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West Northumberland Food Bank



Chair's Report for the year 2020 -2021

**The objects of the CIO are the prevention or relief of poverty in West Northumberland in particular but not exclusively, by providing emergency food supplies and related provisions to individuals in need, and to charities or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.**

West Northumberland Food Bank has continued to receive exceptional support from its local community. This support has been in the form of donations of food and money and from folk volunteering to work on the help lines, warehouse duties or home deliveries. We thank you all for what you do in furtherance of our objects.

We continue with the service model, developed to provide continuity of service following the Covid-19 outbreak, where the user's first point of contact is the phone helpline, available for 4 hours per day Monday - Friday. Here, they can state their food requirements though, just as important, they are led into a discussion about the causes of their situation and offered advice and signposting to other helpful agencies. In the most extreme situations, they may receive a Hardship Grant.

When West Northumberland Food Bank came into being in 2013/14, it was thought it would be a temporary measure, only needed for a couple of years or more. Sadly, we have seen an increase in demand for our services year on year with perhaps the increase since October 2021 being the steepest yet. The forecasted economic climate going forward in 2022 does not bode well for individuals and households, especially for those who are struggling to manage. We continue to apply our resources where it can make a big difference.

We continue to update our organisation and ways of working. The vans we purchased through 2021 have proved their worth as demand has grown. More can be safely carried on delivery runs than in volunteers own vehicles. Ideally, larger premises would be a benefit, especially to our food storage and handling area. In the absence of suitable premises, we are discussing some physical changes with our landlord with a view to increasing useful floor area which would create a better flow of food coming in to food going out. We have also recently appointed a Warehouse Deputy Manager and will shortly be appointing a Finance & Administration Assistant. Both these roles are part-time and should help reduce pressures and build in greater depth and resilience. Resilience will be further considered in the current year as we provide an essential service to our users and must continue operating no matter what.

I must take this opportunity to thank Sam Gilchrist, our Project Manager and our brilliant staff, John Stoker and Owain Bennet, and our volunteers who work so well with our users, providing food, information and compassion in equal measure. Thanks must also go to our team of diligent Trustees, working behind the scenes and keeping us aligned with our statutory responsibilities as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Finally, a special mention for David Ratcliff, a founder Trustee, who stepped down in November to concentrate on other commitments and have just a bit more quality time for himself and family. David was instrumental in the creation of WNFB some 9 years ago and helped steer it along the way to what we have now.

Jonathan Hill – March 2022



**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

West Northumberland Food Bank (WNFB)

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

30 September 2021

**Charity no  
(if any)**

1158289

**Set out on pages**

3

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **30/09/2021**.

**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 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the 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 (other than that disclosed below \*) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

**Signed:**

**Date:**

16/02/2021

**Name:**

Mr D M Middleton, CBE; FCA

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

**Address:**

Stanegate, St Helen's Lane

Corbridge

Northumberland, NE45 5JD

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

N/A

**Receipts and Payments Accounts**  
**West Northumberland Food Bank**  
**Charity Number: 1158289**  
**For the period 1 October 2020 to 30 September 2021**

	<b>Current Year (2020-21) £</b>	<b>Previous Year (2019-20) £</b>
<b>Receipts:</b>		
Public Donations & Events	112,960	125,330
Grants	10,500	13,975
Other		2,500
Gift Aid	5,867	14,206
Interest Income	56	
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>129,383</b>	<b>156,011</b>
<b>Payments:</b>		
Staffing	49,930	42,711
Rent & Utilities	16,448	10,803
Insurance	396	386
Volunteer and Staff expenses	504	650
Training		-
Food & Bags	13,415	3,303
Office Kit & Supplies	2,628	1,126
Publicity	1,498	261
Advocacy	1,982	1,642
Van Running Costs	2,847	
AGM Costs		256
Bank Charges	225	192
Refurbishment		608
Small grants and hardship fund	5,429	
Miscellaneous	50	484
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>95,353</b>	<b>62,422</b>
<b>Net Receipts/Payments</b>	<b>34,031</b>	<b>93,589</b>
Cash Funds last year end	120,803	27,214
<b>Cash Funds this year end</b>	<b>130,195</b>	<b>120,803</b>
<b>Cash Funds:</b>		
Bank	130,020	120,642
Petty Cash	171	161
<b>Total Cash Funds</b>	<b>130,191</b>	<b>120,803</b>
<b>Other Monetary Assets:</b>		
Insurance pre-payment		386
Income not banked at year end		-
Gift aid not yet received	4,669	868
<b>Assets Retained for the Charity's Own Use</b>		
Motor vehicles: Cost	24,639	-
Depreciation	- 3,071	
Net Book Value	21,568	-
<b>Liabilities:</b>		
Invoices outstanding at year end	17	327





**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

<b>Report to the trustees/ members of</b>	West Northumberland Food Bank (WNFB)		
<b>On accounts for the year ended</b>	30 September 2021	<b>Charity no (if any)</b>	1158289
<b>Set out on pages</b>	3		

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