

## Introduction by Chair of Trustees, Taunton Foodbank, 2024-2025

Demand has fallen by about 10-15% depending on the metric used, which, all other things being equal, must be seen as a good thing. However we are concerned to assess better if there are people who, for whatever reason, are unable to access our support, but because we depend on referrals from intermediaries, so far this has eluded us. We will keep at it.

At the same time, food donations have fallen by a similar amount, but in order to maintain the balance of our food parcels we have increased the purchase of food. Even so, we are pleased with the food support we receive, and our dependence on buying food remains less than many other foodbanks.

Our partnership with Citizens Advice - Somerset continues to deliver benefits for clients through the cost of living advice provided. We have also welcomed Somerset village Agents who attend to provide advice during our opening hours.

Seeing the benefits of these arrangements, and the stability of our financial surplus, the Trustees have started to investigate ways to develop our services of emergency food and signposting to better tackle food poverty at source. However as the year came to an end our exceptional Manager submitted a request to retire, and in the short term we need to manage the transition to her successor.

On top of the the service from our Manager and her staff team, again we have benefitted from an amazing team of volunteers, and feel well supported by our local community.

After another year meeting the needs of all clients who come to us, we are well-placed as we move forward to 2025-26.

Howard Mathers



21/1/26

## Objectives & activities

To relieve persons in Taunton Deane, Somerset<sup>1</sup> 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 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 and Wiveliscombe, to individuals referred to the Foodbank by recognised agencies
- provision of food to families referred by school support workers during holiday periods
- occasional food support to other charitable organisations, for example the Besom in Taunton (RCN 1152511): annual payment is made to the Trussell Trust (RCN 1110522) for ongoing support as a member of its network of Foodbank
- additional services, in particular signposting to other social support agencies, including advice supplied in conjunction with Citizens Advice Taunton and Somerset Village Agents.

## Public benefit

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

## Main achievements

All referrals for food support have been satisfied. Food donations have fallen short of the sustained high demand, while stock levels remained at about 9 te (tonnes) We spent around £14k supplementing donated food stocks with food purchases.

|                     | Food distributed (te) | Food parcels distributed | Individuals directly benefiting |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2024-25 (this year) | 66.6                  | 3182                     | 6666                            |
| 2023-24             | 80.6                  | 3294                     | 7176                            |
| 2022-23             | 89.0                  | 3173                     | 7834                            |
| 2021-22             | 73.7                  | 2707                     | 6807                            |
| 2020-21             | 93.9                  | 2974                     | 8243                            |
| 2019-20             | 63.6                  | 2636                     | 6355                            |

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<sup>1</sup> Merged into the unitary Somerset Council on 1 April 2023

### Financial review

At the end of the year, the cash surplus was £403k, a further increase on the previous year, but with increased operating costs, we saw the net additions flatten out as the year came to an end. We continue to look at ways we can use some of the surplus to deliver benefits in accordance with our objects.

### 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.

The trust employs 3 part-time staff.

### Reference and administrative details

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

### Trustees 2024-2025

Paula Clinchant, Jane Cobby, Christopher Cutting (until September 2024), Mary Hart, Howard Mathers, Helen Wallace (until February 2025), John Salter, Jon Hughes.

### Declaration

Signed on behalf of Trustees



Howard Mathers  
Chair

21/1/26  
Date





CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

|                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| Charity Name     | No (if any) |
| TAUNTON FOODBANK | 1163094     |

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

|                     |                   |    |                 |
|---------------------|-------------------|----|-----------------|
| For the period from | Period start date | To | Period end date |
|                     | 1/4/24            |    | 31.3.25         |

### Section A Receipts and payments

|   | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Endowment funds  | Total funds      | Last year        |
|---|--------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
|   | to the nearest £   | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ |
| <b>A1 Receipts</b>                                    |                    |                  |                  |                  |                  |
| Donations - other                                     | 26,046             | -                | -                | 26,046           | 27,345           |
| Donations from churches                               | 9,790              |                  |                  | 9,790            | 7,692            |
| Donations from individuals                            | 18,530             |                  |                  | 18,530           | 14,238           |
| Donations from Supermarkets                           | - 0                |                  |                  | -                | 1,238            |
| Donations under gift aid                              | 59,635             |                  |                  | 59,635           | 66,889           |
| Gift Aid Tax refund                                   | 17,303             | -                | -                | 17,303           | 15,807           |
| Grants  | 7,024              | -                | -                | 7,024            | 6,622            |
| Interest receivable                                   | 10,349             | -                | -                | 10,349           | 7,644            |
| Restricted funds                                      | - 0                | -                | -                | -                | 50               |
| <b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>                | <b>148,677</b>     | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         | <b>148,677</b>   | <b>147,525</b>   |
| <b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>    |                    |                  |                  |                  |                  |
|   | - 0                | - 0              | - 0              | -                |                  |
|   | - 0                | - 0              | - 0              | -                | - 0              |
| <b>Sub total</b>                                      | <b>- 0</b>         | <b>- 0</b>       | <b>- 0</b>       | <b>-</b>         | <b>- 0</b>       |
| <b>Total receipts</b>                                 | <b>148,677</b>     | <b>- 0</b>       | <b>- 0</b>       | <b>148,677</b>   | <b>147,525</b>   |
| <b>A3 Payments</b>                                    |                    |                  |                  |                  |                  |
| Bank charges  | 750                | -                | -                | 750              | 798              |
| Consultancy fees                                      | 683                | -                | -                | 683              | -                |
| Equipment expensed                                    | - 0                | -                | -                | -                | 621              |
| Groceries   | 13,755             | -                | -                | 13,755           | 10,593           |
| Information and publications                          | - 0                | -                | -                | -                | 139              |
| Citizens Advice/Partnerships                          | 13,931             | -                | -                | 13,931           | 16,464           |
| Insurance   | 1,571              |                  |                  | 1,571            | 1,225            |
| Light and heat  | 4,718              |                  |                  | 4,718            | 2,607            |
| Motor expenses  | 3,416              |                  |                  | 3,416            | 2,857            |
| Pest Control  | 960                |                  |                  | 960              | 768              |
| Postage   | 9                  |                  |                  | 9                | 49               |
| Accountancy fees                                      | 2,550              |                  |                  | 2,550            | -                |
| Refreshments  | 300                | -                | -                | 300              | 449              |
| Rent  | 13,000             | -                | -                | 13,000           | 14,500           |
| Repairs and maintenance                               | 2,854              |                  |                  | 2,854            | 307              |
| Service charges                                       | - 0                |                  |                  | -                | 126              |
| Software  | 126                |                  |                  | 126              | 83               |
| Staff training & welfare                              | 1,905              |                  |                  | 1,905            | 1,105            |
| Stationery and printing                               | 644                |                  |                  | 644              | 701              |
| Subscriptions   | 216                |                  |                  | 216              | 298              |
| Sundry  | - 165              |                  |                  | - 165            | 130              |
| Telephone and fax                                     | 532                |                  |                  | 532              | 454              |
| Travel and subsistence                                | - 0                | -                | -                | -                | 75               |
| Uniforms  | - 0                |                  |                  | -                | 354              |
| Wages and salaries                                    | 38,438             |                  |                  | 38,438           | 34,086           |
| Water   | 271                |                  |                  | 271              | 244              |
| <b>Sub total</b>                                      | <b>100,464</b>     | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         | <b>100,464</b>   | <b>89,033</b>    |
| <b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b> |                    |                  |                  |                  |                  |
|   | - 0                | - 0              | - 0              | -                |                  |
|   | - 0                | - 0              | - 0              | -                |                  |
| <b>Sub total</b>                                      | <b>- 0</b>         | <b>- 0</b>       | <b>- 0</b>       | <b>-</b>         | <b>- 0</b>       |
| <b>Total payments</b>                                 | <b>100,464</b>     | <b>- 0</b>       | <b>- 0</b>       | <b>100,464</b>   | <b>89,033</b>    |

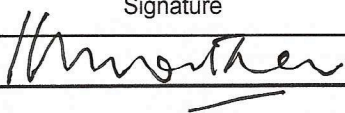


|                                   |                |          |          |                |                |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------|----------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b> | 48,213         | -        | -        | 48,213         | 58,492         |
| A5 Transfers between funds        | - 0            | -        | -        | -              | -              |
| A6 Cash funds last year end       | 354,862        | -        | -        | 354,862        | 296,370        |
| <b>Cash funds this year end</b>   | <b>403,075</b> | <b>-</b> | <b>-</b> | <b>403,075</b> | <b>354,862</b> |

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

| Categories  | Details  | Unrestricted funds<br>to nearest £        | Restricted funds<br>to nearest £        | Endowment funds<br>to nearest £        |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <b>B1 Cash funds</b>                                |  | 403,075                                   | -                                       | -                                      |
|   |  | -   | -                                       | -                                      |
|   |  | -   | -                                       | -                                      |
|   | <b>Total cash funds</b>                                | <b>403,075</b>                            | <b>-</b>                                | <b>-</b>                               |
|   | (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s)) | OK  | OK                                      | OK                                     |
|   |  | <b>Unrestricted funds</b><br>to nearest £ | <b>Restricted funds</b><br>to nearest £ | <b>Endowment funds</b><br>to nearest £ |
| <b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>                     |  | -   | -                                       | -                                      |
|   |  | -   | -                                       | -                                      |
|   |  | -   | -                                       | -                                      |
|   |  | -   | -                                       | -                                      |
|   |  | -   | -                                       | -                                      |
| <b>B3 Investment assets</b>                         |  | Fund to which asset belongs               | Cost (optional)                         | Current value (optional)               |
|   |  |   | -                                       | -                                      |
|   |  |   | -                                       | -                                      |
|   |  |   | -                                       | -                                      |
|   |  |   | -                                       | -                                      |
|   |  |   | -                                       | -                                      |
| <b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b> |  | Fund to which asset belongs               | Cost (optional)                         | Current value (optional)               |
|   | Furniture, computers & printers and equipment          | Unrestricted                              | -                                       | 4,000                                  |
|   | Storage equipment, cradles, dollies                    | Unrestricted                              | -                                       | 4,000                                  |
|   | Van  | Unrestricted                              | -                                       | 6,000                                  |
|   |  |   | -                                       | -                                      |
|   |  |   | -                                       | -                                      |
|   |  |   | -                                       | -                                      |
| <b>B5 Liabilities</b>                               |  | Fund to which liability relates           | Amount due (optional)                   | When due (optional)                    |
|   |  |   | -                                       |  |
|   |  |   | -                                       |  |
|   |  |   | -                                       |  |

Note: closing balance on NatWest account 23-24 should read £97451 not £97471

|   |   |                |                  |
|---|---|----------------|------------------|
| Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees | Signature   | Print Name     | Date of approval |
|   |  | Howard Mathers | 21/1/26          |



## Independent examiner's report on the accounts

### Section A

### Independent Examiner's Report

#### Report to the trustees

Charity Name

Taunton Foodbank

#### On accounts for the year ended

31/03/2025

Charity no  
(if any)

#### Set out on pages

(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 31/03/2025.

#### 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:

Lara Trinder

Date:

20/01/2026

Name:

Lara Trinder

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

Association of Accounting Technicians

**Address:**

4 Haytor View

Heathfield

Devon TQ12 6RQ

## **Section B**

### **Disclosure**

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.**