



Annual Report of the Trustees

For AGM

19th November 2024 at 8pm

St James Church

71 East Barnet Road

New Barnet

EN4 8RN

About the Charity

Charity Commission Registration Number: 1163042

Address: 63 Somerset Road, New Barnet, Barnet, EN5 1RF

Constitution Adopted: 09/10/2013 as amended on 16/11/2021.

The charity's object is 'The prevention or relief of poverty in Chipping Barnet and surrounding areas in particular by providing emergency food supplies to individuals in need'.

To achieve this, the charity provides emergency food parcels, broadly in line with the guidelines of Trussell with which the food bank is affiliated, and wraparound support.

We aim to ensure that all clients presenting with official vouchers during food bank opening hours receive appropriate food parcels in line with Trussell and local policies. Those without vouchers are either provided with emergency vouchers and parcels or given advice as to potential alternatives.

The food bank hosts a Citizens Advice service, and also offers other support beyond food provision, including signposting services, drop-ins with other local support agencies, digital inclusion support, supermarket and fuel vouchers.

Trustees are elected at the AGM by the official representatives of the eight local member churches: Barnet Brookside Methodist, Barnet URC Wood Street, Christ Church (St Albans Road), St Gregory's R.C., St James New Barnet, St John's URC, St Mary the Virgin and St Peter's R.C.

The charity trustees have complied with the duty in section 4 of the 2006 Act to have due regard to guidance on public benefit published by the charity commission.

The week-by-week work of the food bank is managed by the management team under the leadership of Foodbank Manager Victoria Miller.

Our Independent Examiner of Accounts is Chris Jones.

Trustees

Chair	Martine Whitaker
Vice Chair & Spiritual Advisor	Rev. Canon Laura Hewitt
Treasurer	Arlette Jennings
Deputy Treasurer	Margaret Spillman
Secretary	Richard Lawson
Safeguarding Officer	Judy Burstow
Trustee	Sarah Edwards
Trustee	Sarah Greenwood
Trustee	Fr David Pember
Trustee	Martine Whitaker
+ Minute Secretary	Caroline Antoinette

Management Team

Foodbank Manager	Victoria Miller
Treasurer and Minute Secretary	Arlette Jennings
Deputy Treasurer	Margaret Spillman
Warehouse Manager	Harold Williams
Deputy Warehouse Manager	Ann Horn
Voucher Holder Coordinator	Teresa Williams
Campaigning, Advocacy & Organising Lead	Bob Bevil
Client Signposting Lead	Jacqui Roeder
Operations	David Godfrey
Driver and Deliveries Coordinator	Edward Dolling
Volunteer Coordinator	Peter Mc Mahon
Volunteer Lead Scheduler	Caroline Antoinette
Minute Secretary	Joanna Forsythe

Report for AGM of Chair of Trustees' Board

As we conclude another year at Chipping Barnet Foodbank, I am both proud and inspired by the incredible work we have accomplished together. This marks my first year as Chair of Trustees, and I want to take this opportunity to reflect on our achievements, challenges, and the unwavering commitment of our community.

This year, our foodbank has continued to serve as a vital resource for individuals and families facing food insecurity. We operate twice a week, providing essential support to those in need. Our team of three dedicated part-time employees, alongside over 200 passionate volunteers, has ensured that we can meet the growing demand for our services.

Our financial commitment to providing food assistance has been significant. We are currently spending over £1,000 each week on food supplies, a testament to the rising need within our community. We have worked hard to maintain transparency and efficiency in our operations, ensuring that every pound donated is maximised for impact.

Our volunteers are the heart of our foodbank. Their tireless efforts not only allow us to operate effectively but also create a welcoming environment for those we serve. We have made strides in volunteer training and engagement, fostering a sense of community and purpose among our team. This year, we introduced new training sessions to equip our volunteers with the skills necessary to support our clients effectively.

The impact of our work extends beyond just providing food. We have been actively involved in raising awareness about food insecurity and advocating for systemic change. Our partnerships with local organisations have strengthened our ability to reach those in need, and we are proud of the relationships we have built within the community.

While we have made great progress, we also face challenges. The demand for our services continues to grow, and we must explore sustainable funding options to ensure we can meet this need. We are actively seeking grants and partnerships to support our financial sustainability while maintaining our focus on delivering high-quality service.

I would like to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to Andrew Summers, whose stalwart leadership of the foodbank over the last 11 years has been instrumental in shaping our organisation. Andrew's commitment and vision have laid a solid foundation for our work, and I am grateful for his ongoing mentorship as I navigate my new role. His involvement in our steering group continues to provide invaluable guidance, ensuring that we remain focused on our mission. I would like to welcome back Jo Forsthye, as she takes on a role within the management team, as well as welcoming Pete McMahon and Ed Dolling onto the management team.

As we move into the next year, I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead. We will continue to build on our successes, strengthen our volunteer base, and enhance our

outreach efforts. Together, we can ensure that Chipping Barnet Foodbank remains a beacon of hope for those experiencing food insecurity in our community.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to our employees, volunteers, and supporters. Your dedication and passion are what make our mission possible. Together, we are making a difference. Thank you for your continued support.

On a sidenote, you may also notice that our logo has changed. The Trussell Trust, now called Trussell, has recently refreshed its brand, the first update in over 20 years, to make it more accessible and reflective of the work done by food banks, like ours, in the network. This includes a new logo, fonts, and website that prioritise accessibility, making it easier for people facing hardship to find support and understand the wide range of services we provide beyond emergency food.

Martine Whitaker - Chair of Trustees' Board

Manager's Strategy Report

Chipping Barnet Foodbank Strategy to Alleviate Poverty in Barnet

Overview

Our strategy to Alleviate Poverty in Barnet has now been published.

[Strategy to Alleviate Poverty in Barnet 2023-2028](#)

Over the past year, we have made remarkable progress in implementing our strategic plan. We've successfully advanced or completed many of our key objectives, while others are well underway. Our achievements span across various areas, from improving our client experience, to strengthening community partnerships, improving our client wraparound support services, and campaigning and advocacy.

Strategy Management

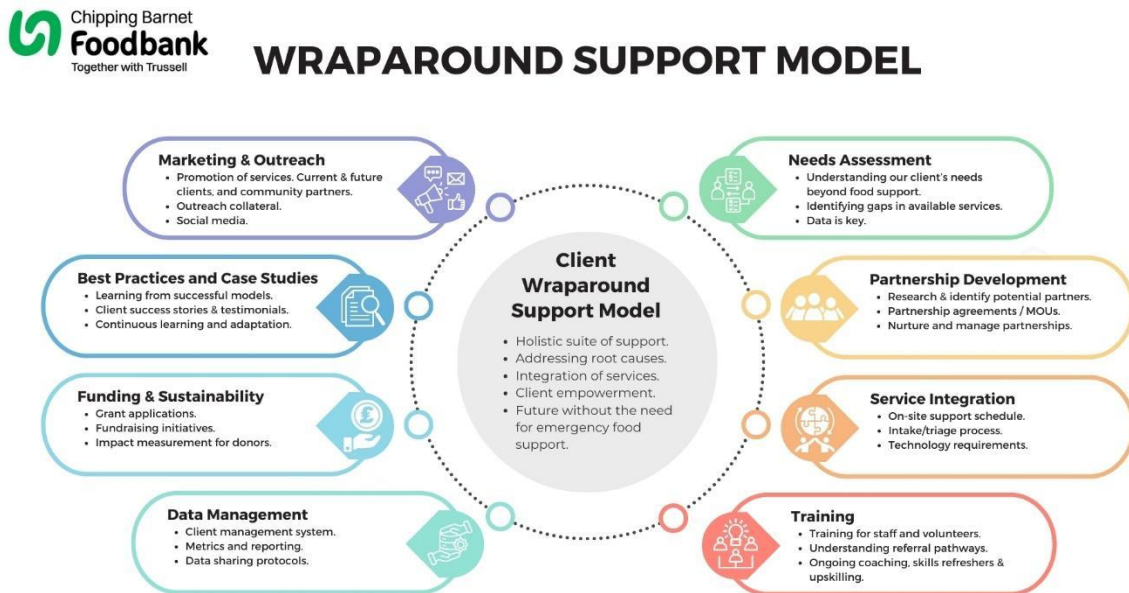
To ensure the effective implementation of our strategy, we have established a dedicated steering group that oversees our progress. This group, comprised of key stakeholders from our organisation as well as external collaborators and experts, meets quarterly to review and assess our progress against the activity plan. During these meetings, we evaluate each strategic initiative, observing our successes, and addressing any challenges that arise. We also have the opportunity of adding to the activity plan.

The steering group plays a crucial role in keeping us accountable to our goals, adjusting our approach when necessary, and ensuring that our efforts remain aligned with our overall mission and vision.

Key Achievements

Wraparound Support Model

We are successfully implementing our wraparound support model at Chipping Barnet Foodbank. The model is designed to provide a holistic approach to addressing the root causes of food insecurity, going beyond emergency food aid. It recognises that clients often face multiple challenges simultaneously and provides coordinated support across these areas through partnerships with local organisations. The goal is to empower clients by creating sustainable, long-term solutions for them through coordinated, multi-agency support, and ultimately help them move toward a future where they no longer need emergency food support.



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Onsite Support and Referral Pathways

Having onsite support and strong referral pathways is a crucial element of our wraparound support model. We therefore performed a mapping exercise where we looked at the most prominent reasons why clients were referred to our foodbank, and then we mapped them to local organisations in Barnet that could offer support. See mapping exercise example below.

Where possible and appropriate, we arranged for the organisation to do an onsite drop in with us at the food bank during client sessions. Where this was not possible, we ensured that we fully understood their referral pathway. We now have a monthly calendar of onsite support that we get printed and added to our socials, so that clients know when they can access specific support.



Mapping Exercise at Chipping Barnet Foodbank

Two areas we would like to expand are support for mental health concerns, and also housing issues. We do have referral pathways to support clients with these but would ideally like onsite support for mental health and also a Barnet housing officer on hand to support clients.

Moving forward, we will continue to monitor the reasons for referrals to ensure that we continue to offer the best, and most appropriate support to our clients.

Cooking and Recipes Initiatives

In June this year, we hosted a series of cooking demos, performed by Bread & Butter. They created some recipes and did some short demonstrations with clients to show them how to use certain items you receive at the food bank.

Additionally, we partnered with UCL for a one-off tasting session in July. It was part of their 'Feed your Brain' project, where their student team created recipes using only ingredients, we give out at the food bank. They prepared meals off-site and bought them in to the foodbank and offered samples for clients to try along with recipe cards.

These initiatives not only provided practical cooking tips but also promoted healthier eating habits, making it easier for clients to create nutritious meals with the food they receive from us.

Citizen's Advice Barnet (CAB) Report

Our dedicated CAB adviser, Juliana Fonseca, continues to provide an invaluable service to our clients.

In the last year, CAB have supported over 240 of our clients, which demonstrates the major demand for this service. CAB have also reported that a total of 43 clients are estimated to no longer need the food bank after accessing advice and support.

CAB's support has centred primarily on five key areas: benefits and tax credits, housing advice, debt management, immigration and employment. CAB have reported that the complexity of cases has increased significantly over this year, with a notable rise in the number of clients requiring ongoing support. We've seen a growing number of Universal Credit Managed Migration cases, which demand intricate calculations and detailed intervention. Housing matters have also become more complex, often requiring specialised support.

The early months of 2024 saw a marked increase in debt-related enquiries, with particular concerns around council tax arrears following a 4.98% increase in local rates. Many clients are operating on negative budgets, meaning their basic expenses exceed their income, creating a cycle of financial hardship that's increasingly difficult to break.

The housing crisis continues to impact the community significantly, with a consistent high demand for housing advice. There has been a notable increase in homelessness enquiries, and a rising proportion of clients aged 55 and over are facing housing challenges, highlighting the vulnerability of older residents in the current economic climate.

In response to growing demand and complexity of cases, we have expanded Juliana's role, and she now works four days per week rather than two. We were able to do this by expanding our Financial Inclusion grant from Trussell for a further two years. We have also introduced dedicated appointment slots and also specialised long appointments for complex cases.

Client Signposting Service

We were able to secure grant funding for Jacqui Roeder to continue in her role as Client Signposting Lead and she continues to be an integral part of the food bank team.

Our client signposting service is designed to provide clients with tailored support that goes beyond food provision, addressing the wider challenges they face.

Over the past year, Jacqui has consistently provided on-site support during client sessions, which has made her a familiar and trusted presence for our clients. In many cases, clients specifically request to meet with her, knowing that she can connect them to the right services. Her role has expanded to handle the distribution of fuel vouchers, supermarket vouchers, and to assist team leaders in issuing food vouchers, ensuring seamless support for those in immediate crisis.

Looking ahead, we are actively working to secure further funding to extend Jacqui's role, as the demand for her support continues to grow. Her contribution to the food bank is invaluable, and we aim to ensure that we can maintain this service to keep helping clients navigate their complex circumstances and work towards long-term stability.

Please see Jacqui Roeder's Client Signposting Lead Report below for more detailed information.

Digital Inclusion

We recognise that digital exclusion can exacerbate the challenges faced by those in poverty, limiting their access to essential services, employment opportunities, and support networks.

We now have 3 digital champions at the food bank, Hamidah Hamid, David Ford, and Leigh Rubins. They have been critical in bridging the digital divide for some of our clients. They can help clients with getting online, filling out forms, setting up email accounts, applying for services, searching for jobs, staying connected with family, and more. With so many essential tasks requiring internet access today, it is invaluable for clients to be able to access support to build their digital skills.

School Holiday Packed Lunch Program

This program provides essential support to families during school breaks, when the absence of free school meals can put additional strain on household budgets. Throughout the holidays, we offer packed lunches to children of families attending the food bank. During this year's summer holidays, we gave out 153 packed lunches.

Campaigning, Advocacy, and Organising

This year, our campaigning and advocacy work has taken significant strides, solidifying our role as a key voice in the fight against food poverty in Barnet. Through our involvement in local and national campaigns, we've sought to address the root causes of foodbank use by advocating for systemic change and influencing policy at various levels.

A central aspect of this has been our involvement in creating and being an active member of the Barnet Food Partnership. Together with local stakeholders, we've developed the [Barnet Food Charter](#) and have become a Sustainable Food Place. One of the working groups of the Barnet Food Partnership is the Barnet Food Security Action Group, which Bob Bevil now convenes.

In October 2023, we facilitated the London Borough of Barnet's first ever Food Summit which was attended by about seventy people, including Cabinet members and local councillors, with an interest in all areas of food and nutrition.

Looking ahead, our campaigning and advocacy work will remain a key priority, as we continue to build relationships with local authorities, influence policy, and create lasting change for those we support.

Please see Bob Bevil's Campaigning Advocacy and Organising Lead Report below for more detailed information.

Partnership with Feeding Britain

Feeding Britain is a national charity dedicated to ending hunger and food insecurity across the UK. They work with a network of local foodbanks, community projects, and partner organisations to develop sustainable solutions to food poverty. This year we became a partner of Feeding Britain because their mission aligns closely with our own vision of reducing the need for foodbanks. By partnering with them, we gain access to a broader network of resources, expertise, and advocacy efforts that will strengthen our work, particularly in tackling the root causes of food poverty in Barnet.

Fundraising

We have traditionally been mostly reactive when it comes to fundraising and we need to look at being more proactive. We have therefore appointed a new volunteer fundraiser who is going to support us with fundraising opportunities. Mary Keane comes to the role with fundraising experience with The Passage homelessness charity. We also hope to have more volunteers involved with this moving forward.

Victoria Miller – Foodbank Manager

Client Signposting Lead Report

Over the past year, I have built new and maintained existing relationships with our clients, increasing awareness of the additional support available. I have kept up to date with existing signposting organisations, ensuring a clear understanding of the support offered, eligibility criteria, referral timescales, and available funding. Additionally, I have established connections with new organisations. To make this information more accessible, I introduced leaflet booklets, which have been placed on tables for clients to browse. These are organised into categories such as Family, General, International, Employment, etc., making it easier for clients to identify advice and support organisations relevant to their needs.

Between September 2023 and August 2024, we provided signposting support to our clients on 446 occasions.

Types of Support Provided

On-site Support (320 engagements)

This covers support provided on-site at Chipping Barnet Foodbank, including fuel and supermarket vouchers, SIM cards, mobile phones, stationery, Greggs vouchers, blankets, vouchers for free local activities (such as Footgolf), and drop-ins from partner organisations.

This table shows the amount of support we have provided to clients just through our supermarket and fuel voucher provision:

Supermarket & Fuel Support Sept 2023 - Aug 2024

	No of Households	Supermarket Vouchers	Fuel Vouchers
ALDI & Sainsburys Gift Cards	47	£2,390	
Charis - Chipping Barnet Foodbank	11	£60	£561
Charis - Cadent TT Winter Fund	35	£2,090	£434
Fuel Bank	45		£2,399
Total	138	£4,540	£3,394

Advice Guide (68 engagements)

Advice was given verbally to clients, discussing possible support options or signposting them to relevant organisations.

Support Agency Leaflet/Webpage (114 engagements)

On 114 occasions, clients were given a leaflet or webpage link related to their area of need. This encourages clients to take the first step by initiating self-referrals and making contact with support organisations directly. This approach aims to empower clients to take action themselves to resolve or improve their situation.

Referrals (136 engagements)

Referrals were made on behalf of clients to various organisations. Our top referral partner was Sebby's Corner, which provides children's clothing, equipment, and toys for children up to the age of 10.

Main Client Challenges

For the clients that I engage with, the primary crises that they face are financial hardship, largely driven by benefit issues and sanctions, rising rental costs, the escalating cost of essentials, council tax increases, and soaring energy bills. These financial pressures have not been met with corresponding increases in benefits or wages, leaving many individuals struggling to make ends meet.

As a result, much of my signposting support has been internal, with Chipping Barnet Foodbank providing support like, energy vouchers through the Fuel Bank, supermarket vouchers (for clients unable to use our pre-packed food bags, such as those without access to cooking facilities or with specific dietary needs), accessing individual grants, SIM cards, and vouchers for free local activities.

Impact of the Cadent Trussell Grant

In January 2024, Chipping Barnet Foodbank received access to the Cadent Trussell grant. Through this grant, we supported 76 households facing fuel poverty by providing supermarket vouchers, heaters, air fryers, duvets, heated blankets, and energy vouchers. The total value distributed to households through this grant was £3,084.95.

Volunteer Signposting Team

I am working towards setting up a dedicated signposting team at Chipping Barnet Foodbank. To achieve this, I have been hosting Signposting Training workshops for our volunteers. These interactive sessions provide volunteers with information about internal and external organisations and the support they can offer, giving them the confidence and knowledge to signpost effectively. This is helping us to expand our capacity to provide signposting support on a wider scale.

Jacqui Roeder – Client Signposting Lead

Campaigning Advocacy and Organising Lead Report

Background

Being relatively new in post for the last annual report I submitted highlights of activity. I have gained more knowledge and experience now and can report in more detail and more strategically under the banners of “Changing Minds” and “Changing Policy.”

Changing Minds

School Engagement

This last year has seen a proactive engagement with schools through workshops being hosted at the food bank and lessons and assemblies being delivered in schools. I have worked with primary and secondary schools alike. The number of relationships with schools and the depth of those relationships has significantly increased.

A good example is the work we did with ARK Pioneer Academy on the First Give project which involved reciprocal visits with Howe Year 8 Class culminating in a presentation to the year group and a local judging panel. The presentation about CBFB won the competition and £1000 for CBFB funded by the Jack Petchey Foundation.

Community Group Engagement

Similarly to school engagement, all the established community groups in EN4 and EN5 have been proactively approached for engagement to learn and understand about our service. In partnership with Teresa Williams, we have built some new and deeper relationships, and referral partners, in the community.

Local examples where community engagement presentations have taken place include Bevatone House, the Wellbeing Café and Onwards and Upwards.

Faith Group Engagement

Engagement with faith groups requires more work and has not flourished in the same way as school and community engagement. However, we are actively working on this with

Abraham Kalyapu who is the Church Engagement Manager for Trussell in London who has visited CBFB.

An example of work completed under this banner dates to May / June 2024 which was an in-service Q & A session held at St. John's Church, which is available on YouTube and reported on in the St. John's Church Record.

Media and Publications

This is an area of work that has burgeoned over the year. I now have a suite of contributions shared to CBFB's social media platforms as well as a number of articles published in The Barnet Post. The focus is very much on the alleviation of poverty and the reliance being placed on the voluntary sector to deal with this. The recent decision by the council to cease funding the Barnet Food Hub has led to a number of interview requests from local and national media.

Recent examples of focussed media activity include the BBC TV item filmed at CBFB highlighting the impact of the loss of the Barnet Food Hub. There is also a live, and far more thorough interview, which went out on BBC Radio News about the same subject.

Building an Influence Base

The building of an influence base has really been mediated through activity on two groups. Firstly, as a steering group committee member of the Barnet Food Partnership I now have established links with partners from across the food system across the whole borough which is a rich source of collaboration. Secondly, as the convener of the Barnet Food Security Action Group it can be said that the emergency food providers across the borough are much closer now than they were and are shaping a more consolidated approach to the challenges of poverty.

An important part of this work is the current preparation to host "Feeding Barnet: A Food Security Summit" which will take place on November 2nd which will give consideration to compassionate, resilient and dignified alternative models of providing food security.

Strategic Volunteer Engagement

This is work in progress and it is true to say there is a lot of ad hoc, rather than formal, volunteer engagement going on. The goal is to build on these as strategic initiatives become clearer.

By way of examples, volunteers have staffed the table for the "Guarantee the Essentials" tablecloth campaign, volunteers often signpost clients when there may be interest in the job roles that are being advertised in the food bank and we do have a dedicated volunteer who has started supporting the school workshops.

Relationships with Other Emergency Food Suppliers

As stated above this has significantly improved this year and not just because of the Barnet Food Security Action Group.

We are keen to have reciprocal visits to learn and share best practice. By way of examples, we have recently hosted Euston Foodbank and Kentish Town Foodbank, and we have recently visited the Romanian Community Charity food bank.

Changing Policy

Relationships with Elected Decision Makers

This has become far more formalised and has improved over the last year. CBFB is well known to the new local MP who visited prior to being elected for a community meeting. The MP has been accessible and has tried to support with the decision to close the Barnet Food Hub. In addition, it should be noted that we have also hosted a recent Mayoral visit at which our ideas and strategy were presented.

The best examples of progress under this heading are the relationships built with the councillors in the immediate wards who now receive regular ward level data for the uptake of our service. Evidence suggests they really appreciate this service.

Partnership with Barnet Council

Progress has been made in this field with relationships developing across the directorates that touch on the issue of poverty. This has been down to active participation in many of the council's steering groups. We can now contact senior officers or directors in Public Health (food), Housing Options (housing issues) and Planning (job opportunities).

The best example under this banner includes the recent invitation to present the CBFB wraparound model to the council's Health and Wellbeing Board where I believe the value of CBFB to contribute more than just emergency food provision was clear to see.

Client Engagement

Rather than a formalised anti-poverty campaign with clients involved, this work has tended to be one-to-one advocacy and sign-posting work with examples being filling in official forms and signposting to officers in housing, educational welfare, primary school admission and local councillors, among others.

The stand-out success here has been the team effort culminating in the successful rehousing of a family who had been in completely inappropriate "emergency accommodation" for years.

Campaign Shaping

Having researched the reasons why clients come to CBFB I have initiated a campaign called the Local Employment Opportunities Campaign (LEOC) whereby our clients will get sight of, and support to apply, for the many Section106 job opportunities in the borough. The borough has an enormous amount of construction going on (e.g. the Victoria Quarter) and, in short, there are binding obligations with the developers to support residents into work in this field. These are the Section 106 opportunities. The work I am doing brings the developer, Fair View in this case, The Shaw Trust, The LBB Senior Section 106 officer,

BOOST, and myself around the table to build a system supporting our clients. This visible and formalised approach has never existed before. Initial meetings have been completed for this project and an action plan is in place.

This project runs in conjunction with other campaigns like the Trussell's "Guarantee Our Essentials Campaign." Ahead of the Autumn Budget, one of Trussell's asks is calling on the UK Government to introduce a protected minimum floor in Universal Credit (UC) so benefit deductions and the benefit cap don't push people into hunger and hardship; an important step towards delivering an Essentials Guarantee. This is very much visible in our foodbank through the "Laying it out on the Table" initiative whereby clients, volunteers, and the wider community have been writing their "stories" of hardship and hope on a tablecloth.

At a local level, the tablecloth has been very visible in the community and will feature heavily in the forthcoming "Feeding Barnet: A Food Security Summit" event at the ARK Pioneer School on November 2nd and will be used as a tool to lobby the London Borough of Barnet.

At a national level, for the next steps of the campaign, Trussell will be holding a UK moment on 20 November alongside the publication of Mid-Year stats to urge the UK Government to take urgent action on hardship. Trussell will be sharing some of the stories of hardship and hope from tablecloths around the country through different activities and through a newspaper called the "The Hardship Times", where they will be transforming Parliament Square into a 'media frenzy' and distributing it around Westminster.

I'd like to extend a note of thanks to the clients, volunteers, and community partners who have supported me in this role which I love dearly.

Bob Bevil - Campaigning Advocacy and Organising Lead

Operations & Warehousing Report

Our stock management regime has settled into a regular routine; a significant proportion of our stock is bought in. On a Monday I visit Aldi and collect any store and customer donations through the Neighbourly scheme; I also purchase a trolley load of food. Every Thursday we have a booked recurring on-line shopping delivery through Asda. We are currently spending about £1000 per week for these two purchases which ensures we always have enough food for the week ahead, but we have little in the way of back up stock. We are operating on a "just in time" basis.

We had very generous donations at both Harvest Festival and Christmas, for which we are incredibly grateful. Additionally, Waitrose have given us an opportunity to take part in their Food Drive Weeks. This involves a team of in-store volunteers promoting and collecting customer donations; we were at High Barnet in March and Whetstone in September of this year.

Since 2020, our main source of fresh food has been through the Barnet Food Hub, based in the old East Barnet library. Sadly, from 1st October 2024, Barnet Council have decided to cease funding this scheme. We are now transferring to get fresh from the Felix Project; this change has only just started, and we are monitoring how it is settling in.

We will continue to pick up surplus food from Costco every Tuesday morning for our Tuesday client session. Moving forward we are looking at other options to source fresh food.

During the summer months, we are very lucky to have some of our local allotments delivering some fresh produce to us too.

Gail's Bakery have supplied excess bread and cakes to us twice a week and we have a small team of volunteers to collect this. Recently, we understand that a new manager has been appointed and they are baking less than previously, meaning less leftovers for us. Ursula from Flower Bank delivers some fresh baked goods she picks up from Marks & Spencer's.

Our annual stock take was completed on 11th September, and we reconciled the actual stock against the "stock on system" figure; there was a less than 1% error. We have 1.3 tonnes of food which represents about one week's turnover. Comparisons with previous years are shown below: -

Year	Weight (tonnes)
2018	1.3
2019	1.5
2020	5.5
2021	3.8
2022	1.5
2023	2.2
2024	1.3

Harold Williams – Warehouse Manager

Health and Safety

We had one accident this year. A volunteer tripped over a loose plastic bag that the wind had blown onto the pathway. This resulted in some bruising and pain, but nothing lasting.

We continue to receive the product Safety Alerts from the Food Standards Agency; most of these alerts reference food that we never hold, but where there is a possibility we do check our stock; nothing was found this year.

Harold Williams – Warehouse Manager

Volunteering

Volunteers continue to be the backbone of our food bank.

We have been able to continue training new volunteers every 3 months and we are now organising training dates up to a year in advance. A big thank you to Martine Whitaker, who is also our Chair of Trustees, who trains our volunteers. We now have 223 volunteers spread across 4 rotas and ancillary roles.

We are continuing to support Duke of Edinburgh students on a Monday evening, with under 18's and their parent or guardian helping to sort and pack our donations. We have a mixture of bronze, silver and gold award students. Thank you to Richard Moysey who manages our DofE students.

This year has also seen lots of additional training opportunities offered to our volunteers. We have been able to offer the following training courses:

- Safeguarding
- Signposting
- Manual Handling
- Mental Health First Aid Awareness
- Compassion Fatigue
- SAFE: Security Advice for Everyone Training

In February this year, we had a volunteer 'bring & share' thanksgiving party, where we were able to come together as a volunteer community to celebrate everyone's contributions.

We continue to be ever so grateful to our volunteers, without whom we wouldn't be able to operate the food bank. Thank you to each and every one of you.

Peter Mc Mahon –Volunteer Coordinator

Voucher Holders/Referral Agencies

Our list of Voucher Holders continues to grow. We now have 233 referral agencies on our system. An increase in the number using the E-voucher system has saved administration. In the past year we have provided increased support to the key organisations, particularly Schools and Children's Centres, with a focus on families and children.

We have been able to donate supermarket vouchers to these Referral Agencies to distribute, based on their local knowledge of family needs, for the purchase of school uniform and fresh food. Our support for New Citizen's Gateway, Solace, Leaving Care and Supported Living continues alongside this.

Teresa Williams – Voucher Holder Manager

Treasurer's Report

During the Financial Year ended 31/5/2024 our tax efficient donations increased by 11%, our large donations however were down on the previous year by approx. 58%. The main large donations were from BKL, Pentland Brands, Association of Private Crematoria & Cemeteries, Giving Force Foundation and Aralbridge Limited.

We received a number of grants from Trussell during the year. We received a grant for the manager's salary of £23K; a grant for the Campaigning and Advocacy Lead of £40K; a grant for Citizen's Advice of £24K; a sustainability grant to cover the cost of the Sign Posting Lead salary of £14K; and the cost of purchasing stock amounting to £27K. We also received 3 grants from Age UK amounting to £18K to cover the cost of feeding the over 55s at the foodbank. Victoria and Bob were also able to secure donations from First Give and the Co-op community fund to cover the cost of the shortfall for the Citizen's Advice service we offer.

Our costs have risen by 57% compared to last year. Our main costs are salaries and food. There has been a fourfold increase in the cost of purchasing food stock and from March 2023 we were able to secure a sustainability grant from Trussell to cover the cost of purchasing this food. We have continued to distribute both supermarket and fuel vouchers to clients, although the cost of fuel vouchers is lower than last year since we were able to take advantage of a grant from the Cadent Foundation to cover some of these costs. In addition, we have also purchased school uniform vouchers amounting to £5k for clients. We have also maintained regular donations to the following organisations: Solace, New Citizen's Gateway, Support to those Leaving Care, Underhill Children's centre, Bevatone House and Jim's Café.

Rental costs have also increased due to having a full year of hiring the church hall where clients can have a cup of tea and take advantage of the support we offer including Citizen's Advice, Digital Skills, Boost Barnet, Christian's Against Poverty debt advice and Shaw Trust employment support.

In order to meet financial standards set out by the charity commission, we have continued to have a reserves policy which represents three months of forecast expenditure based on current spending. It is currently set at £54K.

Overall, we had a surplus of income over expenditure of £46,566 for the financial year. We had forecast that given the increased costs of food there would be a deficit for the year, but the sustainability grant received from Trussell of £27K and the Age UK grants amounting to £18K resulted in an overall surplus for the year.

I would like to thank the management team and especially Margaret Spillman for their continued support.

Arlette Jennings – Treasurer

Income and Expenditure

Chipping Barnet Foodbank		
Accounts for Year Ended 31/05/2024		
Income		
	Year Ended 31/05/2024	Year ended 31/05/2023
Tax Efficient Donations	£19,549	£17,629
Large Donations	£20,870	£49,628
Other Donations	£28,638	£30,248
Grants	£165,042	£91,921
ACTS 435	£855	£0
Reimbursements	£153	£0
Designated Donations	£2,080	£0
Fundraising	£94	£438
HMRC Refunds	£6,141	£3,648
Bank Interest	£1,386	£173
Total	£244,808	£193,685
Expenses		
	Year Ended 31/05/2024	Year Ended 31/05/2023
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Recruitment costs	-£38	£1,333
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Computers	£0	£1,825
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Salaries	£67,869	£28,344
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Bevatone House	£1,870	£0
Age Uk vouchers	£4,960	£0
Total	£198,242	£126,664
Surplus/Deficit	£46,566	£67,021
Bank Balance 31 May 2023/22	£168,912	£101,891
Reconciled Balance 31 May 2024/23	£215,478	£168,912

Notes

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Bevatone House	£900	£0
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	<u>£25,150</u>	<u>£21,020</u>

2 Grants

	B/fwd	Received	Salaries	Payments	C/fwd
Manager Grant	£0	£23,000	-£23,000	£0	£0
CAB Grant	£4,422	£40,691	£0	-£20,562	£24,551
Sign Posting Lead Grant	£6,136	£945	-£7,081	£0	£0
Campaign and Advocacy Lead Grant	£37,230	£40,563	-£34,915	-£715	£42,163
Sustainability Grant	£0	£41,843	-£3,469	-£6,900	£31,474
Age Uk Grant	£0	£18,000	£0	-£18,000	£0
Acts 435	£150	£855	£0	-£1,005	£0
	<u>£47,938</u>	<u>£165,897</u>	<u>-£68,465</u>	<u>-£47,182</u>	<u>£98,188</u>

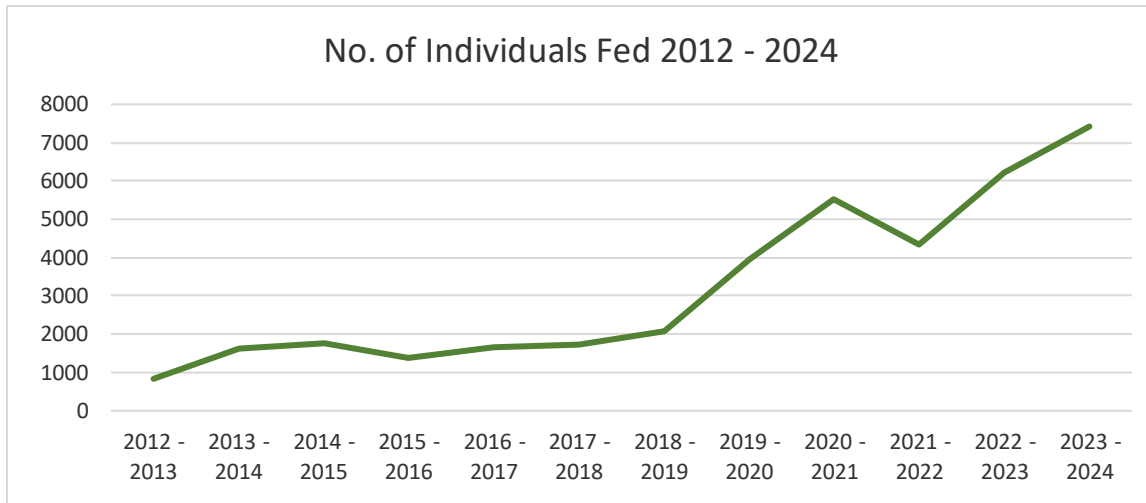
Statements of Assets and Liabilities

Chipping Barnet Foodbank			
Accounts for Year Ended 31/05/2024			
Statement of Assets and Liabilities			
	Notes	2024	2023
Assets			
Current Account		£53,644	£60,944
Savings Account	2	£161,834	£107,968
Debtors			
PAYE		£143	£0
Total Assets		<u>£215,621</u>	<u>£168,912</u>
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
PAYE and Pension Fund		£0	£984
ACTS 435		£0	£150
Total liabilities		<u>£0</u>	<u>£1,134</u>
Total Assets less Liabilities		£215,621	£167,778
Restricted Funds			
Reserves	2	£98,188	£47,938
		£117,433	£119,840

Statistics

Number of Individuals Fed

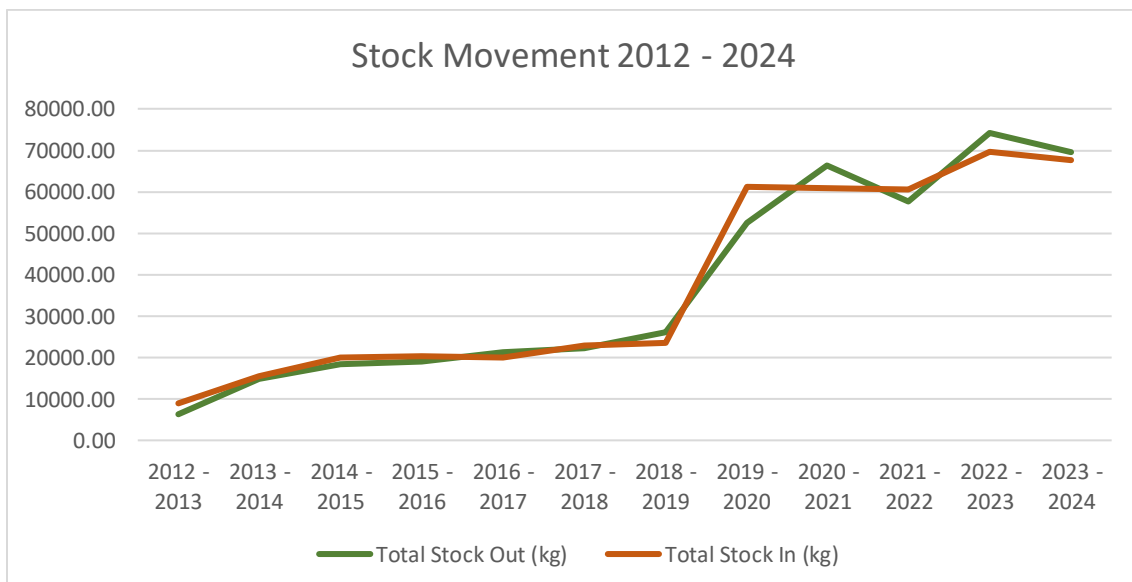
We provided food to 7421 individuals, which is an increase of 19% in the number of people we have fed through our voucher system.



Stock Movement

In terms of our stock movement, stock out has reduced by 6%. It is worth noting here that due to declining food donations, we have decreased the amount of food we are giving out to our partner organisations. Instead, we are supporting them through the provision of supermarket vouchers (see below).

The total stock coming into the food bank decreased by 3%. This is not a substantial change to last year.



Supermarket Voucher Support

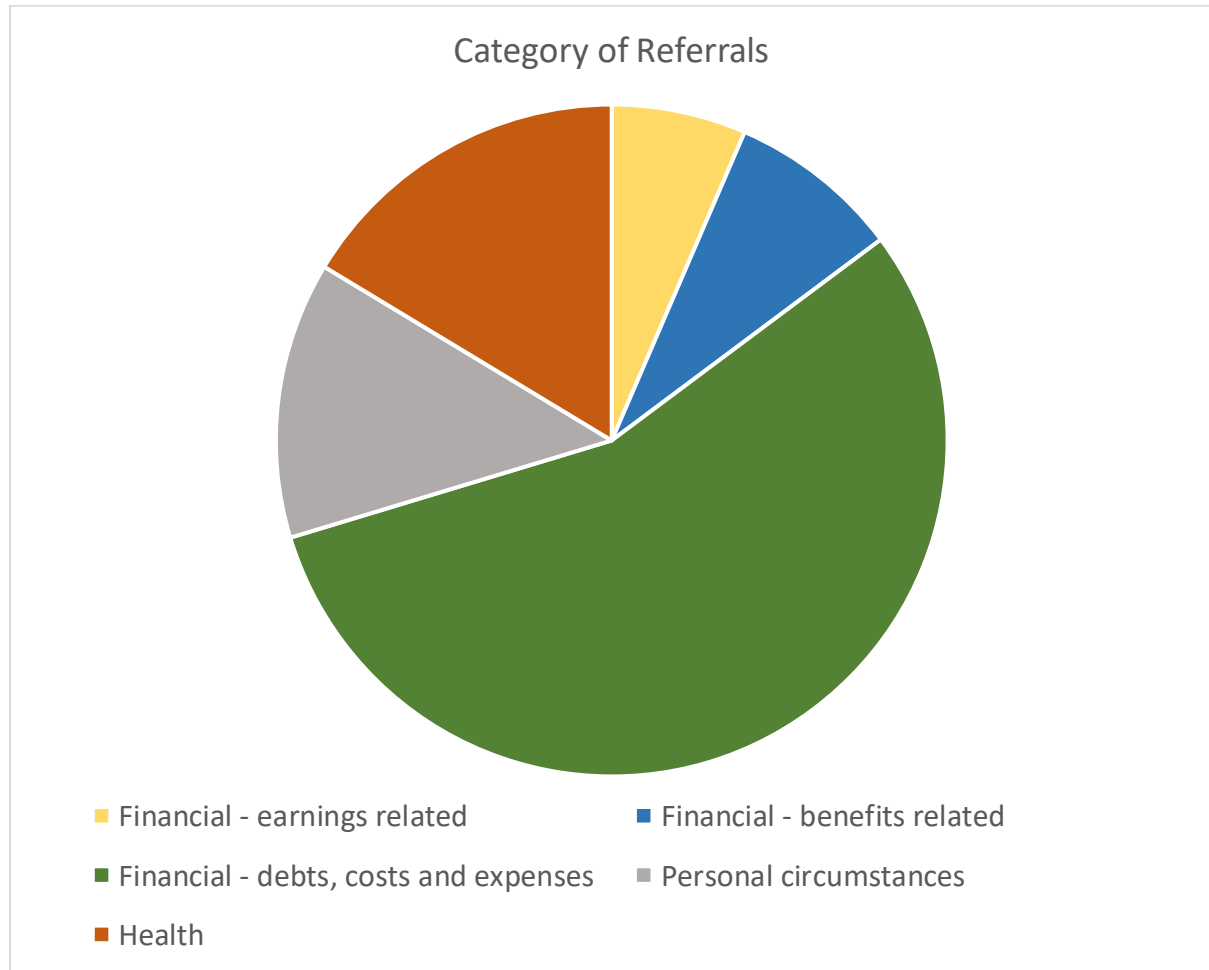
We have supported the following organisations with supermarket vouchers for their most vulnerable clients and families.

Noah's Ark, Solace Women's Aid, Cromer Road Primary School, Underhill Primary School and Children's Centre, New Citizen's Gateway, Leaving Care Team, Oakleigh School, Oak Lodge School, Bevatone House, Ocean House, CAP, Jim's Café, BEYA, Friends in Need, Salvation Army. St Catherines Primary School, Brunswick Park Primary School, Sacred Heart Primary School, Whitings Hill Primary School, Hope Corner, and Good Neighbourhood Scheme.

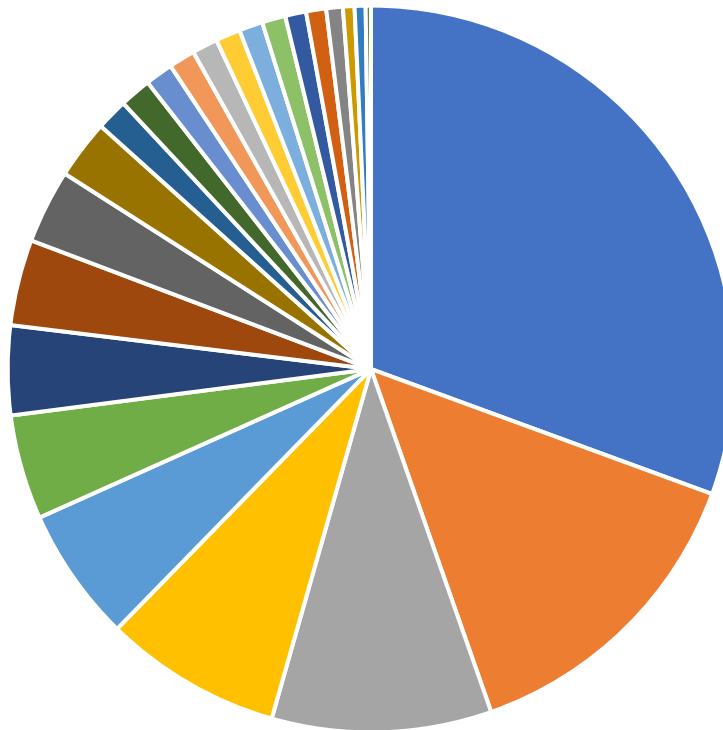
Over two projects running over the year, one at Christmas and one at Easter, we have provided £19,000 of supermarket vouchers to support individuals and families in need. We estimate that this equates to supporting an additional 950 individuals with food support over the year.

Crisis Types

Rising cost of essentials, low income, debt, benefit related issues, immigration, and physical and mental health issues are the most common reasons for people visiting our food bank. Being insecurely housed, unemployment, domestic abuse, and loss of financial support, are also crises we see frequently.



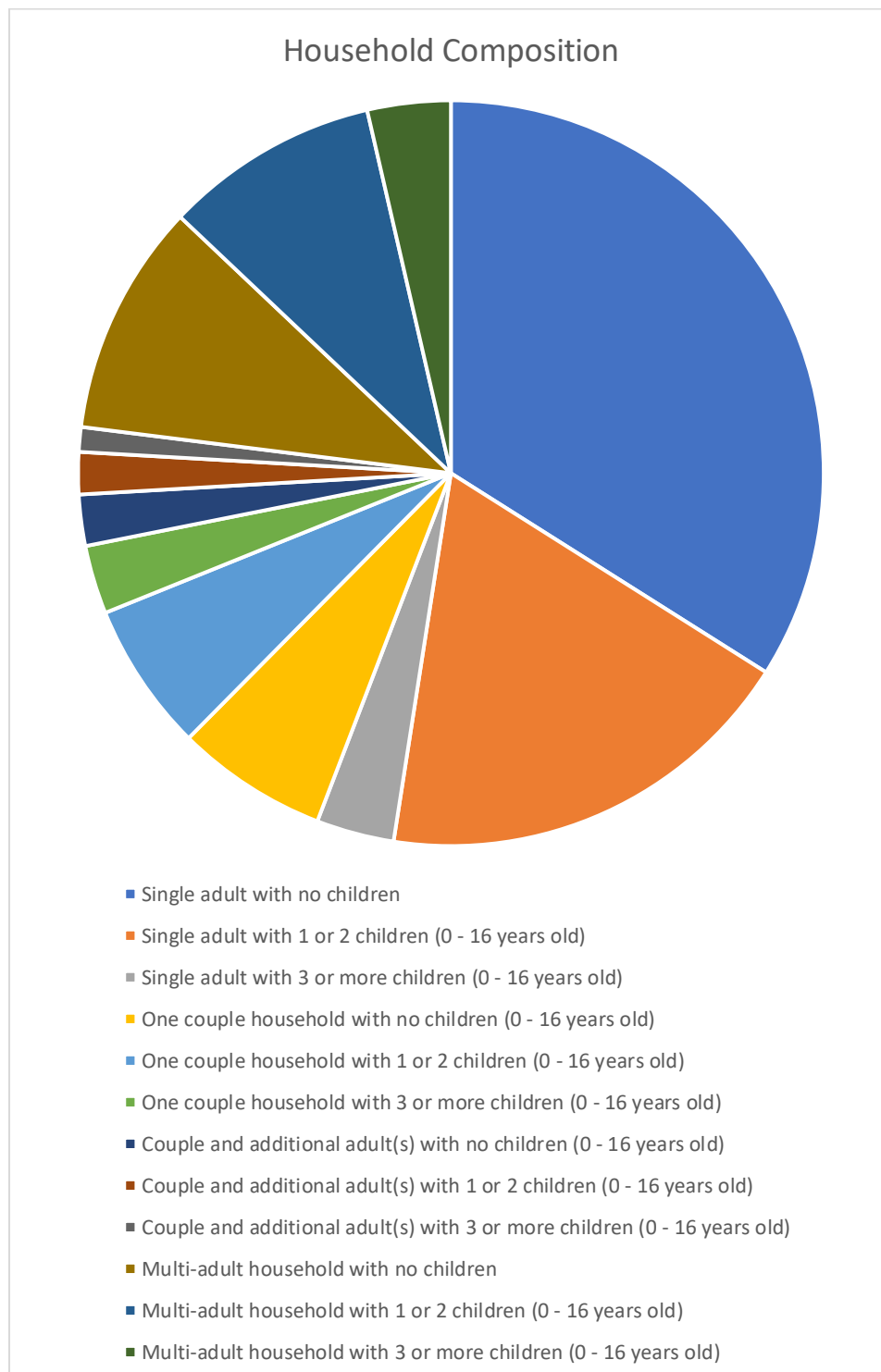
Reasons for Referral



- Rising costs of essentials
- Ongoing impact of physical or mental health condition
- Priority debt
- Cost of dependents has increased
- No access to financial support due to immigration status
- Benefit delay
- Other unexpected expense
- Insecurely housed
- Non-priority debt
- Unemployment following permanent work
- Change in work hours
- Delay in or awaiting other income
- Benefit deduction due to overpayment or benefit advance
- Change in existing physical or mental health condition
- New physical or mental health condition
- Domestic abuse
- Unemployment following temporary work
- Loss of support from friends or family
- Benefit reduction due to change in eligibility
- Change in dependents

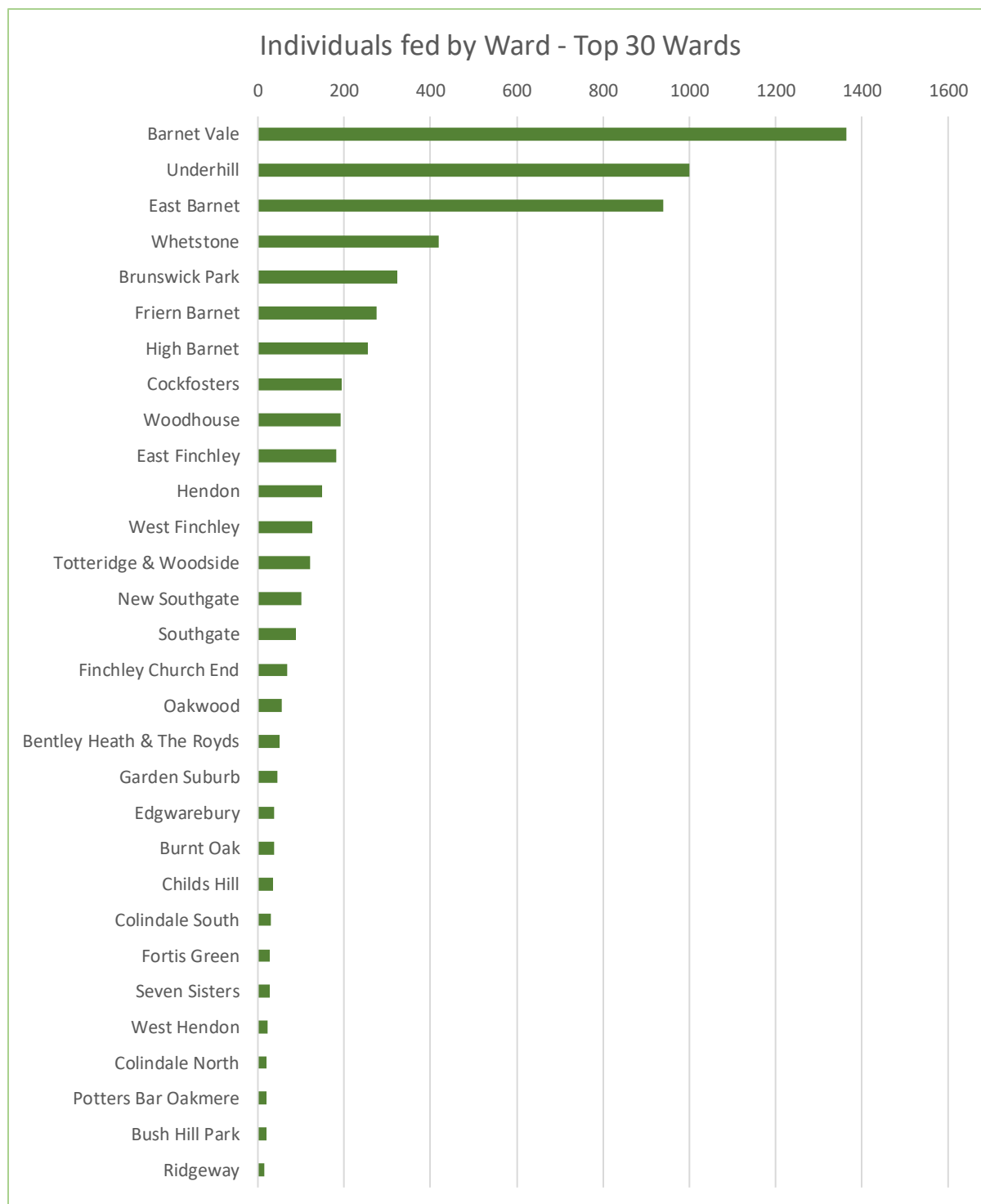
Family Size

Looking at family size, we can see that 34% of our clients are from a single adult household with no children and 22% are from a single adult household with 1 or more children. 6% of our clients are from a one couple household with no children and 9% are from a one couple household with 1 or more children. When looking at households with multiple adults (either a couple and additional adults or multi-adult), we are seeing 12% of those with no children and 16% of these households have 1 or more children.



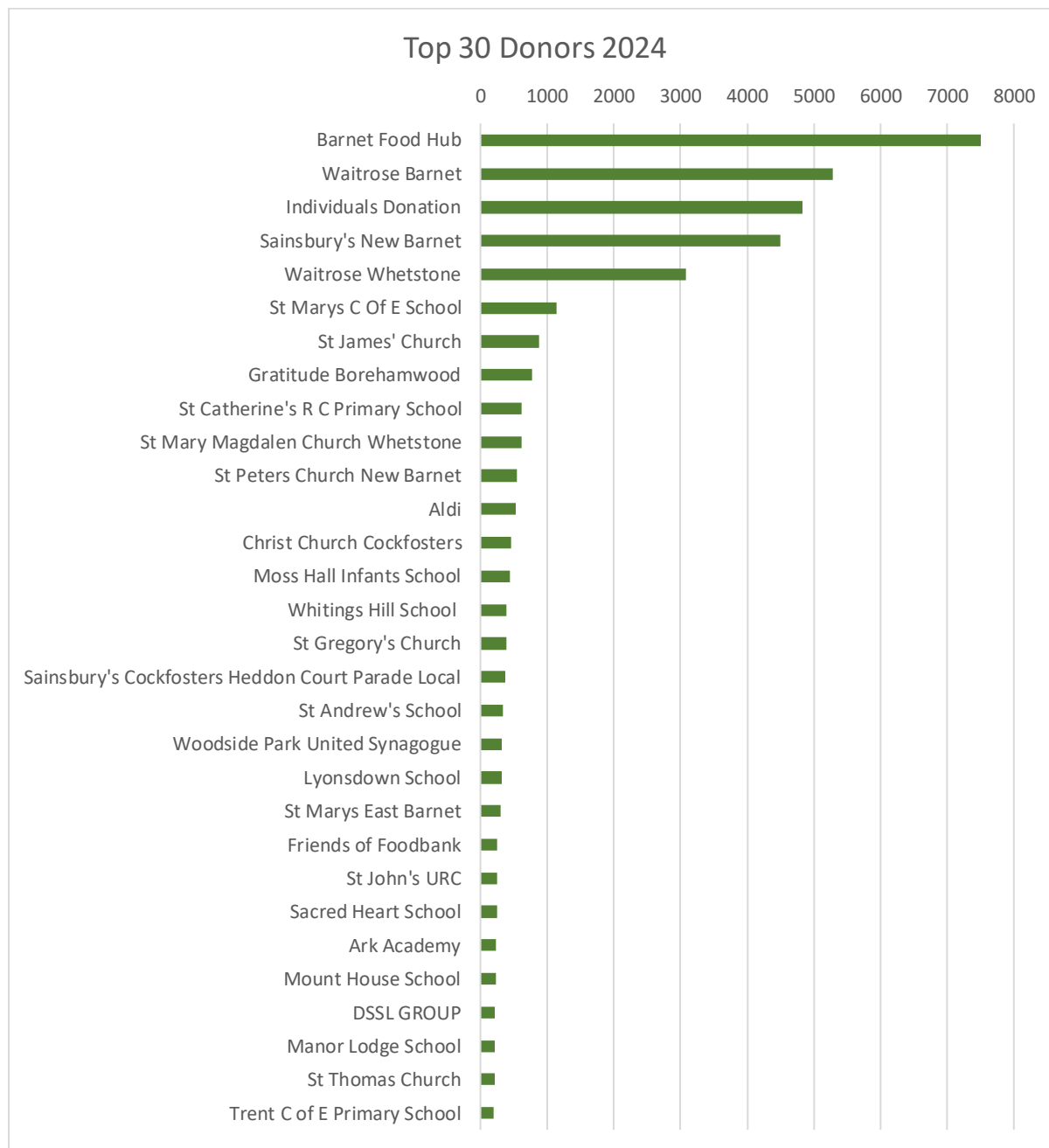
Wards

When we look at the wards our clients live in, we can see in the bar chart below that Barnet Vale, Underhill, East Barnet, Whetstone, Brunswick Park, Friern Barnet, High Barnet, and Cockfosters are the most common.



Donors

Finally, you can see on the bar chart below our top 30 donors for this year.



Thank You

- ♥ All volunteers who contributed their precious time and energy to work for the food bank. We are eternally grateful to you all.
- ♥ Our generous donors include churches, synagogues, mosques, schools, businesses, local allotments, community groups, other charities, and the many individuals who have offered such substantive food and financial support.
- ♥ The many businesses across the borough who have long provided us permanent or short-term collection points, such as Waitrose in High Barnet and Whetstone, Sainsburys in New Barnet and Cockfosters, Co-Op in Mays Lane and East Barnet, Marie Shoes in East Barnet, and Potters Pantry.
- ♥ St. Peter's RC Church New Barnet for allowing us use of their parish centre and hall for our food bank sessions.
- ♥ Adrienne McPherson, Alice Webster, Sophie Clark, James Farndon, Tony Panayiotou, Abraham Kalyapu, Neil Bird, Heather Buckingham, and Trussell as a whole.
- ♥ Juliana Fonseca, Nadya Bari and Louise Broadbent at Citizens Advice Barnet.
- ♥ Fay Morris at BOOST Barnet and Vinoga Vasantharajah from the Barnet Food Hub, who have been fundamental in supporting us with our digital inclusion offer.
- ♥ Christians Against Poverty, BOOST Barnet, Bread & Butter, UCL, Shaw Trust, and Change Grow Live, for all doing on-site drops ins with us this year to help support our clients.
- ♥ Joyce Harman and Margaret Spillman for tirelessly inputting our voucher and stock data.
- ♥ Hamidah Hamid, David Ford, and Leigh Rubins, our Digital Champions, who lead our digital inclusion sessions.
- ♥ Louie Harvey for managing all our social media.
- ♥ Pat Caplan for her continued advice and support.
- ♥ Charis, Cadent, and Fuel Bank Foundation for the provision of fuel voucher services.
- ♥ The Barnet Food Hub for their amazing support with fresh food over the last 4 years. We are going to miss you all.
- ♥ Kat Carr, Public Health Officer and overseer of The Barnet Food Plan, for facilitating our collaboration with, and access to, the London Borough of Barnet.
- ♥ To our friends in the Barnet Food Partnership. By joining this group of amazing people interested in food in the locality, we are ultimately improving what we do for our clients and service users across the borough.
- ♥ To our local MP Dan Tomlinson, and all our local councillors for their support.
- ♥ Gail's Bakery for a plentiful supply of baked goods.
- ♥ Ursula Stone from Flower Bank who delivers fresh baked goods and flowers to us.
- ♥ Wendy from Incredible Edible for supporting our clients with growing opportunities.
- ♥ Local faith groups for supporting us through their congregations.
- ♥ Young people in the borough who contributed time and donations as part of fundraising activities or Duke of Edinburgh awards.
- ♥ Jim Whitaker for delivering our manual handling training.
- ♥ Our Independent Examiner of Accounts, Chris Jones.

Treasurer's Report

During the Financial Year ended 31/5/2024 our tax efficient donations increased by 28%, our large donations however were down on the previous year by approx. 68%. The main large donations were from BKL, Pentland Brands, Association of Private Crematoria & Cemeteries, Giving Force Foundation and Aralbridge Limited.

We received a number of grants from the Trussell Trust during the year. We received a grant for the manager's salary of £23K; a grant for the Campaigning and Advocacy Lead of £40K; a grant for Citizen's Advice of £24K; a sustainability grant to cover the cost of the Sign Posting Lead salary of £14K; and the cost of purchasing stock amounting to £27K. We also received 3 grants from Age UK amounting to £18K to cover the cost of feeding the over 55s at the foodbank. Victoria and Bob were also able to secure donations from First Give and the Co-op community fund to cover the cost of the shortfall for the Citizen's Advice service we offer.

Our costs have risen by 57% compared to last year. Our main costs are salaries and food. There has been a fourfold increase in the cost of purchasing food stock and from March 2023 we were able to secure a sustainability grant from the Trussell Trust to cover the cost of purchasing this food. We have continued to distribute both supermarket and fuel vouchers to clients, although the cost of fuel vouchers is lower than last year since we were able to take advantage of a grant from the Cadent Foundation to cover some of these costs. In addition, we have also purchased school uniform vouchers amounting to £5k for clients. We have also maintained regular donations to the following organisations: Solace, New Citizen's Gateway, Support to those Leaving Care, Underhill Children's centre, Bevatone House and Jim's Café.

Rental costs have also increased due to having a full year of hiring the church hall where clients can have a cup of tea and take advantage of the support we offer including Citizen's Advice, Digital Skills, Boost Barnet, Christian's Against Poverty debt advice and Shaw trust employment support.

In order to meet financial standards set out by the charity commission, we have continued to have a reserves policy which represents three months of forecast expenditure based on current spending. It is currently set at £54K.

Overall, we had a surplus of income over expenditure of £46,566 for the financial year. We had forecast that given the increased costs of food there would be a deficit for the year, but the sustainability grant received from the Trussell Trust of £27K and the Age UK grants amounting to £18K resulted in an overall surplus for the year.

I would like to thank the management team and especially Margaret Spillman for their continued support.

Arlette Jennings

Treasurer, Chipping Barnet Foodbank

Chipping Barnet Foodbank

Accounts for Year Ended 31/05/2024

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Chipping Barnet Foodbank

Accounts for Year Ended 31/05/2024

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Restricted Funds	2	£98,188	£47,938
Reserves		£117,433	£119,840

Independent Examiner's report to the trustees of Chipping Barnet Foodbank

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Chipping Barnet Foodbank (CBFB) for the year ended 31 May 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of CBFB 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 CBFB's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement – matter of concern identified

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 CBFB as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records.

In carrying out my examination, I have noted that some of your accounting records, particularly relating to the management of restricted funds, are not of the same high standard as the records of general receipts and payments and this has necessitated a number of requests for further information and clarification. There has been some progress since I commented on this last year, but the restricted funds you have received have increased in number and complexity and further improvement in record keeping is desirable.

I have no other 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.



Chris Jones

1 November 2024

80 Eton Avenue, East Barnet, Hertfordshire. EN4 8TY