

Introduction by Chair of Trustees, Taunton Foodbank, 2021

It is a great pleasure to reflect on the last year. A steady stream of new challenges added by COVID compounded the pressure to respond to the constantly changing and unpredictable demand for emergency food. Staff, volunteers, partners, and our many supporters who give food donations or financial help have sustained operations that have not stopped and hit new records.

Starting the year in full lockdown, with a delivery service enabled by Taunton and West Somerset Council, we eventually evolved a collection system, but, as of course with everyone else, had to contend with a changing backdrop of regulation and advice. At the same time, some communities launched local food distributions, which in hindsight took some of the pressure off us, although it added to the difficulty in forecasting needs. Ultimately though, we distributed an unprecedented 94 tonnes of food, 45% more than the previous year.

Throughout the period we continued to receive a good flow on donations. Financial donations increased, partly through people and organisations giving money in lieu of food. And at the end of the year we found ourselves arranging to receive a van, complete with Taunton Foodbank livery, donated by a local car dealer.

Until this year, the Foodbank supported distributions in Langport, but it became apparent to us and the local team that Langport would be better served by a locally led administration, for example better placed to work with their local district council. And so we have formally stopped distributions through Langport, and wish them well in future.

Having started mentioning the remarkable support we have, I'd like to finish by thanking all those who make our work possible each day, particularly through this extraordinary year.



Howard Mathers

24 January 2022

Objectives & activities

To relieve persons in West Somerset and Taunton and the surrounding area that are in financial hardship in such a way as the Trustees from time to time think fit, in particular, but not exclusively by:

- (a) providing emergency food, essential toiletries and household items to individuals and families in need and/or for distribution by charities or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty; and
- (b) such other means including (but not limited to) the provision of support or signposting to relevant information and other advisory services.

Summary of the main activities

The financial year 2020-2021 was heavily influenced by the demands and operational constraints brought about by the COVID pandemic. In this wider context, the main activities have included:

- promotion of the needs of the Foodbank for donations of food
- receipt and organisation of donations in the main warehouse
- distribution of food from the Taunton warehouse and distribution centres at Wellington, Langport and Wiveliscombe, to individuals referred to the Foodbank by recognised agencies: operations through the Langport ceased mid-year by mutual agreement
- provision of food to families referred by school support workers during holiday periods
- occasional support to other charitable organisations, for example Open Door (RCN 1122040): an annual payment is made to the Trussell Trust (RCN 1110522) for ongoing support as a member of its network of Foodbanks
- additional support, in particular our normal signposting to other social support agencies, was severely limited by the COVID restrictions on client contact.

Public benefit

The Trustees met 6 times and were satisfied that all activities remained compliant with the public benefit requirements that we consider to be self-evidence in the charity's objectives (above).

Main achievements

Donations have been received to satisfy all referrals, again with a considerable increase in activity over the previous year. Activity was affected by a range of factors, and with the generosity of our supporters we were able to maintain a cushion against new shocks with a substantial increase in our year end balance of stock (23te compared with 11te in 2020) and cash (see comment below). Distributions in more detail:

	Food distributed (tonnes)	Food parcels distributed	Individuals directly benefitting
2020-21 (this year)	93.9	2974	8243
2019-20	63.6	2636	6355

Financial review

At the end of the year, the cash balance was £151,004 approximately £100k above the opening balance. The Trustees attribute this to the remarkable compassion among supporters through the period of crisis, together with a shift in some areas from giving food to giving money on account of lockdown and associated restrictions. A new requirement emerged for a van to facilitate distribution, as the restrictions on clients visiting the warehouse could not be forecast with any confidence. In the end, money that had been husbanded towards a purchase or lease was not required because we received the donation of a van that met our needs very well.

Also, during the year there was much discussion among the Trustees and consultation with the Trussell Trust on whether, in view of the potential volatility created by COVID, we should adjust upwards our reserves policy. Within this discussion we noted that a new factor was the emergence of a number of new groups responding to very local needs with food distributions. How long these would continue to operate was impossible to predict, and therefore we have had to take the view that there has been an underlying need that exceeds our distribution figures, and we need to be prudent to provide for this if the conditions created by COVID continue.

At the end of the year the existing £10,000 lower limit had not been formally revised, but we were confident that the balance provided a very good measure of security, particularly in the light of the continuing levels of generosity among our support base.

Structure, governance and management

The trust is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, governed by a "Foundation model constitution".

The trust is part of the Trussell Trust Foodbank Network.

Reference and administrative details

Charity name	Taunton Foodbank
Other descriptor	Occasionally recognised as part of the network of Trussell Trust Foodbanks.
Registered charity number	1163094
Charity's principal address	Unit 4, Belvedere Trading Estate, Taunton TA1 1BH

Trustees 2020-2021

Diane Bayliss, Paula Clinchant, Jane Cobby, Christopher Cutting, John Dorling (from March 2021), Mary Hart, Stephen Jenkins, (from January 2021), Howard Mathers, Ben Thorne (until August 2020), Helen Wallace

No trustees act as Custodian Trustees. All significant property used by the charity is leased

Declaration

Signed on behalf of the Trustees



Howard Mathers
Chair

Date

24 January 2022



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

TAUNTON FOODBANK

1163094

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
01/04/20

To

Period end date
31/03/21

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	140,058	-	-	140,058	33,428
Gift Aid Tax Refund	-	-	-	-	5,903
Grants [inc Trussell Trust]	8,263	-	-	8,263	11,086
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	148,322	-	-	148,322	50,417
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	148,322	-	-	148,322	50,417
A3 Payments					
Wages	28,996	-	-	28,996	19,058
Rent	10,450	-	-	10,450	8,538
Groceries	2,011	-	-	2,011	-
Repairs, maintenance & pest control	1,473	-	-	1,473	1,327
Insurances	1,162	-	-	1,162	1,154
Telephone	918	-	-	918	694
Stationery and Printing & Postage	830	-	-	830	1,328
Light and Heat	641	-	-	641	625
Water	66	-	-	66	-
Staff Training / Welfare / Uniforms	66	-	-	66	370
Software	59	-	-	59	-
Travel, subsistence & Entertaining	21	-	-	21	153
Subscriptions	35	-	-	35	395
Sundries	53	-	-	53	393
Sub total	46,781	-	-	46,781	34,035
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Equipment	1,335	-	-	1,335	370
Building Works	66	-	-	66	19,436
Sub total	1,401	-	-	1,401	19,806
Total payments	48,182	-	-	48,182	53,841
Net of receipts/(payments)	100,140	-	-	100,140	-3,424
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	50,974	-	-	50,974	54,398
Cash funds this year end	151,114	-	-	151,114	50,974

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash in Hand and at Bank	151,114	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	151,114	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		John Dorling	John Dorling	24 Jan 2022



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

Taunton Foodbank

On accounts for the year
ended

31 March 2021

Charity no
(if any)

1163094

Set out on pages

1 and 2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above
charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 all 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 in connection with the examination (other than that
disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material
respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130
of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

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

Signed:

Date:

24 January 2022

Name:

Anthony Doyle

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

Accountant

Address:

38 Warren Street, Rockwell Green, Wellington, Somerset, TA21 9RY

Section B	Disclosure
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Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.

None
