

Earlsfield Foodbank

**Registered Charity No.
1167812**

Report and Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2024



EARLSFIELD FOODBANK

CONTENTS

	Page
Information	3
Trustees' report	4-8
Independent Examiner's Report	9
Receipts and Payments Accounts	10
Statement of assets and liabilities	10
Notes to the financial statements	11 -15

EARLSFIELD FOODBANK

INFORMATION

Trustees:

Rev. Isaac Achene	(Chair)
Meg Fry	
Robin Gisby	
Sue Knowles	
Louise Pendry	(from June 2023)
Michael Walton	

Address 39 Frewin Road,
London SW18 3LR

Charity number 1167812

EARLSFIELD FOODBANK

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

Structure, governance and management

Governing Document

Earlsfield Foodbank is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). The trustees adopted the constitution on 17th March 2016 based on the 'CIO Foundation Constitution' published by the Charities Commission. Earlsfield Foodbank was established for charitable purposes for the public benefit and entered the Register of Charities on 23rd June 2016 with the Registered Charity Number 1167812.

Trustee Selection and Management

Earlsfield Foodbank CIO is managed by a Board of Trustees selected for their range of skills and strong endorsement of the organisation's objectives

The Earlsfield Foodbank was founded in October 2013 by the late Rev. Colin Roberts, the parish priest of St John the Divine, in Garratt Lane, as a project supported by Churches Together in Earlsfield.

Apart from the first charity trustees (including Rev Isaac Achene) every trustee is appointed for a renewable term of three years. New trustees are appointed by existing trustees considering the skills needed to ensure effective management of the foodbank.

On first appointment, new charity trustees are given a copy of the charity's constitution and the latest Trustees' Annual Report and Statement of Accounts. Trustees are also encouraged to familiarise themselves with the Charities Commission's publications outlining the responsibilities involved in becoming a charity trustee.

The management of the charity is delegated to the Foodbank Manager or the Foodbank Management Team. The Manager and members the Management Team attend foodbank sessions implementing the guidelines laid down by the trustees in consultation with volunteers. Trustee and volunteer meetings are held regularly to consider management guidelines, progress since the last meeting and priorities for the next few months.

Trustees review the risks associated with the operation of the foodbank and how these can be mitigated on a regular basis. The Trustees have adopted a broad range of policies that are intended to manage and minimise risks. Trustees and volunteers attend training that seeks to enable them to deal with some of the problems faced by clients of the foodbank, in particular through signposting clients to services run by third parties.

Charitable objects

The charity's objects are the prevention and relief of poverty in Earlsfield and the surrounding areas in particular but not exclusively by providing food supplies to individuals in need and/or charities, or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty

Mission Statement

The charity's mission statement echoes the charitable objects:

- 'Our mission is to prevent and relieve poverty in SW18 and SW17. We provide a helping hand to those facing food poverty in Earlsfield, offering support without judgement.

- Our aim is to relieve poverty providing food but also to help our guests to move on so that they ultimately no longer need food aid support.
- We believe that no-one should go hungry and that all people, whatever their circumstances, deserve dignity, respect and privacy.'

Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charities Commission in exercising their powers and duties.

Objectives and Activities

The Earlsfield Foodbank has identified strategic objectives to achieve its purpose:

Inspired by Christian social principles, the ethos of the Foodbank focuses on welcoming everyone involved as persons deserving respect and generosity regardless of ethnicity, gender, sexuality, class, race, religion or nationality

On first attending the foodbank:

- To provide food, basic supplies, energy vouchers and other essential support items as well as emotional and other practical support for people and families who find themselves in crisis.

In the medium term:

- To provide the help and support that individuals need to address problems beyond food poverty through onsite professional advice or referral to appropriate agencies engaged through the local network and those present at the foodbank.

In the longer term:

- To help raise awareness of the nature, impact and prevalence of food poverty and its underlying causes.
- To build the Earlsfield Foodbank as a sustainable, well-run charity that will continue to meet local needs, in the hope that in due course the services of foodbanks will become redundant as the campaign to eliminate food poverty succeeds.

Charitable Activities

During the period of this report the Foodbank continued to operate at St Andrew's Church in Garratt Lane on Thursday mornings between 9.30am and 12.00 pm. During the period under review, guests were offered a full breakfast on arrival up to June 2023. Since that date breakfasts supplied have comprised tea or coffee and pastries, supplemented by hot porridge since September 2023.

During the year ended 31st March 2024, the foodbank distributed 4,769 food parcels and other supplies, serving 474 households and 649 Individuals.

The Trustees remain determined to help guests to improve their lives and to address the various issues they face such as debt, employment, physical, social and mental health problems. The Foodbank continues to fund the attendance of an adviser from Wandsworth Citizens Advice. This funding is provided partly through a grant from the National Lottery Community Fund. The Family Action Wellbeing

Service (funded by Wandsworth Borough Council) is an early intervention mental health service, providing emotional and practical support to guests and their families struggling with poverty. An adviser from St Mungo's attends the foodbank offering support and advice for those in crisis through lack of housing or addiction. The Foodbank is now also part of a local network of agencies (Refernet) providing a wide range of support.

In addition to regular weekly support, the Foodbank has hosted ad hoc events to support and help guests. These have included:

- A Life Skills Workshop hosted by Family Action held in February 2024
- A visit from Lord Younger, a minister in Department of Work and Pensions in January 2024.

Major Donations made during the period under review

During the year under review major donations and grants received have included:

	£	
National Lottery Community Fund	10,000	Restricted
Wandsworth Borough Council	12,000	Restricted
Co-operative Society	2,447	Unrestricted

The Trustees are very grateful for the support of all major donors. As explained above, the National Lottery Community Fund grant covers most of the cost of the Citizens Advice (CAB) presence at the foodbank sessions. Wandsworth Council's grant is being used to fund salaries of two of the charity's employees.

In 2024/25, the charity has received a legacy from the estate of Miss Phyllis Audrey Thompson amounting to £68,008. The foodbank is extremely grateful to Miss Thompson for recognizing the charity as a worthy beneficiary of her will. The Trustees would like to fund an activity in memory of Miss Thompson but have yet to determine how the unrestricted donation should be utilized.

Contribution made by employees, volunteers and local businesses, religious institutions, clubs, charities and schools

The Trustees recognise the essential and generous contributions made by the Foodbank Manager, and the volunteers. Since the year end a Foodbank management Team has been appointed

Charlotte White retired from the role of Foodbank Manager at the end of January 2024. Charlotte had been both a Trustee and the Foodbank Manager since 2020. Without Charlotte's initiative in March 2020, with the support of the Trustees, the foodbank might never have moved to St Andrew's Church as COVID and its effects had necessitated a move from St John the Divine. The Trustees on behalf of everyone involved with the foodbank, both volunteers and guests, owe a great debt of gratitude to Charlotte and wish her well for the future.

Since July 2024 the Trustees have appointed a new management team comprising three part-time managers to each focus on different aspects of management

needs. The aim is to divide their activities so that no aspect of the Foodbank management is neglected and that they work together to build the donations, control expenditure and improve systems.

Sadly, the number of guests suffering from mental health problems, drug and alcohol addiction continue to increase. This together with abject poverty of many guests presents considerable challenges to staff and volunteers on Thursdays. The Trustees are very mindful of these challenges and are seeking to support managers and volunteers in every way. A security guard attends the foodbank every week.

The Trustees continue to review how these challenges, going far beyond the provision of food, can be managed in future; whilst retaining some of the unique and positive results of welcoming all who are in need in our designated area of London.

The Earlsfield Together network has succeeded in maintaining significant and regular donations of money and provisions during the year. Volunteers include those representing the engagement of local churches, the Earlsfield Baptist Church, St Gregory's Catholic Church, St John the Divine, St Mary Magdalene Anglican Church, the host church St Andrew's, Christ Revelation Faith Ministries and the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

The Foodbank is very grateful for the support of local businesses, in particular Just Boilers, a company that has supported the foodbank with regular donations of food and money since 2016 and Well Kneaded Pizza. Local schools have donated food and money, in particular Earlsfield Primary School, St Cecilia's, Ernest Bevin and Wandsworth Prep. Significant donations have been received from the work of the Bounce Theatre. Local organisations and individuals have raised substantial sums through promoting events including the Wandsworth Common WI Plant Sale raising £2,250, Sarah Kerr for running a highly successful raffle raising £7,085, Sarah and Paul Henry for organizing a bridge evening raising £1,965 and Coronation Parties in the Earlsfield area raised £5,560.

The Foodbank's partnership with the Home Café, which operates in St Andrew's, continues to be invaluable. The café closes on Thursdays to allow the foodbank to operate and has generously provided food for those guests attending the foodbank including the coffee and a light breakfast that are currently offered to all guests.

Above all, the Trustees recognize the very generous support of the Parish Council of St Andrew's that has welcomed and supported the foodbank by providing space for the foodbank to operate and store its stock in a portacabin alongside the church.

The monetary value of the immense contribution of volunteers is not reflected in the accounts. Without the generosity of volunteers there would be no foodbank. Currently a bank of 60 volunteers is regularly engaged in registering and advising guests, sorting food and supplies, preparing food packages, planning food purchases, and in welcoming guests on Thursday mornings. A team of volunteers

also goes out on Wednesday evenings to collect surplus produce from 14 local supermarkets. The Foodbank remains extremely grateful for donations of food from the Dons Action Group. Many supporters continue to donate food via supermarket collection boxes, their churches and many other groups.

Achievements and Performance

During the year the foodbank has regrettably seen a considerable increase in the demand for its services and the services of the other organisations that operate in tandem with the foodbank. The increase in the numbers of families and individuals in need has been driven by the continuing 'cost of living crisis' and the inadequacy of the social and financial support available to those in need. We are fortunate to have the support of those organisations mentioned above who attend on a weekly basis.

It is also regrettable that during the financial year the foodbank has suffered financially from a fraudulent misuse of Energy Vouchers. This callous theft of energy vouchers has resulted in a loss to guests and a cessation of this charitable activity. The Trustees have reported this theft to the Charity Commission, Action Fraud and the Metropolitan Police. The Trustees have reviewed how the fraud was possible and have taken steps to tighten up internal controls to avoid such damage in future, even if it results in more cumbersome operating procedures.

Maintaining a relationship with Refernet gives access to a wide range of local support agencies depending on their individual needs. Volunteers continue to help guests with a number of problems such as dealing with their energy supplier, allowing those expert advisers from the organisations attending the foodbank to concentrate on more complex cases.

As mentioned above, it is easy to underestimate the stress associated with interacting with distressed guests seeking help, often as a last resort. The Trustees are conscious of their responsibility to support Managers and Volunteers who have to cope with the mental stress engendered when empathising with guests who are often very distressed. The generosity of everyone engaged with the funding and operation of the foodbank in time and spirit is the basis of all its achievements during the year.

Financial Review

The financial statements are attached.

Reserves

The Trustees have concluded that Earlsfield Foodbank should seek to build up unrestricted reserves that equate to a quarter of projected unrestricted expenditure for the following year. Reserves at 31st March 2024 represent 31% of payments for the year ended 31st March 2023 (2023 58%).

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:



Rev. Isaac Achene

Date:

16/01/2025

**Earlsfield Foodbank
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees
For the year ended 31st March 2024**

I report on the accounts of the Earlsfield Foodbank ('the charity') for the year ended 31st March 2024.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charities Commission under section 145(5)b of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charities Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with the accounting records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items and disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in statement below.

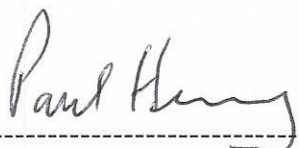
Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements;
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 132 Of the 2011 Act and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Accounting Practice: Accounting and Reporting of Charities

have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Date 21 January 2025.

EARLSFIELD FOODBANK

Receipts and Payments Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Receipts					
Voluntary Income	1				
Grants and Donations		112,072	23,280	135,352	139,237
Bank Interest		1,037	-	1,037	58
Total receipts		<u>113,109</u>	<u>23,280</u>	<u>136,389</u>	<u>139,295</u>
Payments					
Charitable activities	2	123,795	18,368	142,163	102,117
Total resources expended		<u>123,795</u>	<u>18,368</u>	<u>142,163</u>	<u>102,117</u>
Net Movement in Funds and net receipts for the year		(10,686)	4,912	(5,774)	37,178
Fund balances at 1st April 2023		49,625	8,422	58,047	20,869
Fund balances at 31st March 2024		<u>38,939</u>	<u>13,334</u>	<u>52,273</u>	<u>58,047</u>

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31st March 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £
Current assets				
Cash at bank and short-term deposits		<u>54,525</u>		<u>60,247</u>
Net current assets			54,525	60,247
Net current liabilities	6			
Creditors			(2,252)	(2,200)
Total net assets			<u>52,273</u>	<u>58,047</u>
Represented by:				
Funds and reserves	7			
Restricted fund			13,334	8,422
Unrestricted fund - General fund			<u>38,939</u>	<u>49,625</u>
			<u>52,273</u>	<u>58,047</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on 15/01/2025 and signed on its behalf by:

 Rev. Isaac Achene (Chair)

EARLSFIELD FOODBANK

Notes to the accounts

1. Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (Charities SORP FRS 102) the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102),

Assets and liabilities are initially recognized at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

b) Public Benefit entity

The CIO meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102

c) Going Concern

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the CIO's ability to continue as a going concern. The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis.

d) Income

Income is recognized when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognized when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grant have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Donated food and other supplies are valued at a deemed 'fair value' when and where possible. Such 'deemed value' has been based either on the weight of food and supplies or the value place on them by the provider.

Current policy is to place no monetary value on the generously donated time that volunteers spend working for the charity.

e) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received and generated for charitable purposes.

EARLSFIELD FOODBANK

f) Expenditure and liabilities

Liabilities are recognized once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the cost of food and goods, any distribution costs and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their support costs.

g) Deferred Income

Any income that is made to cover expenditure over a defined period will be allocated pro rata to the year under review and to any future period of time. The amount allocated to the year under review is accounted for in receipts. Amounts allocated to subsequent years are shown as deferred grants.

2. Receipts

Voluntary income	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Donations – money	90,022	-	90,022	81,823
National Lottery	-	10,000	10,000	10,000
Wandsworth Borough	-	12,000	12,000	6,450
Leveller Donations	-	636	636	11,937
Breakfast Donations	-	644	644	619
Donations – weighed food and supplies	22,050	-	22,050	16,884
Donations-via Bankuet	-	-	-	11,524
	112,072	23,280	135,352	139,237

Food donated during the year ended 31st March 2024 has been valued at £1.50 per kilo (2022 £1.50 per kilo). All food donated was assumed to have been distributed during the year.

Monetary donations include gift aid when received.

The Restricted Income relates to

1. Grant received from the National Lottery Community Fund funds the cost of advisers from the Wandsworth Citizens Advice Bureaux attending foodbank session to support guests. During the year under review a grant of £10,000 was received. This grant was used to part fund the WCAB service from 1st August 2023.

EARLSFIELD FOODBANK

2. Grant received from Wandsworth Borough Council out of their 'Cost of Living Grant Fund' of £12,000. This grant is to be used to fund the cost of employing operations managers over the period 2023-24. None of this funding was utilised during the year.
3. Funds raised from the Earlsfield Leveller Appeal funded Energy Vouchers distributed to guests in need of support to meet the increased costs of energy. This fund was fully spent in January 2024. The trustees decided that from March 2024 no further purchases of energy vouchers will be funded from Unrestricted Income. Issues of vouchers to guests ceased in April 2024.
4. Funds raised by an appeal for funding to help meet the costs of breakfasts supplied by the Home Community Café for guests attending the foodbank.

3. Payments

	Unrestricted 2024	Restricted 2024	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Analysis of expenditure on Charitable activities				
Raising funds				
Fundraising costs	-	-	-	59
	-	-	-	59
Charitable activities				
Direct costs				
Salaries and associated costs	22,054	-	22,054	12,172
Value of food distributed	72,480	3,235	75,715	53,541
Wandsworth Citizens' Advice	4,334	8,666	13,000	13,000
Cost of Breakfasts for guests	3,127	644	3,771	3,977
Energy Vouchers	4,847	5,608	10,455	6,965
Foodbank Security costs	7,550	-	7,550	7,475
Waste Recycling	1,355	-	1,355	1,391
Foodbank Equipment/Bags	671	-	671	113
Computers and Printers	1,285	215	1,500	-
Indirect costs				
St Andrew's for space and energy	3,750		3,750	1,650
Payroll Service	265		265	191
Phone Costs	141		141	52
Stationery and Printing	332	-	332	262
Computer Security	-	-	-	133
Mentoring costs	540	-	540	-
Recruitment cost	199	-	199	-
Insurance	410	-	410	383
Bank costs	60	-	60	72
Credit Card costs (Bankuet)	-	-	-	141
Subscriptions	50	-	50	50
Website Costs	253	-	253	216
Travel, Cleaning and Sundries	92	-	92	274
Total charitable activities	123,795	18,368	142,163	102,058
Total resources expended	123,795	18,368	142,163	102,117

EARLSFIELD FOODBANK

Analysis of expenditure on Charitable activities (continued)

Food distributed during the year ended 31st March 2024 comprised the cost of food purchased directly by the foodbank amounting to £53,665 and the value placed on food donations in kind of £22,050 (valued at £1.50 per kilo).

Restricted Expenditure relates to the cost of the Wandsworth Citizens Advice contract for the year funded by the National Lottery Community Fund and Wandsworth Council's Capacity Building and Cost of Living Grants. Additional Restricted Expenditure relate to buying Energy Vouchers for Guests and contributions to the cost of offering breakfast to Guests both funded by specific appeals for that class of expenditure. All other expenditure is funded by Unrestricted income.

No Trustees received any remuneration in respect of their services as Trustees during the period (2022: none). No travelling expenses were reimbursed to Trustees during the period

During the year and after the year end, Energy Vouchers with a value of £4,308 have been misappropriated. This matter has been reported to the Metropolitan Police, the Charity Commission and Zurich Insurance.

3. Analysis of the cost of key management

	<u>31st March 2024</u>	<u>31st March 2023</u>
	£	£
Salary	21,635	12,000
National Insurance Costs	-	-
Pension costs	419	172
	<u>22,054</u>	<u>12,172</u>

No employee received remuneration above £60,000. The key management of the foodbank comprises the Foodbank Manager and the Trustees. One Foodbank manager resigned in January 2024 and was replaced by a new Foodbank manager who remained in post at 31st March 2024. The Foodbank Manager increased her hours of work in May 2023 from 16 hours per week to 24 hours per week. Both employees were contracted to work for 24 hours per week (about 0.6 FTE) (2023 0.6 FTE)

4. Transactions with Trustees

None of the Trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any benefit from the charity.

Trustees' expenses

No Trustee expenses have been incurred in the year under review.

Transactions with related parties

There were no related party transactions during the year under review.

5. Defined Contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contributions pension scheme. The assets are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

The employer's pension costs represent contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amount to £419. (2023 £172) There was an employer's contribution of £84 outstanding at 31st March 2024 that has been accrued. (2023 £14)

EARLSFIELD FOODBANK

6. Current Liabilities

	<u>31st March 2024</u>	<u>31st March 2023</u>
	£	£
Creditors		
HMRC and Pension	86	34
Wandsworth Citizens Advice	<u>2,166</u>	<u>2,166</u>
	<u>2,252</u>	<u>2,200</u>

7. Funds

	At 1 st April 2023 £	Receipts £	Payments £	At 31 March 2024 £
Total Unrestricted funds	49,625	113,109	123,795	38,939
Total Restricted funds	8,422	23,280	18,368	13,334
Total funds	<u>58,047</u>	<u>136,389</u>	<u>142,163</u>	<u>52,273</u>

8. Guarantees

There have been no guarantees given by the charity at 31st March 2024.

9. Debt

There is no debt outstanding which is owed by the charity and which is secured by an excess charge on any of the assets of the charity at 31st March 2024.

10. Governing Document

The organisation is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation - registered on 23rd June 2016 as a body corporate under part 11 of the Charities Act 2011.