

HUNSTANTON AND DISTRICT FOODBANK  
TRUSTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2023-24

## **INTRODUCTION**

Hunstanton and District Foodbank is registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation under Charity Number 1164060. Our official address, which is also our operational base, is St Edmund's Church Halls, Church Street, Hunstanton, Norfolk, PE36 6BE. Our financial year runs from 1 April to 31 March.

The following served as Trustees during this year:

Samuel Abramian  
Elaine Coker  
Martin Edwards  
Mark Fuchter  
Garry Langham  
Alexander James Monro  
Howard John Norman  
Samuel Staveley

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND RECRUITMENT OF TRUSTEES**

Hunstanton and District Foodbank is part of The Trussell Trust's nationwide network of over 400 foodbanks, working to tackle food poverty and hunger in our local communities.

Trustees are recruited by placing adverts locally, inviting applications from volunteers who are asked to provide information about relevant skills and experience and sign that they meet eligibility criteria set out in our Constitution. Trustees review the information and invite applicants for an informal interview. New trustees are appointed for a term of three years by a formal resolution at a meeting of the charity trustees.

During this year:

- Martin Edwards, Alexander James Monro and Samuel Staveley resigned as Trustees;
- Samuel Abramian was appointed as Chair of Trustees in place of Alexander James Monro;
- Mark Fuchter was appointed as a new Trustee.

All trustees work on an unpaid and voluntary basis. At least one trustee attends each operating session, ably supported by volunteers – we have a total of 15 volunteers who work on an informal rota system.

## **OBJECTIVES AND KEY ACTIVITIES**

We aim to relieve people in Hunstanton and the surrounding district who are

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suffering acute financial hardship by:

- providing emergency parcels containing a minimum of three days' nutritionally balanced non-perishable food, plus toiletries and household items where needed, to individuals and families who have been referred by a support agency. We will also provide emergency parcels for those who have been unable to obtain a referral but are temporarily in extreme poverty.
- providing top-up funds where clients are facing an imminent loss of their domestic energy supplies.
- signposting clients towards agencies who can provide appropriate advice and support.
- working directly with our local primary and secondary schools to support families in need. Both Hunstanton schools can refer families to the foodbank and hold a small stock of our emergency food parcels for immediate needs. We fund the provision of breaktime fresh fruit to the primary school students.
- providing food vouchers at the start of school holidays for the families of local school students in receipt of free school meals. This is in partnership with two of our High Street shops and we also have an agreement with a local charity shop who will provide free clothing for a foodbank client upon receipt of a letter of recommendation from a foodbank trustee.
- maintaining close links with Hunstanton Town Council's "Helping Hands Hub", referring respective clients to each other and enabling our clients to access support agencies who regularly attend the Hub as well as the Coastal Community supermarket, which sells cut-price groceries in a "pantry" scheme.
- maintaining food collection points in two local supermarkets and in many of our local churches.

The continuing cost-of-living crisis meant further and deeper financial hardship for an increasing number of people. Hunstanton and the surrounding area is no different from other coastal towns with high levels of poverty and hardship. Without a local foodbank more families would be forced into extreme hardship and destitution. We step in with emergency support when people run out of food, have no money and so face going hungry. As more and more families cannot afford essentials, providing top-up funds for energy bills has become a normal part of the support we offer. It feels to us that we are still a long way from doing away with the need for a local foodbank.

## **PERFORMANCE AND RESULTS IN 2023-24**

*Table1: Emergency food parcels: summary of latest 3 years*

	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2021-22</b>
Total no of Parcels	549	939	593

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- Provided to Adults	384	591	404
- Provided to Children	165	348	189
Stock (Kg)			
- Out	6,365	10,286	7,721
- In	6,958	9,964	6,742

### **Partnership with British Red Cross: Financial Inclusion**

The key development this year was the start of a 3-year pilot under a joint Trussell / British Red Cross initiative to place Financial Inclusion support workers in foodbanks.

Financial inclusion support is about helping clients to reach a point where their income meets their needs, and they no longer need emergency food parcels. The focus is on clients being able to access all entitlements, debt being under control, and money management - budgeting, reducing costs and putting aside savings - as well as wider advocacy and support.

The pilot began in August 2023 when the British Red Cross FI support worker took up post at our foodbank. In the trustees' view she immediately made a difference, being on-hand at every foodbank session to engage real-time with clients – especially important given the pressures on other support services that have reduced their accessibility. She was a regular at the Helping Hands Hub, which is attended by some foodbank clients, and started to build links with other community groups and local schools. By the year-end she had helped a number of our more regular clients to resolve issues around benefits and had disbursed over £2,000 in winter hardship grants to clients and their families who otherwise would have fallen back on direct support from the foodbank.

Under the terms of the partnership, Financial Inclusion activities are managed directly by British Red Cross and are not reflected in the foodbank's figures.

### **Other Foodbank Activities**

As Table 1 above shows, the number of emergency food parcels fell in 23-24, compared to the previous year. Similarly, gas and electricity top-ups were lower this year at £1,010, against £2,700 last year. However, as noted above, this is masked to a degree by the significant extra support available via the Financial Inclusion pilot, underlining the continuing need for support.

We maintained our support to local schools in food and holiday food vouchers to a total of just under £16,000.

We continue to benefit from the sustained generosity of our supporters who donate the food, groceries and money that enable us to operate. We were chosen by Hunstanton Lawn Tennis Tournament to be their 2023 Charity of the Year, raising over £1,000 at the Tennis Week. We continued to receive significant donations from corporate bodies and individuals that are the bulk of our income, as well as a £5,000

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grant from the Borough Council of KLWN. Two thirds of our food and grocery donations were from individuals, whether directly or via supermarket in-store collections and we also benefitted from substantial donations from churches, schools and other community bodies.

We remain very grateful to our wonderful volunteers, who sort and stack all donations and prepare the emergency parcels, ensuring we have a number ready to go out at an instant. In doing so they carefully check every *Use By* and *Best Before* date as we only distribute in-date food.

Outreach activities this year included meeting a field trip of social science students from the University of East Anglia, together with Councillors running the Helping Hands Hub, to share our perspectives on rural deprivation and how community support can ameliorate it. We also provided regular briefings at the Church of England Deanery Synod to update them on the nature and level of local poverty and our efforts to address it.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW 2023-24

*Table 2: Summary of Hunstanton and District Foodbank Accounts (nearest £)*

<b>Operations Account</b>	<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Operating surplus</b>	
2023-24	£28,238		£22,567	£5,671	
2022-23	£26,622		£25,121	£1,501	
<b>Reserves</b>					
Opening bal.	1.4.2023	£21,486			
Closing bal.	31.3.2024	£26,598			
<b>Restricted Account</b>					
Opening bal.	1.4.2023	£51,012			
Closing bal.	31.3.2024	£39,117			

### Notes:

- The Restricted account is used solely for restricted funds – i.e. those that can only be used for the given purpose. In this year these funds represent a grant from Trussell to fund the Financial Inclusion project. Hunstanton and District Foodbank has no debts.

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- The Trustees' reserves policy is to maintain a minimum of £10,000 as a baseline in our operations account.
- We do not act as custodian trustees in any respect.

Sam Abramian  
Chair of Trustees  
Hunstanton and District Foodbank  
January 2025

## FOOD BANK ACCOUNTS 2023-2024

INCOME	FORD	SLANEY	GREEN	CONNELL	HMRC GIFT AID	DONATION	CAF	TENNIS WEEK	CASH (float)	WIND FARM	KINGS LYNN BC	Sumup	PURPLE PATCH	MONTH TOTAL
APRIL	40		5	40	200	1056.83								1341.83
MAY	40		5	50	200		839.15							1134.15
JUNE	40		5	40	200			500						785
JULY	40		5	40	200		1026.46		110					1421.46
AUGUST	40		5	50	200		500	565						1360
SEPTEMBER	40		5	40	200		675							960
OCTOBER	40		5	40	200		694							979
NOVEMBER	40		5	50	200		1075			8000				9370
DECEMBER	25		5	40	200		700			1425	5000			7395
JANUARY	25		5	40	200		236							506
FEBRUARY	25		5	50	200							0.98		280.98
MARCH	25		5	40	200		1715						161.85	2146.85
														27680.27

EXPENDITURE	PHONE EE BT & TALKTALK	BARSBY	TESCO	ELECTRICITY & GAS VOUCHERS	WITLEY	BUTCHERS	RENT HIRE	TRUST ADVICE	INDIAN	CASH	LIDL	GOODY BAGS	KEMPS	ACCESS INS	ICO	QD	HSE BOOKS	AMAZON	
APRIL	84.55		24.62								20.55								129.72
MAY	78.5	97.76	94.2																270.46
JUNE	78.5	146.64					105			200									530.14
JULY	78.5	195.52				6000	780												7054.02
AUGUST	78.5		80.5		70	150.02		1140	130										1649.02
SEPTEMBER	78.5	178.52																	257.02
OCTOBER	88.5	195.52		120			90			300				244.38					1038.4
NOVEMBER	78.5	146.64		250		770	780					889.02	2500					87.81	£5,501.97
DECEMBER	20.13	178.52		130			45		162.9										£536.55
JANUARY	37.14	97.76	71.18	240			30									35	9		£520.08
FEBRUARY	55.33	146.64															10		£407.53
MARCH	49.13	195.52		200		2020							2040				16.01	151.86	£4,672.52
Totals	805.78	1579.04	270.5	1010	150.02	8790	1830	1140	292.9	500	20.55	889.02	4540	244.38	35	19	16.01	435.23	£22,567.43

COMMUNITY BANK ACCOUNT Difference £5,112.84

Opening 01.04.2023 21,485.51  
 Closing 31.03.2024 26,598.35  
 Difference £5,112.84

BARCLAYS PREMIUM BUSINESS ACCOUNT  
 Opening 01.04.2023 £51,012.26 Red Cross £12,453  
 Closing 31.03.2024 £39,117.16 Interest £557.90



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Independent examiner's report on the accounts

### Section A

### Independent Examiner's Report

#### Report to the trustees

Charity Name  
HUNSTANTON AND DISTRICT FOOD BANK

#### On accounts for the year ended

31st MARCH 2024

#### Charity no (if any)

1164060

#### Set out on pages

1 & 2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31.3.2024.

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

~~The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]. Delete [ ] if not applicable.~~

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:

M. W. S.

Date:

7/5/24

Name:

MICHAEL B. WARNES

#### Relevant professional qualification(s) or body

A.C.I.B.

(if any):

Address: 16 HALL CLOSE, HEACHAM  
KING'S LYNN, NORFOLK  
PE31 7JT

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.