

ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21

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SUMMARY

The North Paddington Food Bank (NPFB) was established in 2014 and remains an independent food bank.

NPFB is part of the Independent Food Aid Network (IFAN), which connects over 900 organisations that do not operate under the banner of larger charities, such as the Trussell Trust. IFAN membership helps small charities connect with like-minded organisations and contribute our experience to campaigns.

Sabine Goodwin, Coordinator of IFAN, has volunteered with the North Paddington Foodbank.

“The North Paddington FoodBank plays a critical role in filling a growing gap. While charitable food aid is an aberration in the 5th richest economy in the world, it is vital that dignity is at the heart of emergency food aid provision and the food provided is as healthy possible. The solution to the escalating food insecurity crisis has never been the provision of charitable food aid” “At the Independent Food Aid Network we believe that by bringing together hundreds of food aid providers across the UK we can create a powerful voice for change. We support and connect a range of independent frontline food aid organisations while advocating on their behalf at a national level. Our vision is of a country that doesn’t need emergency food aid and in which good food is accessible to all.”



Phyllis Osie – Chair of Trustees

It’s been an unprecedented year, Covid-19 has irrevocably changed our way of life, and statistics reveal the elderly and the BAME community are disproportionately affected. Globally, we’ve seen demonstrations of social unrest. This has resulted in mass protest marches for social justice and racial equality. The response has been a crusade towards a more equitable society. Here in the north of Westminster, at a grassroots level, local people have enacted local forms of activism by making the conscientious and progressive decision to support the North Paddington FoodBank for the public good. Covid-19 has exacerbated food insecurity. Since both lockdowns, research on UK household insecurity has revealed that over 8 million people have reported going hungry. That’s almost 12% of the population! It has negatively impacted people who are unemployed, low income families, adults with disabilities and the BAME community. Some contributing factors are a reduction in income due to furlough or benefit delays. James Baldwin said ‘anyone who has ever struggled with poverty knows how extremely expensive it is to be poor’. Poverty can lead to a spiral of debt. However, local communities have risen up to help provide a safety net. People have generously volunteered their time, donated food and also money. Cash has allowed us to bulk buy the essentials that people need. We have witnessed community in action and for that we sincerely thank everyone.

WHAT WE DO

2

NO FOOD POVERTY IN WESTMINSTER

North Paddington Foodbank is a humanitarian charity that helps people in chronic long-term need as well as short-term acute food poverty.

We know a FoodBank should not have to exist in this the most wealthy part of Britain, but we are proud that we are able to help and particularly proud of the voluntary support of local citizens and local businesses.

Their generosity is a heart warming contrast to the inadequacies of the national social security system that drive people to seek help. We guard against becoming a permanent feature of the neighbourhood by keeping a constant eye on our top line, which is that there should be “No Food Poverty in North Westminster”.

OPERATIONS

NPFB is always trying to improve. We want to be more efficient and more responsive to need. During 2020 we have faced extraordinary demands with so many more people needing help as the impacts of Covid-19 lockdowns cut into people’s incomes. We have kept pace by transforming every aspect of the FoodBank’s operation.

Donations of food were far from sufficient so we had to buy from supermarkets and wholesalers, thanks to a large increase in donations of money.

NPFB has always been well connected with other local organisations, with schools, faith groups and other charities. This year saw these partnerships extended and take on greater importance as NPFB became the go-to help for thousands.

Food Plus

The foodbank offers so much than food. Comfort and company are much valued too, as is advice. We employ a dedicated customer support manager whose job is to help customers towards greater independence in many areas of their life. This case-work requires partnership with other local support agencies, (inc. Z2K, Citizens Advice, Asylum Aid, Single Homeless Project, Age UK, local CMHTs, Care Navigators and GP surgeries, to name but a few). This support includes challenging unsuccessful benefit claims and benefit sanctions, addressing long term debts, requesting greater statutory support, care package reviews and making charity grant applications on behalf of our customers. Supporting people to change their lives invariably means offering long-term help; rarely are there effective short-term “solutions”. However, NPFB’s collaborative approach with statutory services, with volunteer organisations and with other support services enables us to support our clients towards a more independent future.

WHO WE SUPPORT

3

Diversity and Inequality

The north of Westminster is ethnically diverse. And it is home to many people who face discrimination and exclusion due to entrenched racism and the effects of government austerity policies. We guard against becoming a permanent feature of the neighbourhood by keeping a constant eye on our top line, which is that there should be “No Food Poverty in North Westminster”. Covid-19 have exposed injustices that our FoodBank has been responding to since it was founded in 2014.

It is well documented that austerity has disproportionately affected women and in particular black and minoritised women, and the Women’s Budget Group found that Racial disparities have also been exacerbated by COVID-19, with a quarter of ethnic minority mothers reported that they were struggling to feed their children (23.7%)

61%

OF PEOPLE WE SUPPORT ARE
FROM ETHNIC MINORITY
COMMUNITIES



WHERE PEOPLE COME FROM

Most people visiting the FoodBank live in the nearby Wards of Harrow Road, Queens Park, and Westbourne or from other parts of North Westminster. Some come from North Kensington, and from other adjacent boroughs, but few from South Westminster where there is another FoodBank.

HARROW ROAD 23%

QUEENS PARK 21%

WESTBOURNE 18%

NORTH WESTMINSTER 13%

KENSINGTON & CHELSEA 6%

CHURCH STREET 6%

MAIDA VALE 6%

OTHER BOROUGHES 5%

SOUTH WESTMINSTER 2%

12,512

Number of
Households NPFB
Supported

30,028

Number of People
NPFB Supported

21,413

Number of Food Parcels
NPFB Distributed

NUMBER OF PEOPLE PROVIDED WITH FOOD AND ESSENTIALS PACKAGES BY THE NORTH PADDINGTON FOOD BANK

Across Westminster, we are finding that an increasing number of people are experiencing situations where they have little to no money to purchase food and essentials. Benefits issues, unexpected costs, redundancy and long term health problems and other issues have created difficult situations that mean people need to access support from charities like North Paddington Foodbank .

We are currently the largest food aid charity in Westminster, during 2020/21 we supported 30,028 people and 12,512 households, and distributed 21,413 food parcels, an incredible effort!

Special thanks to our wonderful staff and volunteers who helped us to support so many vulnerable people in our community.



INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

Demand for the Foodbank in North Paddington has been growing since we started, but the events of 2020 multiplied this need as is reported elsewhere. A direct consequence of this change was a real increase in our costs, fortunately accompanied by an upswing in donations as people and organisations; locally, from London, and beyond; responded to our need with tremendous generosity.

We are about to submit our accounts for 2020/21 to the Charities Commission, during the year we spent £558,316 in providing the service and received income of £753,790.

The largest part of this income, 39%, came in the form of corporate donations, with 37% from individual online donations.

Our biggest single cost was salaries at £293,531 followed by the purchase of food to cover shortages in donations, and infrastructure to deliver food packages at £164,681.

The 2020-21 financial statements have been prepared to the best of NPFB knowledge.

- Due to the absence of a Treasurer during this period, the accounts have not been signed. The accounts will be reviewed in the coming year to judge for any misstatements and prior period adjustments will be made for any material errors.
- The financial accounts for 2020-21 are also unaudited as the financial period did not meet the required threshold for auditing of a gross annual income of £1 million; or gross assets of £3.5 million and a gross annual income of £250,000.

Our balance to start financial year 2021/22 will be £195,475.64

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

Profit and Loss

North Paddington Food Bank

For the year ended 31 March 2021

Account	2021
Turnover	
Corporate Donations - Restricted funds	5,020.00
Corporate Donations - Unrestricted funds	197,118.50
Grant Income - Restricted Funds	202,971.00
Individual Donation - Restricted Funds	145.00
Individual Donations - Unrestricted Funds	74,945.66
Interest Income	13.23
Online Donations	273,323.36
Other Revenue	255.59
Total Turnover	753,792.34
Cost of Sales	
Cost of Goods Sold	1,930.52
Direct Expenses	3,972.54
Food Purchases	150,736.27
Transport	8,043.40
Volunteer Expenses	37.63
Total Cost of Sales	164,720.36
Gross Profit	589,071.98
Administrative Costs	
Advertising & Marketing	2,595.18
Audit & Accountancy fees	2,073.30
Bank Fees	61.51
Consulting	20,526.00
Employers National Insurance	24,468.84
General Expenses	25,613.01
Insurance	684.68
Interest Paid	(10.17)
IT Software and Consumables	5,437.60
Legal Expenses	2,386.00
Office rent	34,861.95
Pensions Costs	5,160.54
Postage, Freight & Courier	53.61
Printing & Stationery	842.79
Salaries	263,903.30
Staff Training	3,300.00
Subscriptions	486.87
Telephone & Internet	1,151.33
Total Administrative Costs	393,596.34
Operating Profit	195,475.64
Profit on Ordinary Activities Before Tax	195,475.64
Profit after Taxation	195,475.64