🙏

<https://theneedproject.org>

TREASURER'S REPORT

The results for the period show an income of £231,206 (2024 £368,334) and expenditure of £209,490 (2024: £273,265) resulting in a surplus of £21,716 (2024: £95,069).

As part of the income relates to donations for the development of the charity, these are shown in a separate designated fund. Fund balances can be found in note 12.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

Our main goals for the project are to ensure our long-term sustainability, and increase our operational efficiency, which includes:

- Align the reporting period with the calendar, January to December, hence this interim report covering April 2024 to December 2024
- Purchase and develop Stotfold Methodist Chapel as the new operational centre and a new Community Centre
- Secure funding to realise the above goal and sustain the purchase of food in bulk to meet the demands food poverty in our region
- Appoint a new chair of trustees
- Appoint a new Project Leader by October 2025

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 DECEMBER 2024

TRUSTEES

Potential trustee candidates are normally referred by trusted local church leadership. We would normally expect the candidate to have good standing within their church, have Christian values and have referees that can attest to their suitability. Discussions would be had with the candidate to inform them more about the work of the charity and role as a trustee. If they wish to proceed then this is discussed at the following trustees meeting and, if there is unanimous agreement, the person is elected as a trustee.

RESERVES POLICY

As trustees we have set a prudent financial reserves policy to ensure that the ongoing financial commitments of the charity can be met. The reserves amount is set at 6 months of normal operating expenditure, excluding food. This is calculated twice per year and the figure used in the accounts for the following 6 months.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number
1157691

Principal address

Trustees

R H Cain
Mrs D M Addams
G Hamilton
I D Adams
Mrs S Cain
S J Backhouse
D Deards

Independent Examiner

Neil C Harding FCA
Bradshaw Johnson
Chartered Accountants
Croft Chambers
11 Bancroft
Hitchin
Hertfordshire
SG5 1JQ

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 29 April 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Bob Cain, Chair of
Trustees

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Need Project Central Bedfordshire

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Need Project Central Bedfordshire (the Trust) for the period 1 April 2024 to 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

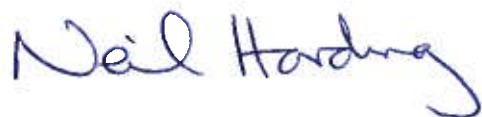
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



Neil C Harding FCA

Bradshaw Johnson
Chartered Accountants
Croft Chambers
11 Bancroft
Hitchin
Hertfordshire
SG5 1JQ

Date: 11 June 2025

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Period 1.4.24 to 31.12.24 Unrestricted funds £	Year Ended 31.3.24 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	2	212,925	348,976
Other trading activities	3	16,621	17,170
Investment income	4	1,660	2,170
Other income		-	18
Total		<u>231,206</u>	<u>368,334</u>
 EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds		3,234	5,511
Charitable activities			
Running food bank		<u>206,256</u>	<u>267,754</u>
Total		<u>209,490</u>	<u>273,265</u>
 NET INCOME		 21,716	 95,069
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		<u>309,940</u>	<u>214,871</u>
 TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		 <u>331,656</u>	 <u>309,940</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

BALANCE SHEET
31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	31.12.24 Unrestricted funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	8	5,640	9,024
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks	9	7,868	12,830
Debtors	10	17,439	32,903
Cash at bank		<u>323,749</u>	<u>256,383</u>
		349,056	302,116
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(23,040)	(1,200)
		<u>326,016</u>	<u>300,916</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
		<u>326,016</u>	<u>300,916</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			
		<u>331,656</u>	<u>309,940</u>
NET ASSETS			
		<u>331,656</u>	<u>309,940</u>
FUNDS	12		
Unrestricted funds		<u>331,656</u>	<u>309,940</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>331,656</u>	<u>309,940</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 29 April 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:


S J Backhouse - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The Need Project Central Bedfordshire meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

Income

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

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Motor vehicles - 20% on cost

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Irrecoverable vat

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

Cash & cash equivalents

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

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 DECEMBER 2024

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Period 1.4.24 to 31.12.24 £	Year Ended 31.3.24 £
Donations	41,478	97,052
Gift aid	7,130	8,073
Grants	<u>164,317</u>	<u>243,851</u>
	<u>212,925</u>	<u>348,976</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	Period 1.4.24 to 31.12.24 £	Year Ended 31.3.24 £
Government / Local Authority	62,510	129,310
Business	7,560	21,394
Charities / Trusts	85,094	76,264
Church	7,639	11,599
Schools	<u>1,514</u>	<u>5,284</u>
	<u>164,317</u>	<u>243,851</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Period 1.4.24 to 31.12.24 £	Year Ended 31.3.24 £
Fundraising	<u>16,621</u>	<u>17,170</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Period 1.4.24 to 31.12.24 £	Year Ended 31.3.24 £
Deposit account interest	<u>1,660</u>	<u>2,170</u>

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 DECEMBER 2024

5. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

Included in staff costs is remuneration paid to two trustees. Both trustees were employed by the charity before their appointment. Their remuneration relates solely to their employment activities – they receive no remuneration for being a trustee. The other trustees (who receive no remuneration for this role) agreed to this arrangement as it was beneficial for the charity and agree any changes to the remuneration. This has been the position for the period ended 31 December 2024 and for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Trustees' expenses

Mileage costs were paid in the year to R H Cain, one of the Trustees, of £1,114 (2023: £860) to cover the cost of delivering food parcels.

6. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the period was as follows:

	Period 1.4.24 to 31.12.24	Year Ended 31.3.24
Food bank staff	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

7. 2024 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	
Donations and legacies	348,976
Other trading activities	17,170
Investment income	2,170
Other income	<u>18</u>
Total	<u>368,334</u>
EXPENDITURE ON	
Raising funds	5,511
Charitable activities	
Running food bank	<u>267,754</u>
Total	<u>273,265</u>
NET INCOME	95,069
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS	
Total funds brought forward	214,871
	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>309,940</u>

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 DECEMBER 2024

5. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the period ended 31 December 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Trustees' expenses

Mileage costs were paid in the year to R II Cain, one of the Trustees, of £1487 (2023: £860) to cover the cost of delivering food parcels.

6. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the period was as follows:

	Period 1.4.24 to 31.12.24	Year Ended 31.3.24
Food bank staff	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

7. 2024 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	
Donations and legacies	348,976
Other trading activities	17,170
Investment income	2,170
Other income	<u>18</u>
Total	<u>368,334</u>
EXPENDITURE ON	
Raising funds	5,511
Charitable activities	
Running food bank	<u>267,754</u>
Total	<u>273,265</u>
NET INCOME	95,069
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS	
Total funds brought forward	<u>214,871</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>309,940</u>

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 DECEMBER 2024

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Motor vehicles
	£
COST	
At 1 April 2024 and 31 December 2024	<u>22,560</u>
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 April 2024	13,536
Charge for year	<u>3,384</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>16,920</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2024	<u>5,640</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>9,024</u>

9. STOCKS

	31.12.24	31.3.24
	£	£
Stocks	<u>7,868</u>	<u>12,830</u>

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.24	31.3.24
	£	£
Other debtors	1,660	-
Grants	-	25,000
Gift aid	15,033	7,903
Prepayments	<u>746</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>17,439</u>	<u>32,903</u>

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.24	31.3.24
	£	£
Other creditors	<u>23,040</u>	<u>1,200</u>

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.24	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.12.24
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	123,952	(13,284)	(6,282)	104,386
Designated - Development fund	120,000	35,000	-	155,000
Designated - Operations reserve	<u>65,988</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,282</u>	<u>72,270</u>
	<u>309,940</u>	<u>21,716</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>331,656</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>309,940</u>	<u>21,716</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>331,656</u>

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 DECEMBER 2024

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	196,206	(209,490)	(13,284)
Designated - Development fund	<u>35,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,000</u>
	<u>231,206</u>	<u>(209,490)</u>	<u>21,716</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>231,206</u>	<u>(209,490)</u>	<u>21,716</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	214,871	95,069	(185,988)	123,952
Designated - Development fund	-	-	120,000	120,000
Designated - Operations reserve	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65,988</u>	<u>65,988</u>
	<u>214,871</u>	<u>95,069</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>309,940</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>214,871</u>	<u>95,069</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>309,940</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	368,334	(273,265)	95,069
	<u>368,334</u>	<u>(273,265)</u>	<u>95,069</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>368,334</u>	<u>(273,265)</u>	<u>95,069</u>

Designated funds

The designated development fund includes donations received towards the longer-term development of the charity, including the purchase of a permanent home for The Need Project.

The designated operations reserve provides for 6 months operational costs, excluding buying food, in line with the reserves policy.

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 DECEMBER 2024

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the period ended 31 December 2024.

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1157691

Accounts

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024
FOR
THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE



“Helping you feed our hungry neighbours”

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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Statement of Financial Activities	9
Balance Sheet	10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11 to 16

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. 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).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

OUR OBJECTIVES VALUES AND AIMS OF THE CHARITY.

Our Objectives are:

To relieve persons in central Bedfordshire and the surrounding area that are in poverty or financial hardship in such ways as the Trustees from time to time think fit, in particular, but not exclusively by:

1. Providing food packages to support individuals and families who are experiencing food deprivation.
2. Providing other items to meet immediate and essential needs, as resources allow.
3. Developing other forms of support to meet immediate need and alleviate financial hardship.

To achieve these objects The Need Project has the following:

Our Values are:

We are a Christian organisation motivated by Jesus' teaching on poverty and injustice. We operate according to Christian principles of compassion, honesty, integrity, openness, kindness and care of all people, regardless of backgrounds or beliefs (or none). We are passionate about inclusion and being non-judgemental is central to what we do. We believe that everyone has the right to have food on their plate, dignity, skills, a chance to work and hope for the future.

Our Aims are:

The Trustees employ a number of strategies to assist The Need Project to alleviate poverty or financial hardship and meet its objectives by:

- Providing free food parcels.
- By providing food and other essentials to families and individuals referred to the charity by recognised social work agencies, local authorities, community bodies, churches, charities or other organisations whose purpose includes the prevention or relief of poverty ('referral agencies').
- Developing effective relationships with local councils (County, unitary, parish and town), referral agencies, faith groups and community groups.
- Ensuring wide community participation in the charity's projects through giving and raising awareness.
- Developing a culture of lifelong learning throughout the organisation to allow the trustees, core staff and volunteers to do their allotted jobs effectively.
- Building strong links with the local media, and regularly updating the charity's website to stimulate public awareness of the charity's work and the issues facing people in poverty and distress.
- Setting up social enterprises which add value to the charity's existing projects by generating surpluses.
- Identifying, evaluating and incorporating best practice in project templates to ensure that projects become self-sustaining and are easy to replicate.
- Working closely with churches to help the Christian faith community to take a more active, practical and effective role in social action.
- Providing educational support to enable those referred to become more self-sufficient where it is appropriate, and resources allow.

"OUR" KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

We have summarised below the outputs, outcomes, impacts and benefits of the work of the Need Project, but as Christian Charity it is our conviction that the Lord has done His work of meeting peoples' needs through our labours.

























THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

WHAT WE HAVE DONE

We have established partnerships with the following organisations:

Community Supporters

 Alameda Middle School	 Cranfield University	 Etonbury Academy	 Fairfield Park Lower School	 Fulbrook Middle School
 Gothic Mede Academy	 Gravenhurst Academy	 Henlow Academy	 Laburnum Primary School	 Langford Village Academy
 Lawnside Academy	 Little Squirts Nursery	 Marston Moreteyne VC School	 Pix Brook Academy	 Redborne Upper School
 Robert Bloomfield Academy	 Robert Peel Primary School	 Roecroft Lower School	 Samuel Whitbread Academy	 Sandy Secondary School
 Shefford Lower School	 Stondon Lower School	 St Mary's CofE Lower School	 St Swithins CofE Primary School	

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Business - Best Before



Bridge Farm Shop



Co-Op



Discolicious



M&S



Sainsbury's



Tesco



The Fruit Basket



Waitrose

Councils



Central Bedfordshire Council



Flitwick Town Council



Shefford Town Council



Stotfold Council

Business - Other



Boxall Taxis



Cultivo Lounge Letchworth



Meadowcroft Foodservice



The Therapy Lounge



Rebecca L Faret Solicitors



Harrisons Accountancy



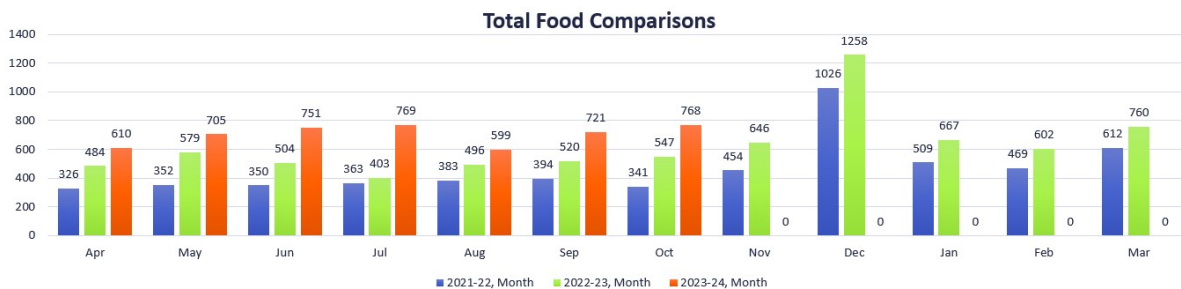
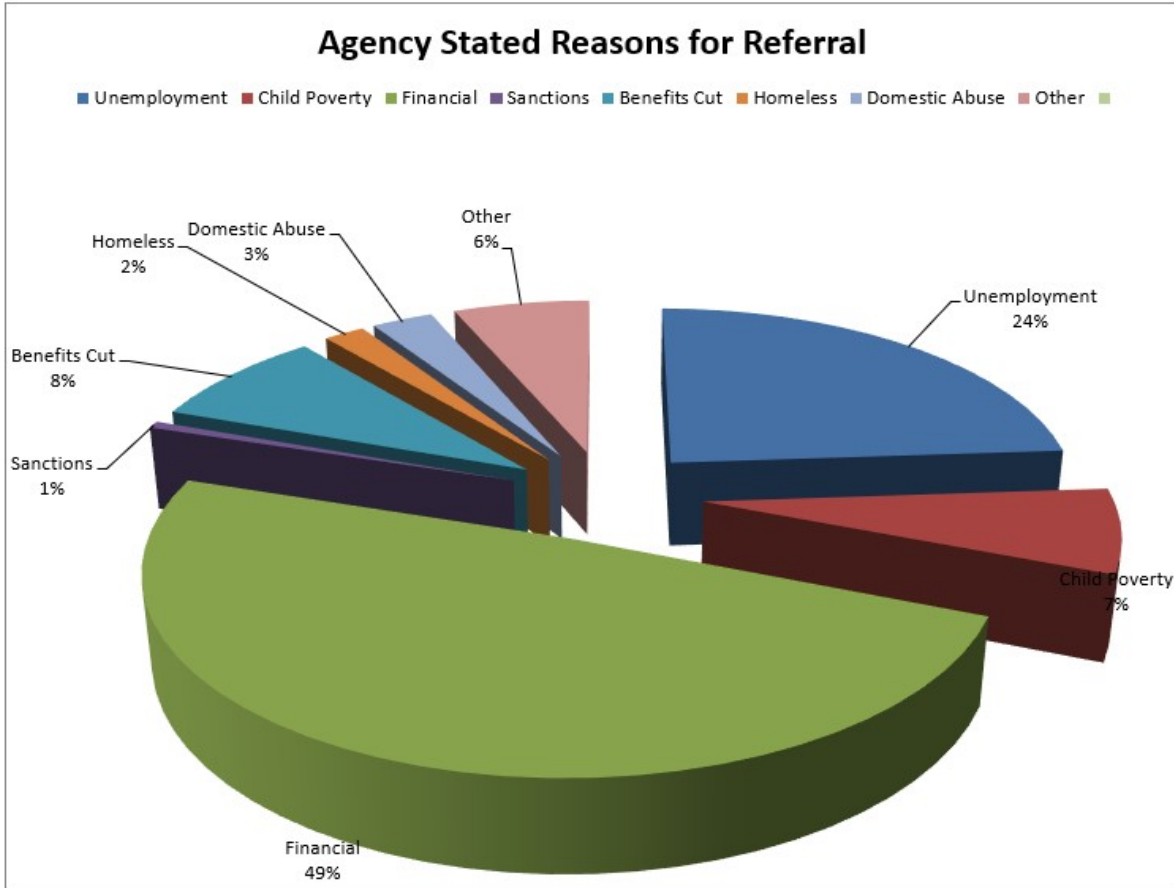
www.strictlybeds.co.uk

Strictly Beds & Bunks

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

These are the stats for the year *April 2023 – March 2024*:



Total value to date at £65 per parcel	£ 479,645.00	Christmas Parcels at £95 per parcel	£ 76,475.00
Total value for October at £65 per parcel	£ 49,920.00	Overall Total Year from April to Date	£ 556,120.00

Hub Summary	Total to Date	Monthly Average
Stotfold	4917	410
Flitwick	759	63
Biggleswade	404	34
Cranfield	454	38
Gamlingay	1029	86

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

Record number of food parcels delivered – an increase of 54% on the previous year. Our updated website, which now includes an online referral system which reduces the hands-on administration of this key process and has significantly improved our operating efficiency.

WHAT DIFFERENCE WE HAVE MADE

A sample of expressions of gratitude from those we are called to serve

Would like to send a massive thank you to Gordon and the team for once again supporting our young Carers group. Last month we were able to teach valuable life skills to a group of young people. We cooked spaghetti Bolognese from Scratch and Garlic bread, and all sat down together to eat. This was amazing and wouldn't have been possible without the NEEDS support.

I would like to say a huge thank you for the gifts you gave us at the women's refuge in Biggleswade. I personally am overwhelmed and so, so grateful to you all. It means so much. Well done for all that you do. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The Client advised the food parcel was delivered yesterday and the people who came to her property were lovely. She said she is very grateful for all the support. She said the lady had previously been to the property and she is particularly thankful to her.

Thank you for my presents and Christmas hampers I enjoyed the chocolates I eat them very quickly
My favourite was the curly wurly.
I got Lego and football gloves it took me 20 minutes to build the Lego I keep it up safe with my other lego
and its my pride
And I've saved a lot of goals with the gloves I wear them twice a day to play football with my friends
And my sisters got wash stuff which they were happy with it

PROJECT LEADER'S REPORT

It goes without saying we are so busy. In the last year our parcels have gone up from approximately 550 a month to 847 which represents a 54% increase. This is something we expected, because year after year it gets busier, but this increase has been larger than we expected. But we are managing to keep up with demand at the moment.

On top of that we give away 369 bags of "best-before" food in January. Which, unless we gave it away, would end up in landfill this is valued at approximately £3,690. These figures reflect how sad and worrying it is for those people with families, who are experiencing food poverty. We are committed to keep on trying to help sourcing food and getting it to those who need it as quickly as we can. We have a referral system in place, which means that every person who has our food, as far as we can be sure, is in real need.

We have an amazing group of over 60 volunteers, who put in at least 300 hours a week of labour. Without those people we would not be able to function correctly or do anything like we do now. For those people I'm so so grateful.

We have two vans on the road, 5 to 6 days a week, which pick up food or are delivering food parcels, throughout Central Bedfordshire and surrounding areas. We also have a massive following on Facebook, with many followers, who when we need them, respond incredibly well and are always interested in what we are doing.

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

The project functions, with hubs throughout Central Bedfordshire and beyond. We now have packing and delivery hubs in Cranfield, Flitwick, Stotfold, Gamlingay and Biggleswade. This ensures a swift response to need

Last year, in my report, I said we are looking for a permanent home for the project. We believe we have now found it and are in the process of purchasing it and hopefully we will get the key soon. We can develop it, so we don't have to rent premises anymore and have somewhere permanent to develop, to suit our growing ministry.

We have made some friends and been involved in some amazing situations and also some sad ones, but it is a joy to be involved, and we thank God for that.

Whatever happens next, our priority is, was and always will be feeding our neighbour along with anything else that we can do.

We continue to be amazed by God's amazing provision for this project and we realise the massive responsibility we have to serve correctly in a Christ Like manner.

In closing we have no idea where this project is going to lead us. All we know is that God's favour is upon our project and as long as he does that and we keep in step with Him, it's a great place for us to be.

Thank you.

Praise God Always.

Gordon

<https://theneedproject.org>

TREASURER'S REPORT

The results for the year show an income of £368,334 (2023:£212,113) and expenditure of £273,265 (2023: £197,957) resulting in a surplus of £95,069 (2023: £14,156).

As part of the income relates to donations for the development of the charity, these are shown separately in a designated fund.

The reserves as at 31 March 2024 were:

- General fund £123,952
- Development fund £120,000
- Operational reserve £65,988

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

Our main goals for the project are to ensure our long-term sustainability, and increase our operational efficiency, which includes:

- Purchase and develop Stotfold Methodist Chapel as the new operational centre and a new Community Centre
- Secure funding to realise the above goal and sustain the purchase of food in bulk to meet the demands food poverty in our region
- Appoint a new chair of trustees
- Appoint a new Project Leader by mid 2025

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

TRUSTEES

Potential trustee candidates are normally referred by trusted local church leadership. We would normally expect the candidate to have good standing within their church, have Christian values and have referees that can attest to their suitability. Discussions would be had with the candidate to inform them more about the work of the charity and role as a trustee. If they wish to proceed then this is discussed at the following trustees meeting and, if there is unanimous agreement, the person is elected as a trustee.

RESERVES POLICY

As trustees we have set a prudent financial reserves policy to ensure that the ongoing financial commitments of the charity can be met. The reserves amount is set at 6 months of normal operating expenditure, excluding food. This is calculated twice per year and the figure used in the accounts for the following 6 months.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1157691

Principal address

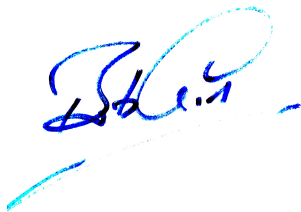
Trustees

R H Cain
Mrs D M Addams
G Hamilton
I D Adams
Mrs S Cain
S J Backhouse
D Deards

Independent Examiner

Neil C Harding FCA
Bradshaw Johnson
Chartered Accountants
Croft Chambers
11 Bancroft
Hitchin
Hertfordshire
SG5 1JQ

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 19 February 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Bob Cain, Chair of Trustees

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Need Project Central Bedfordshire

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Need Project Central Bedfordshire (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Neil C Harding FCA

Bradshaw Johnson
Chartered Accountants
Croft Chambers
11 Bancroft
Hitchin
Hertfordshire
SG5 1JQ

Date: 19 February 2025

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

		31.3.24	31.3.23
		Unrestricted	Total
		funds	funds
		£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	Notes		
Donations and legacies	2	348,976	190,044
Other trading activities	3	17,170	17,998
Investment income	4	2,170	502
Other income		18	3,569
Total		<u>368,334</u>	<u>212,113</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds		5,511	-
Charitable activities			
Running food bank		<u>267,754</u>	<u>197,957</u>
Total		<u>273,265</u>	<u>197,957</u>
NET INCOME		95,069	14,156
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		214,871	200,715
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>309,940</u>	<u>214,871</u>

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	31.3.24 Unrestricted funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	8	9,024	13,536
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks	9	12,830	17,161
Debtors	10	32,903	-
Cash at bank		<u>256,383</u>	<u>184,174</u>
		302,116	201,335
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(1,200)	-
		<u>300,916</u>	<u>201,335</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
		<u>300,916</u>	<u>201,335</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			
		<u>309,940</u>	<u>214,871</u>
NET ASSETS			
		<u>309,940</u>	<u>214,871</u>
FUNDS	12		
Unrestricted funds		<u>309,940</u>	<u>214,871</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>309,940</u>	<u>214,871</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 19 February 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

S J Backhouse - Trustee

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The Need Project Central Bedfordshire meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

Income

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

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Motor vehicles - 20% on cost

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Irrecoverable vat

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

Cash & cash equivalents

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

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Donations	97,052	34,797
Gift aid	8,073	-
Grants	<u>243,851</u>	<u>155,247</u>
	<u>348,976</u>	<u>190,044</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Government / Local Authority	129,310	94,274
Business	21,394	17,638
Charities / Trusts	76,264	27,740
Church	11,599	11,760
Schools	<u>5,284</u>	<u>3,835</u>
	<u>243,851</u>	<u>155,247</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Fundraising	<u>17,170</u>	<u>17,998</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.3.24	31.3.23
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>2,170</u>	<u>502</u>

5. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Trustees' expenses

Mileage costs were paid in the year to R H Cain, one of the Trustees, of £1487 (2023: £860) to cover the cost of delivering food parcels.

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

6. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31.3.24	31.3.23
Food bank staff	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

7. 2023 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	
Donations and legacies	190,044
Other trading activities	17,998
Investment income	502
Other income	<u>3,569</u>
Total	<u>212,113</u>
EXPENDITURE ON	
Charitable activities	
Running food bank	<u>197,957</u>
NET INCOME	14,156
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS	
Total funds brought forward	200,715
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>214,871</u>

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Motor
vehicles
£

COST

At 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024

22,560

DEPRECIATION

At 1 April 2023

9,024

Charge for year

4,512

At 31 March 2024

13,536

NET BOOK VALUE

At 31 March 2024

9,024

At 31 March 2023

13,536

9. STOCKS

31.3.24

31.3.23

£

£

Stocks

12,830

17,161

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

31.3.24

31.3.23

£

£

Grants

25,000

-

Gift aid

7,903

-

32,903

-

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

31.3.24

31.3.23

£

£

Other creditors

1,200

-

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	214,871	95,069	(185,988)	123,952
Designated - Development fund	-	-	120,000	120,000
Designated - Operations reserve	-	-	65,988	65,988
	<u>214,871</u>	<u>95,069</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>309,940</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>214,871</u>	<u>95,069</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>309,940</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	368,334	(273,265)	95,069
	<u>368,334</u>	<u>(273,265)</u>	<u>95,069</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>368,334</u>	<u>(273,265)</u>	<u>95,069</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	200,715	14,156	214,871
	<u>200,715</u>	<u>14,156</u>	<u>214,871</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>200,715</u>	<u>14,156</u>	<u>214,871</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	212,113	(197,957)	14,156
	<u>212,113</u>	<u>(197,957)</u>	<u>14,156</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>212,113</u>	<u>(197,957)</u>	<u>14,156</u>

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Designated funds

The designated development fund includes donations received towards the longer-term development of the charity, including the purchase of a permanent home for The Need Project.

The designated operations reserve provides for 6 months operational costs, excluding buying food, in line with the reserves policy.

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2024.

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1157691

Accounts

Annual Report

2022 - 2023



“Helping you feed our hungry neighbours”

OUR OBJECTIVES VALUES AND AIMS OF THE CHARITY.

Our Objectives are:

To relieve persons in central Bedfordshire and the surrounding area that are in poverty or financial hardship in such ways as the Trustees from time to time think fit, in particular, but not exclusively by:

1. Providing food packages to support individuals and families who are experiencing food deprivation.
2. Providing other items to meet immediate and essential needs, as resources allow.
3. Developing other forms of support to meet immediate need and alleviate financial hardship.

To achieve these objects The Need Project has the following:

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We are a Christian organisation motivated by Jesus’ teaching on poverty and injustice. We operate according to Christian principles of compassion, honesty, integrity, openness, kindness and care of all people, regardless of backgrounds or beliefs (or none). We are passionate about inclusion and being non-judgemental is central to what we do. We believe that everyone has the right to have food on their plate, dignity, skills, a chance to work and hope for the future.

Our Aims are:

The Trustees employ a number of strategies to assist The Need Project to alleviate poverty or financial hardship and meet its Objectives by:

- Providing free food parcels.

- By providing food and other essentials to families and individuals referred to the charity by recognised social work agencies, local authorities, community bodies, churches, charities or other organisations whose purpose includes the prevention or relief of poverty ('referral agencies').
- Developing effective relationships with local councils (County, unitary, parish and town), referral agencies, faith groups and community groups.
- Ensuring wide community participation in the charity's projects through giving and raising awareness.
- Developing a culture of lifelong learning throughout the organisation to allow the trustees, core staff and volunteers to do their allotted jobs effectively.
- Building strong links with the local media, and regularly updating the charity's website to stimulate public awareness of the charity's work and the issues facing people in poverty and distress.
- Setting up social enterprises which add value to the charity's existing projects by generating surpluses.
- Identifying, evaluating and incorporating best practice in project templates to ensure that projects become self-sustaining and are easy to replicate.
- Working closely with churches to help the Christian faith community to take a more active, practical and effective role in social action.
- Providing educational support to enable those referred to become more self-sufficient where it is appropriate, and resources allow

























"OUR" KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

We have summarised below the outputs, outcomes, impacts and benefits of the work of the Need Project, but as Christian Charity it is our conviction that the Lord has done His work of meeting peoples' needs through our labours.


























WHAT WE HAVE DONE

We have established partnerships with the following organisations:

Community Supporters

 Alameda Middle School	 Cranfield University	 Etonbury Academy	 Fairfield Park Lower School	 Fulbrook Middle School
 Gothic Mede Academy	 Gravenhurst Academy	 Henlow Academy	 Laburnum Primary School	 Langford Village Academy
 Lawnside Academy	 Little Squirts Nursery	 Marston Moretaine VC School	 Pix Brook Academy	 Redborne Upper School
 Robert Bloomfield Academy	 Robert Peel Primary School	 Roecroft Lower School	 Samuel Whitbread Academy	 Sandy Secondary School
 Shefford Lower School	 Stondon Lower School	 St Mary's CofE Lower School	 St. Swithins CofE Primary School	









Places of Worship Supporters

 Biggleswade Baptist Church	 Church of All Saints Campton Church	 Cranfield Baptist Church	 Flitwick Methodist Church	 Gamlingay Baptist Church
 Guru Nanak Sikh Gurdwara - Hitchin	 Kings Baptist Church	 Kings Church Flitwick	 Maulden Baptist Church	 Parish Church of All Saints Clifton
 Parish Church of St Swithun - Sandy	 Sacred Heart Catholic Church - Flitwick	 Sandy Baptist Church	 Shefford Baptist Church	 Shefford Methodist Church
 St Andrews Church - Langford	 St Mary's Parish Church - Stotfold	 St Mary's Parish Church - Henlow	 St Mary's the Virgin - Woburn	 St Michael and All Angels' Church
 St Peter and St Paul Flitwick Church	 Stotfold Methodist Church	 Stotfold Salvation Army	 Upper Caldecote Methodist Church	 Vale Community Church








Councils

 Central Bedfordshire Council	 Flitwick Town Council	 Shefford Town Council	 Stotfold Council
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Business - Best Before

 Bridge Farm Shop	 Co-Op	 Discolicious	 M&S	 Sainsbury's
 Tesco	 The Fruit Basket	 Waitrose		

Business - Other

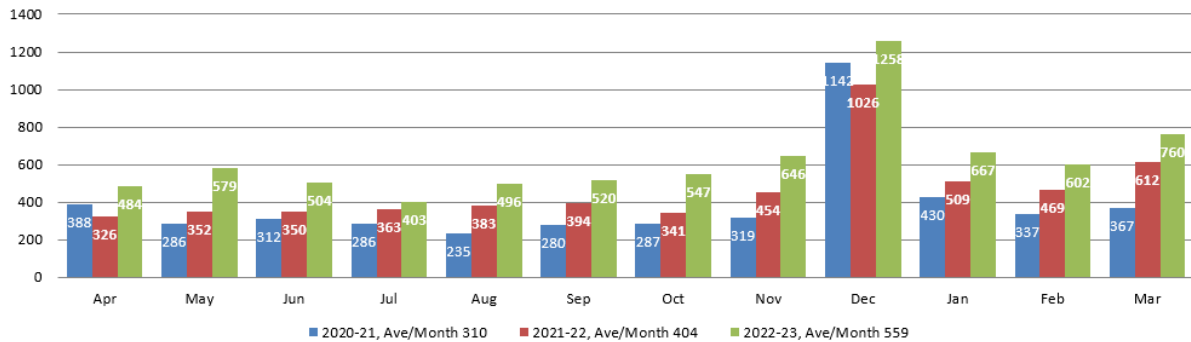
 Boxall Taxis	 Cultivo Lounge Letchworth	 Meadowcroft Foodservice	 The Therapy Lounge	 Rebecca L. Faret Solicitors
 Harrisons Accountancy	 Strictly Beds & Bunks			

These are the stats for the year:

April 2022 – March 2023

End of Financial Year

Total Food Parcels Yearly & Monthly Comparisons



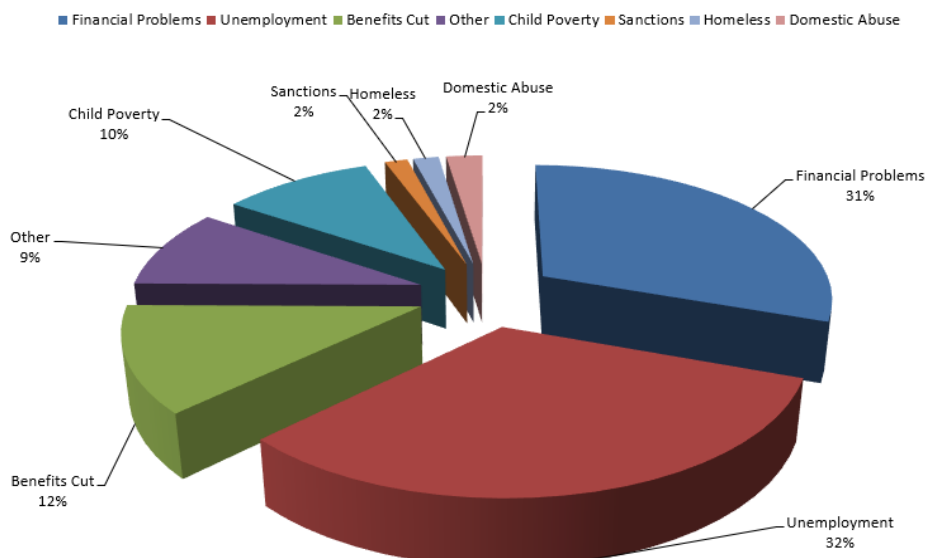
Total value to date at £60 per parcel	£ 399,660.00	Christmas Parcels at £85 per parcel	£ 68,425.00
Total value this month at £60 per parcel	£ 45,600.00	Overall Total Year from April to Date	£ 468,085.00

Served by Each Distribution Hub

Hubs Summary	Total to Date	Monthly Average
Flitwick	679	57
Stotfold	4578	382
Biggleswade	812	68
Cranfield	418	35
Gamlingay	926	77

Analysis of the reasons for referrals

Agency Stated Reasons for Referral



WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

Record number of food parcels delivered – an increase of 60% on the previous year.

Our updated website, which now includes an online referral system which reduces the hands-on administration of this key process and has significantly improved our operating efficiency.

WHAT DIFFERENCE WE HAVE MADE

A sample from those we are called to serve

Good afternoon

Just a note to say thank you for the food donations your team have been supplying to X over this last year. It has been very helpful in supporting X's recovery. X is now fully engaged in his own recovery, and I am now in a position to close his referral to our team. Without your help, the prognosis may well have been very different. Please pass my thanks to your team. Keep up the good work!

Kind regards
Support Time Recovery Worker

Would like to send a massive thank you to The Need Project team for once again supporting our young Carers group.

Last month we were able to teach valuably life skills to a group of young people.

We cooked spaghetti Bolognese from Scratch and Garlic bread, and all sat down together to eat

This was amazing and wouldn't have been possible without the NEEDS support.

I have attached a couple of photos'.

Thank you.

THE PROJECT LEADER'S REPORT

Months seem to come round very quickly. At the moment, we are busier than ever.

Nearly 20 years ago, I never imagined we would have gone from maybe 4 parcels a month, to over 550 parcels a month. That statistic is staggering and so sad for those caught up in food poverty and it's going up every month. We can't solve the issues in the country, but we can continue to do all we can to help.

Our main headquarters is in Stotfold on the High Street. But we have hubs throughout Central Bedfordshire. Out of this shop front, we help Central Bedfordshire to the value of over £700,000 a year. This includes our volunteer labour of 57 people and 291 hours a week and our running costs!

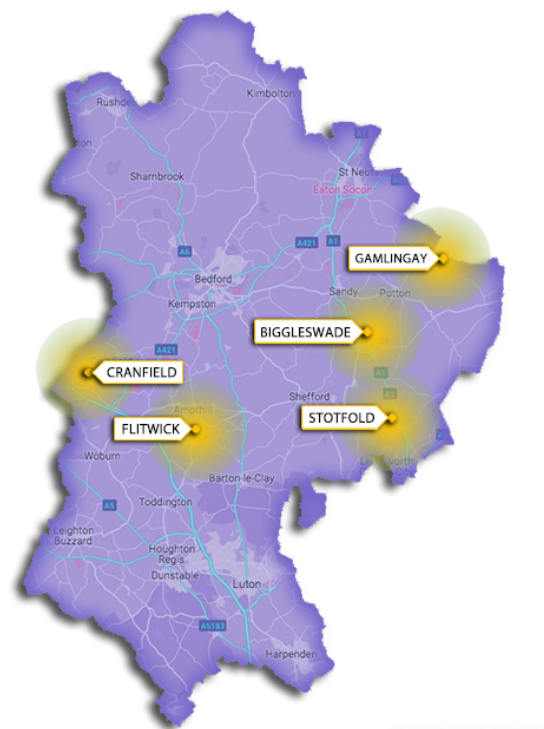
We also have two vans on the road continuously and use over £750 of fuel per month.

We give away on average food to the value of £45,000 to £50,000 per month. A lot of this is donated food, which had a rough value of over £300,000 this year. We work totally via referrals for our food parcels from recognised agencies, which we deliver once our Centre closes.

We give away best before food, averaging over £3,300 per month in various locations.

Our main headquarters is in Stotfold on the High Street.

And we have hubs throughout Central Bedfordshire serving our hungry neighbours



I am so grateful to all our volunteers throughout our Project and to the paid staff, who always go the extra mile. Without all of them the Project could not operate. But more importantly, without the community's support with prayer, food, finance, and a kind word, we could not be doing what we do and for that I am so thankful.

We are very fortunate as a project because we get to meet some lovely people and listen to their stories, which are very sad, so to help someone out when they're financially struggling with food is a real blessing for us. We are doing more parcels now than we did last Christmas week, which is quite scary as I've said, but also it gives us an opportunity to help more people this Christmas.

Due to how busy we are and ongoing works, we are considering a permanent home. We would like to stay local to Stotfold. We have found a place that we could run our project from, which could also be a great space for the local community.

Our main ministry is and always will be our food parcels, but our future depends on us having a building to work from. We are still in the throes of trying to get the money together, to help secure a future because it doesn't look as though the need for our food is going away very soon.

If you would like to find out more about us, please go to our website.

<https://theneedproject.org>

Thank you

Praise God Always

Gordon

TREASURER'S REPORT

THE NEED PROJECT ANNUAL ACCOUNTS UP TO 31/03/2023

	INCOME £
Awards – Government/Local Authorities	94,274.00
Awards – Charities/Trusts	27,740.14
Awards – Businesses	17,638.05
Awards – Churches/Schools	15,594.82
Personal Donations	34,797.00
Other Donations/Income	3,569.50
Web donations	17,997.94
Interest Income	501.64

TOTAL INCOME **212,113.09**

	EXPENDITURE £
Payroll and related costs	70,636.37
Van	6,399.09
Fuel	8,311.90
Food	66,401.75
Insurance	3,077.00
Rent and Utilities	16,157.67
Technology and IT related	8,886.63
Volunteer and Trustees costs/expenses	2,530.19
Other overhead expenditure	15,557.05

TOTAL EXPENDITURE **197,957.65**

AVAILABLE FUNDS AT END OF YEAR **183,899.97**

Results of the Independent Examiner

In accordance with the provisions of Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011, I have examined the receipts and payments accounts of The Need Project Central Bedfordshire set out relating to the year ending 31st March 2022.

This examination did not extend to a comprehensive audit of such accounts.

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

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Mr David P Rolfe

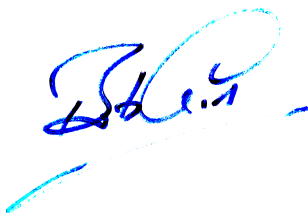
December 2023

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

Our main goals for the project are to ensure our long-term sustainability, and increase our operational efficiency, which includes:

- Recruiting and training a new project leader
- Appointing at least one new trustee
- Recruiting and training a new hub leader and team for the Flitwick Hub
- Recruiting more volunteers to serve the increasing demand for our services
- Securing the funding for the purchase and redevelopment of a new operational centre

On behalf of the Trustees of The Need Project Central Bedfordshire.



Bob Cain, Chair of Trustees

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1157691

Accounts

Annual Report

2021 - 2022



“Helping you feed our hungry neighbours”

OUR OBJECTIVES VALUES AND AIMS OF THE CHARITY.

Our Objectives are:

To relieve persons in central Bedfordshire and the surrounding area that are in poverty or financial hardship in such ways as the Trustees from time to time think fit, in particular, but not exclusively by:

1. Providing food packages to support individuals and families who are experiencing food deprivation.
2. Providing other items to meet immediate and essential needs, as resources allow.
3. Developing other forms of support to meet immediate need and alleviate financial hardship.

To achieve these objects The Need Project has the following:

Our Values are:

We are a Christian organisation motivated by Jesus’ teaching on poverty and injustice. We operate according to Christian principles of compassion, honesty, integrity, openness, kindness and care of all people, regardless of backgrounds or beliefs (or none). We are passionate about inclusion and being non-judgemental is central to what we do. We believe that everyone has the right to have food on their plate, dignity, skills, a chance to work and hope for the future.

Our Aims are:

The Trustees employ a number of strategies to assist The Need Project to alleviate poverty or financial hardship and meet its Objectives by:

- Providing free food parcels, and when resources allow furniture and clothing, for adults and families experiencing financial crisis.

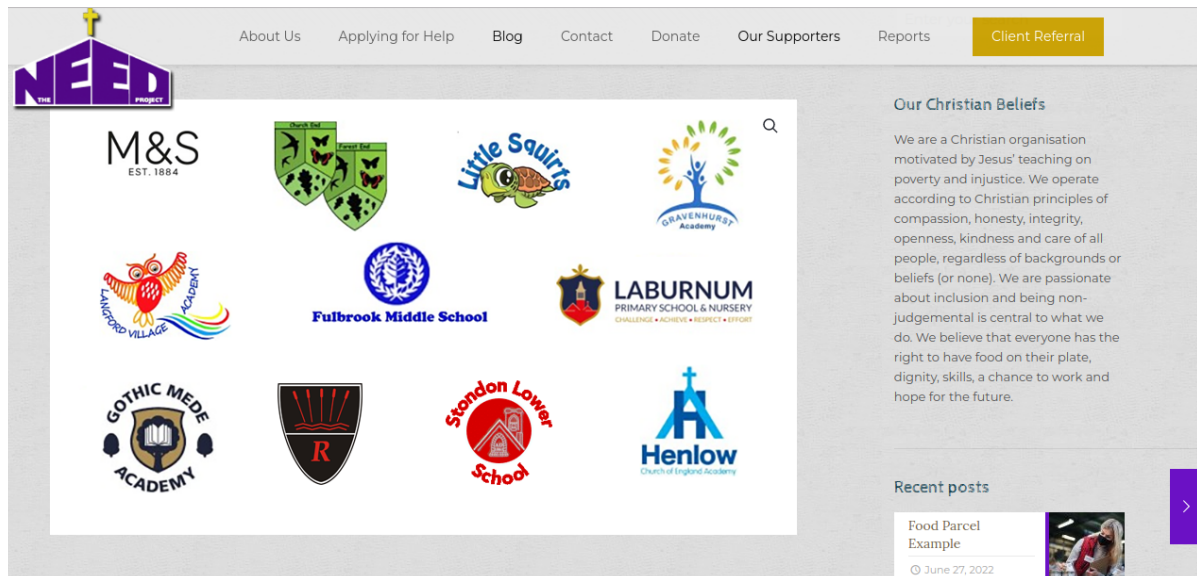
- By providing food and other essentials to families and individuals referred to the charity by recognised social work agencies, local authorities, community bodies, churches, charities or other organisations whose purpose includes the prevention or relief of poverty ('referral agencies').
- Developing effective relationships with local councils (County, unitary, parish and town), referral agencies, faith groups and community groups.
- Ensuring wide community participation in the charity's projects through giving and raising awareness.
- Developing a culture of lifelong learning throughout the organisation to allow the trustees, core staff and volunteers to do their allotted jobs effectively.
- Building strong links with the local media, and regularly updating the charity's website to stimulate public awareness of the charity's work and the issues facing people in poverty and distress.
- Setting up social enterprises which add value to the charity's existing projects by generating surpluses.
- Identifying, evaluating and incorporating best practice in project templates to ensure that projects become self-sustaining and are easy to replicate.
- Working closely with churches to help the Christian faith community to take a more active, practical and effective role in social action.
- Providing educational support to enable those referred to become more self-sufficient where it is appropriate, and resources allow

"OUR" KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

We have summarised below the outputs, outcomes, impacts and benefits of the work of the Need Project, but as Christian Charity it is our conviction that the Lord has done His work of meeting peoples' needs through our labours

WHAT WE HAVE DONE

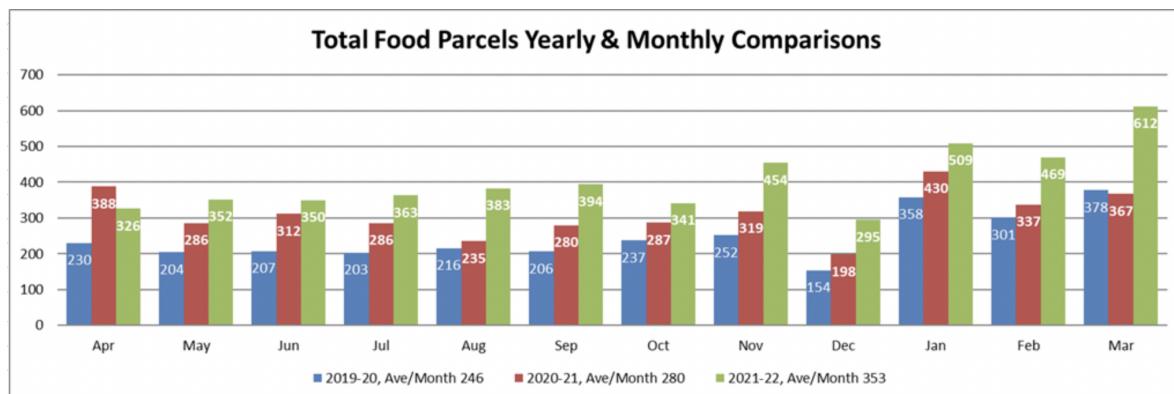
We have established partnerships with the following organisations:



These are the stats for the year:

April 2021 – March 2022

End of Financial Year



Total value to date at £54 per parcel	£ 261,792.00	Christmas Parcels at £70 per parcel	£ 51,170.00
Total value this month at £54 per parcel	£ 25,326.00	Overall Total Year from April to Date	£ 312,962.00

Yet again every month this past year has exceeded the previous two years in terms of food parcels delivered.

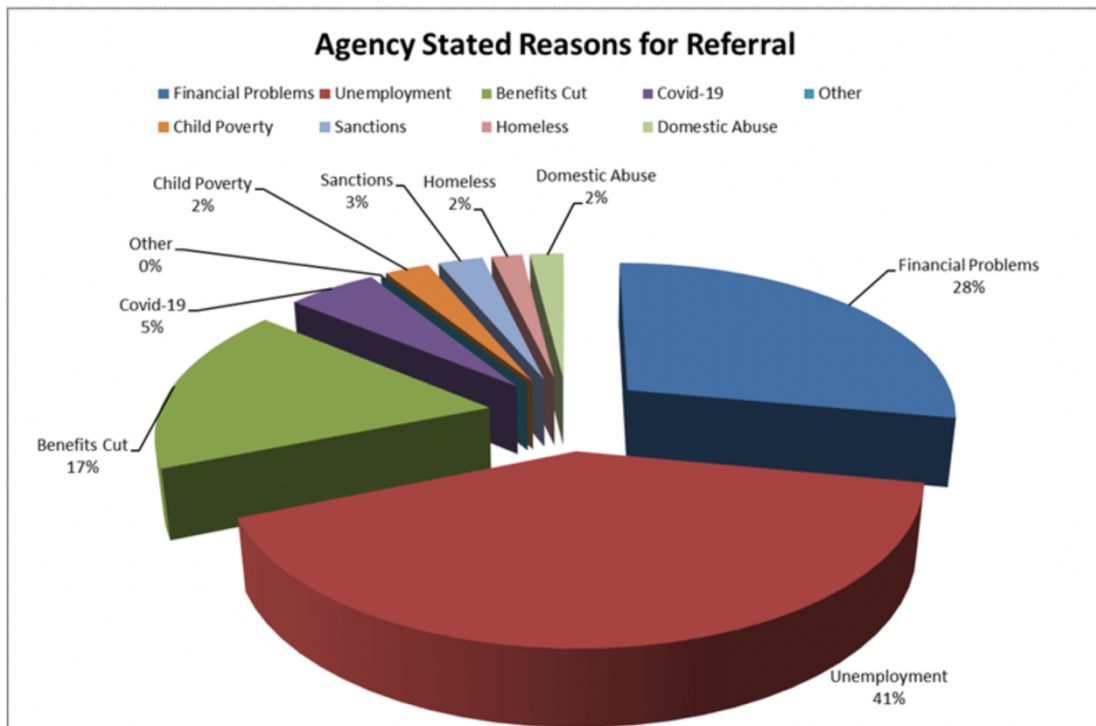
Adults & Children Served

Children	Age 0-4	Age 5-10	Age 11-17	Adults	Total
Totals (yr)	3432	3138	2857	8211	17638
Christmas	313	520	436	1060	2329

Served by Each Distribution Hub

Hubs Summary	Total to Date	Monthly Average
Flitwick	391	33
Sandy	849	71
Stotfold	780	65
Shefford	619	52
Biggleswade	350	29
Marston Moretaine	115	10
Out of Area	279	23
Gamlingay	750	63

Analysis of the reasons for referrals



Furniture, Furnishings and White Goods

The trustees took the decision in this reporting period to no longer provide these items, the reasons for this are:

1. The increasing demand on our resources and capacity to supply food, which is now our core mission.
2. Other providers of these items are operating within Central Bedfordshire, and we sign post clients to these organisations,

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

Record number of food parcels delivered – an increase of 25% on the previous year.

Dealing with the effects of COVID-19 lockdown with the way we operated, the lack of food and the increase in the number of parcels delivered.

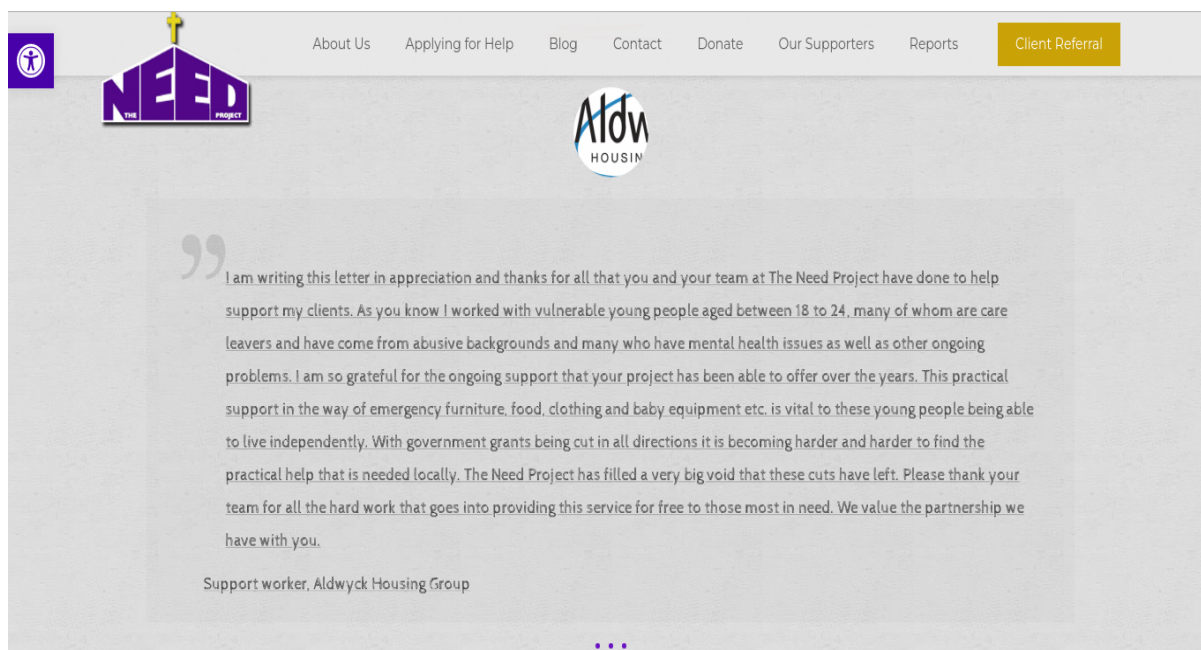
Two new trustees appointed

Bob Cain appointed as chair of Trustees following Steve Gaunt's retirement

A new hub in Cranfield established

WHAT DIFFERENCE WE HAVE MADE

A sample from those we are called to serve



The screenshot shows a website header with navigation links: About Us, Applying for Help, Blog, Contact, Donate, Our Supporters, Reports, and Client Referral. The main content area features a testimonial from a support worker at Aldwyck Housing Group, praising The Need Project for providing emergency furniture, food, clothing, and baby equipment to vulnerable young people. The testimonial is enclosed in a light grey box with a large quotation mark on the left. Below the testimonial, the name 'Support worker, Aldwyck Housing Group' is displayed. The Aldwyck Housing Group logo is visible in the top right corner of the screenshot.

THE PROJECT LEADER'S REPORT

Well, it's that time again. Time to firstly look back on what we have achieved in the past year, but also to focus on the present and future of the Need Project.

Last year saw a few changes to the project. We now employ Jean, our new administrator/fundraiser on a part time basis, which has made a great difference to the daily functioning of our ministry. Also we have Caroline, our driver who picks up from supermarkets etc. on a daily basis who is employed for two hours per day which also lightens the pressure on us all.

Dawn and I really appreciate all the volunteers in all of the five hubs who sort, pick up and deliver to our clients throughout Central Beds and beyond.

We are so grateful for all our supporters, be it financial, prayerfully and encouragers without which it would not be possible to function.

Our workload has increased enormously and month on month grows as more families and single people fall into food poverty.

We continue to do the best we can and are so grateful to God that he favours us in so many ways.

Our referral agencies increase in number all the time, which produces more clients to feed, food to source and finance to find.

But on the flip side we get the chance to make a difference in people's lives as we carry out this work and make good solid relationships with so many along the way.

Our monthly reports are available on our new website which we are told by agencies is so much easier to access which in turn speeds up our response and efficiency.

We have achieved so much more than we could have imagined last year but now we move forward under God's guidance and provision to where he is leading.

As I finish I would in all honesty and gratitude like to thank everyone who has been part of the journey, from the Christmas volunteers, to the regular deliverers and the people who support us in so many ways. I won't name names as I may miss someone out but you know who you are.

I have to mention Dawn as my assistant who brings so much to the table and has to put up with my ways which very rarely may be challenging.

The future of the project is in the safe hands of the God we serve.

Thank you all and please pray for the project as we seek Gods will for the future, and how we serve our neighbours.

Praise God always,

Gordon Hamilton

TREASURER'S REPORT

THE NEED PROJECT ANNUAL ACCOUNTS UP TO 31/03/2022

	INCOME £
Donations from Churches	19,405.53
Grants from Trusts	82,111.12
Donations from individuals	40,100.50
Misc. Donations	7,793.06
Web donations	7,530.65
HMRC Gift Aid recovery	10,457.81
TOTAL INCOME	167,398.67

	EXPENDITURE £
Payroll	51,405.75
Van	35,337.84
Fuel	5,964.25
Food	35,020.45
Insurance	2,214.68
Stotfold Centre	15,300.00
Miscellaneous items	15,334.17
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	160,577.14

BALANCE AT END OF YEAR **169,744.53**

Results of the Independent Examiner

In accordance with the provisions of Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011, I have examined the receipts and payments accounts and statement of assets and liabilities of The Need Project Central Bedfordshire set out relating to the year ending 31st March 2021.

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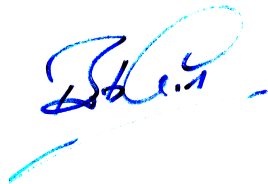
Mr David P Rolfe

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

Our main goals for the project are:

- Appoint a new Administrator / Fundraiser
- Modify the Constitution to allow employees to serve as Trustees
- Enhance the Financial Management processes of the project
- Review and revise all our policies to ensure they are fit for purpose
- Update the Website and develop and develop an automated referral process to streamline referrals to clients in need.
- Develop costed plans for a new operational centre for the project

On behalf of the Trustees of The Need Project Central Bedfordshire.



Bob Cain, Chair of Trustees

THE NEED PROJECT CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1157691

Accounts

Annual Report 2020 – 2021



“Helping you feed our hungry neighbours”

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"OUR" KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

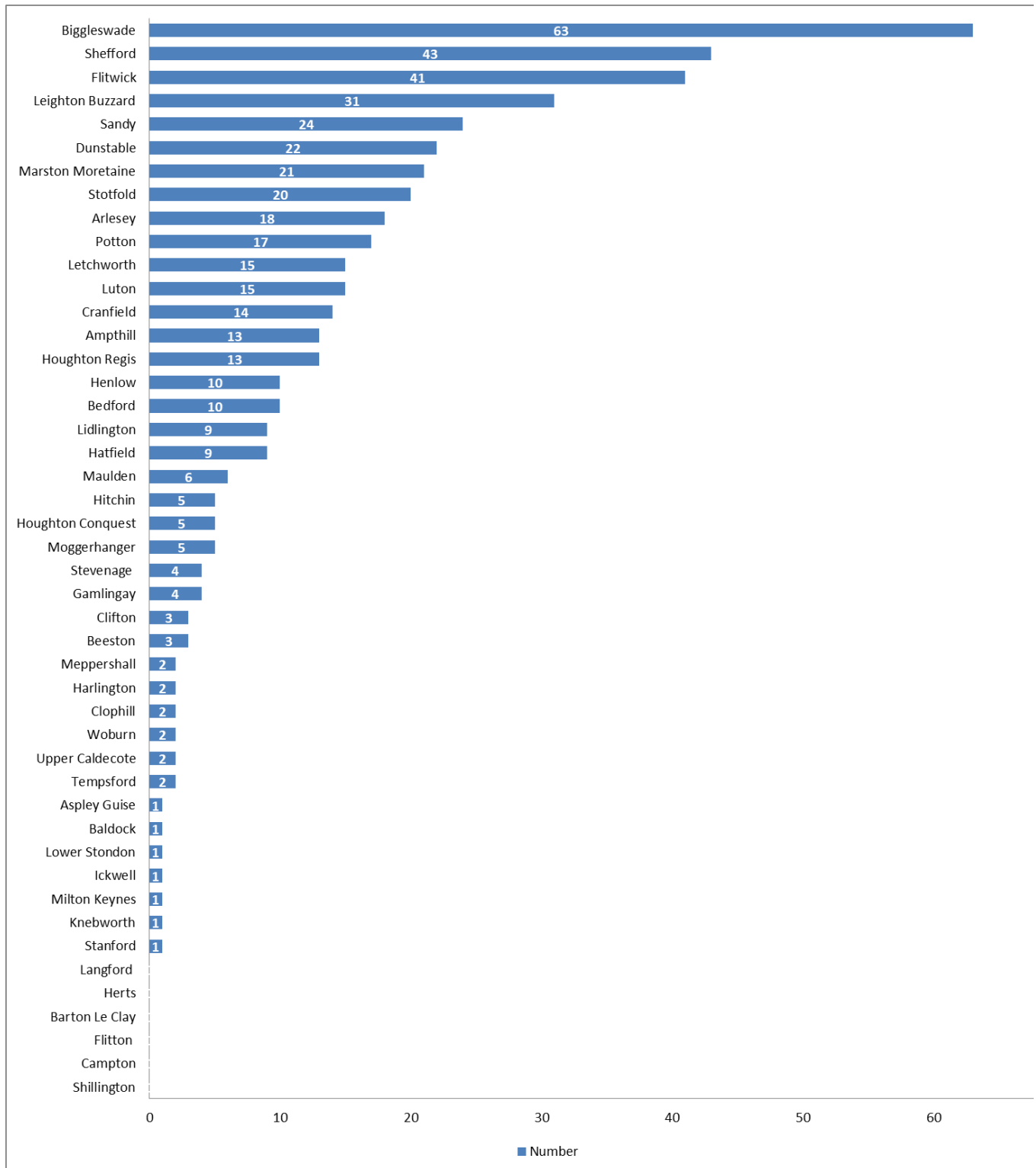
We have summarised below the outputs, outcomes, impacts and benefits of the work of the Need Project, but as Christian Charity it is our conviction that the Lord has done His work of meeting peoples' needs through our labours.

WHAT WE HAVE DONE

These are the key outputs from our work, covering Christmas 2020, and our work through the year excluding Christmas.

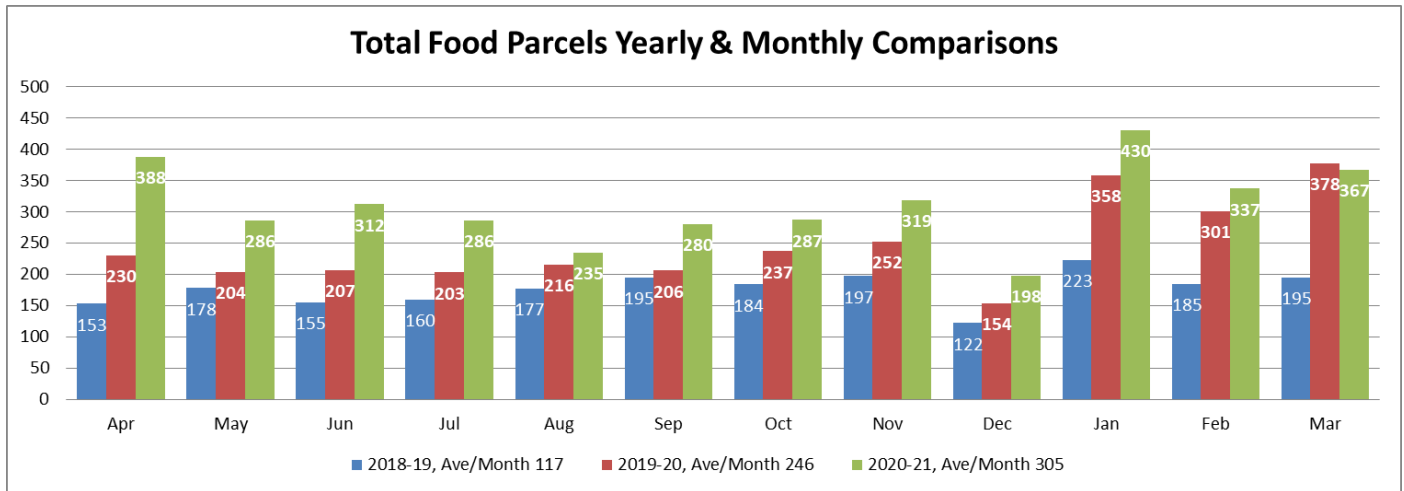
Christmas 2020

Two “hubs” packed and distributed Christmas Hampers, and the area of distribution covered over twenty-seven towns across Central Bedfordshire and parts of Hertfordshire. The total number of Christmas Hampers delivered was 944 (this did not include the regular parcels in December). The total value of these Hampers was £66,080 (at an average value of £70 per parcel).



April 2020 – March 2021

End of Financial Year



Total value for financial year at £54/parcel	£201,150.00	Christmas parcels at £70/parcel	£66,080.00
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Yet again every month this past year has exceeded the previous two years in terms of food parcels delivered.

Statistics

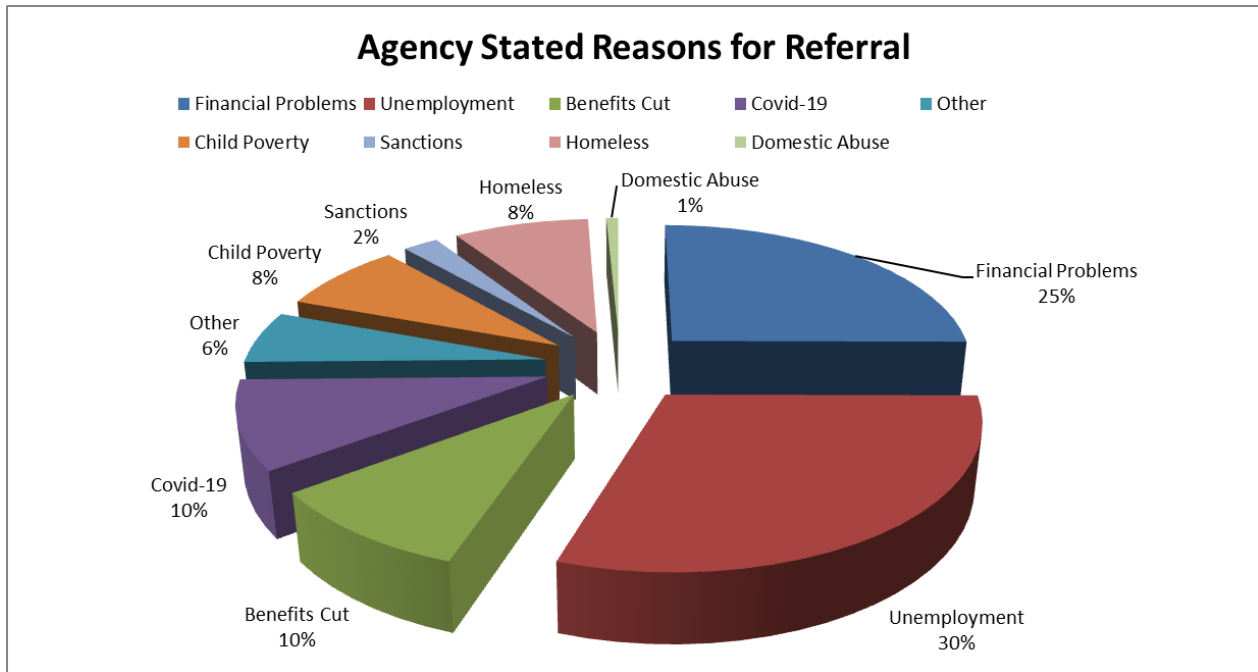
Adults & Children Served

<u>Children</u>	Age 0-4	Age 5-10	Age 11-17	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Total</u>
Totals (yr)	2220	2315	2183	6908	13626
Christmas	388	463	346	1287	2484

Served by Each Distribution Hub

<u>Hubs Summary</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Monthly Average</u>
Flitwick	420	35
Sandy	1066	89
Stotfold	520	43
Shefford	447	37
Biggleswade	398	33
Marston	132	11
Out of Area	696	58
	3679	

Analysis of the reasons for referrals



Furniture, Furnishings and White Goods

Despite restrictions on being able to supply furniture, we were still able to supply some families with furniture etc. Due to lockdown, and restrictions, collection of donated items was not possible, and there was maintaining a safe distance when delivering. We had to turn down a few requests again during the year. The situation is expected to remain the same for a while.

Items	
White goods	0
Beds, single, double, bunk	3
Bedroom furniture, furnishings	4
Lounge furniture, furnishings	9
Misc & baby equipment	15
Bedding	10
Estimated value	£900.00

Actual items include	
Cookers	0
Fridges/freezers	0
Suites/sofas	2
Washing machines	0
Microwaves	0
TV's / DVD players	0

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

We delivered a record number of food parcels – an increase of 25% on the previous year.

We changed our procedures for the way we operated during the COVID-19 pandemic. We also experienced a lack of food and an increase in the number of parcels delivered.

We appointed three new trustees.

A new hub was established in Gamlingay (Cambridgeshire).

We updated safety procedures for volunteers.

We purchased of a new van for food delivers.

We introduced a Complaints Procedure and reviewed and updated other policies as necessary during the year.

WHAT DIFFERENCE WE HAVE MADE

A sample from those we are called to serve

“Hi Gordon and the wonderful ladies that helped me this morning at short notice. I was given so much food and other items for a family I am working with. This is the third family you have helped me with and words cannot express my thanks. The families have also been so grateful for your kindness. With grateful thanks L” - Health visitor in North Herts

“On behalf of ‘Feed Up Warm Up’ I would like to say a huge thank you for helping us with much needed items for our drop-ins and food parcels. It’s so nice for charities to work together. You’re always so kind and cheerful.”

“You have been a life saver some weeks for me and my 5-year-old boy as we don't always have a lot of money to do a shop each week, so we’d love you to continue your excellent work as we really do appreciate it so thank you to you lovely people!”

“Don't know what we'd do without you! You've been an absolute godsend for us. We hardly have any money to do a proper shop anymore and you've been an absolute lifeline. Your such lovely people. Thank you for everything you do.”

“The families we support really value the additional items either they / we can pick up for them. Not everyone wants a food parcels request but once we have given them items from the pop-up shops, they are more open to food parcels referrals being made. Your team are always happy, polite, and helpful. So glad families can access your services as makes a huge difference to them all.”

“I know as a family support worker in Sandy who works closely both with The Need Project and with families who come to the top-up shop that they find this somewhere to come that’s friendly, non-judgmental, and most importantly a lifeline. Especially now more than ever due to the times we find ourselves in. I know from experience what hard work this takes to organise but think it’s worthwhile as it helps so many people who are in need. Thank you for your hard work.”

“Been a massive help in the times where a lot of people are struggling including myself, also saves so much waste with having the surplus shop - keep doing what you’re doing, you put a smile on a lot of people’s faces and make life a little less stressful.”

“You guys are amazing. Thank you. You have really helped me out and I enjoy seeing you all

for a chat and a loaf! My partners nan and my mum have loved receiving flowers, it really does brighten their day, as you all do for many of us.”

“I attended the Scout Hut just before Christmas to collect food and toys for our service users and was amazed at the quantity of goods you and your colleagues had collected. The ‘For Baby’s Sake’ team delivered your kind donations over Christmas to our families and wanted to share with you some of the comments from them:

‘It really made our Christmas’

‘It was so nice to be thought of’

‘It took so much pressure off’

‘Really thoughtful and generous’

‘Can’t believe how much was there’

Your generous support and incredible kindness really made a difference and I wanted to share their thoughts and gratitude with you and finally to add my personal thanks to you and all your colleagues for doing such amazing work to support vulnerable families making such a precious time like Christmas so much better.”

THE PROJECT LEADER’S REPORT

This past year has been one I know we will never forget and will be remembered for hardship and struggle on a level we never knew, but also some incredible acts of kindness and privilege as we minister into people’s lives.

Who could have imagined that this year would have turned out the way it has? We had no clue how it was going to pan out, but here we are nearly a year on, and a lot of changes have had to take place. We have made changes to our structure, how we operate, how we deliver, how we collect and how we work in our Centre and our hubs, and cope with a large increase in demand for food parcels, but we’ve got this far praise God.

We also knew that Christmas was going to be very busy in every aspect. Our workforce was cut drastically because of COVID-19 working conditions and isolation, but we still managed to fulfil all our commitments which is quite amazing really. We are so blessed to have the support that we have from the public, and I am also so grateful for our Deputy Project Leader, Dawn, and all the volunteers. We seem to get everything done somehow and never be short of things. I miss the fact that the ladies can no longer meet at the centre because of COVID-19, but I know that God is in control of all this situation, and he will deal with it in the only way he can which is the perfect way. We are incredibly blessed financially and have been a position to purchase a new van which is so needed.

The future for us, who knows? Only God has that answer, but if we continue to serve and not judge, show kindness and love as Jesus did, then his name will be gloried in all we do.

Gordon Hamilton

TREASURERS REPORT

THE NEED PROJECT ANNUAL ACCOUNTS UP TO 31/03/2021

	INCOME £
Donations from Churches	19,836.70
Grants from Trusts	109,376.43
Donations from individuals	45,730.00
Fund raising income	0.00
Misc. Donations	8,893.04
Web donations	45,856.94
HMRC Gift Aid recovery	4,124.97
TOTAL INCOME	233,818.08

	EXPENDITURE £
Payroll	44,529.52
Employers Pension and NI	1,436.39
Van	11,286.76
Fuel	4,111.18
Food	17,268.72
Insurance	0
Stotfold Centre	15,512.89
Miscellaneous items	8,158.09
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	102,303.55

CHANGE IN RESERVES **131,514.53**

BALANCE AT END OF YEAR **162,678.62**

Results of the Independent Examiner

In accordance with the provisions of Section 43 of the Charities Act 1993, I have examined the receipts and payments accounts and statement of assets and liabilities of The Need Project Central Bedfordshire set out relating to the year ending 31st March 2021.

This examination did not extend to a comprehensive audit of such accounts.

I can confirm that the accounts and statement accord with the accounting records of The Need Project Central Bedfordshire and that such records satisfy the requirements of the Act.

I am not aware of any matter to which attention needs to be drawn in order to obtain a more detailed understanding of the accounts.

Mrs G Roberts

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

We are exploring the following areas to help us meet the growing demand on the project:

- Implementation of a three-year vision.
- Larger premises to act as the Central Hub.
- Employment of a part-time paid administrator / fundraiser.
- Succession planning for project staff.
- Contingency planning for loss of staff due to illness and lack of funds.
- Development of new hubs.

On behalf of the Trustees of The Need Project Central Bedfordshire.

S R Gaunt

Steve Gaunt

Chair of Trustees