



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From

Period start date

01

January

2024

To

Period end date

31

December

2024

Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity name

Eastern Valley Foodbank

Other names charity is known by

N/A

Registered charity number (if any)

1170433

Charity's principal address

The Hope Centre, Unit 5 Pavillion Industrial Estate

Pontypool

Torfaen

Postcode

NP4 6NF

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Martin Mills	Chairman	N/A	N/A
2	Judith Mills	Secretary	N/A	N/A
3	Anthony Hunt		N/A	N/A
4	Pete Cole		N/A	N/A
5	Jeff Taylor		N/A	N/A
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Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

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Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Helen Leek – Foodbank Manager

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Trust Deed
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	CIO
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Details regarding Trustee selection methods etc are written in the Charity's Constitution dated 13 th October 2015. These include: Functions and duties of Charity Trustee, Eligibility for Trusteeship, Number of Trustees, Appointment of Trustees, eligibility for trusteeship, number of trustees, appointment of trustees, information for new trustees, retirement and removal of trustees, taking of decisions by trustees, delegation by trustees, benefits and payments for trustees and connected persons and conflicts of interest and conflicts of loyalty.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Eastern Valley Foodbank works in partnership with The Trussell Trust and operates under their guidance and governance as well as receiving significant financial support via grants for our core functions and other projects. An example of this is our financial inclusion and wellbeing project for debt relief, income maximisation and wellbeing support which they have funded for the past few years.

Our 7 distribution centres are hosted by local churches who provide the buildings and volunteers for the drop in sessions.

Referral into the foodbank system for emergency help is done via front line support staff across a wide variety of services. For example, the health board, council services, local charities, housing associations, schools and churches.

On site at the distribution centres we offer wrap-around support in the form of our previously mentioned financial inclusion and wellbeing programme. Other support agencies such as housing associations also "piggy-back" off this, utilising the space where people are comfortable and familiar in order to host their own drop-in help.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The relief of financial hardship amongst people living in the Eastern Valley of south Wales (Torfaen) and surrounding areas or in other parts of the United Kingdom in such ways as the Trustees from time-to-time think fit, in particular but not exclusively by:

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

- 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;
- b) Such other means, including (but not limited to) the provision of support or signposting to relevant information and other advisory services: and

To provide such services with a Christian ethos, supported by churches in the area of benefit.

Provision of emergency food parcels. The parcel provide three balanced meals and day for a minimum of three days according to the number of people in the household as outlined using the food menus provided by Trussell Trust. The food provided is ambient products only with the exception of a "help yourself" fresh produce table which clients can add items of a perishable nature should they wish.

Financial inclusion and wellbeing services

Drop in support sessions at multiple distribution centres

Our constitution states that ; Nothing in this constitution shall authorise and application of the property of the CIO for the purposes which are not charitable in accordance with the guidance issued by the charity commission on public benefit.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

The aim of the foodbank is not just crisis intervention but also to build resilience within the community with the long-term aim of eradicating the need for foodbanks.

Our operation is made up of a warehouse for storage and management of food stocks and 7 distribution centres where local people can go for emergency food provisions. The day-to-day running is managed by 3 part-time members of staff and supported by approximately 40 volunteers.

We partner with many support agencies (both statutory and third sector) as part of our referral system and also as part of our signposting but we also operate a specific funded partnership with the following organisations to provide a financial inclusion and wellbeing project.

Christians Against Poverty (CAP)

Citizens Advice (CA)

Eastern Valley Counselling (EVC)

And we offer an advocacy service – This is aimed at removing barriers that may lead to further financial or other problems. This would include helping with paperwork, phone-calls and sometime practical assistance.

Section D

Achievements and performance

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Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

During 2024 the foodbank issued 2680 emergency food parcels, feeding 5660 people. (52.6 tonnes of food)
The financial inclusion and wellbeing programme supported 392 people with specific help including:
Just short of a million pounds worth of debt was managed on behalf of clients (£422K of which was written off).
Just over half a million pounds identified as financial gains (this could be missed benefits or overpayments in household bills etc)
22 people received professional counselling
33 went debt free through the programme.
31 people attended life skills courses
A confidence with cooking club was started which weekly hosts around 20 people.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

We try to hold reserves equivalent to a minimum of 6 months running costs however due to recent reduction in donations and grants we have not yet been in the financial position to make this possible.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Future salaries and operational running costs of transport and building maintenance

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Donations from supporters and grants have provided our critical income this year. Our financial inclusion and well-being projects are securely funded for now. Staffing and running costs however require more secure funding sources as increases in costs to purchase food are now using more of the monthly regular donations from supporters. This is a key issue in the financial planning for next year.

Section F**Other optional information**

Current assets (as of Dec 2024) – £133,639 this includes stock valued at £39,690, reserve funds at £52,714 and cash in hand/bank at £41,235

Receipts for the year which include general donations, grants, value of stock donated and supermarket rebates total £309,469.

Expenditure for the year total £293,182 this includes storage costs, rent and repairs, transport, overheads including salaries, grants reserved for specific purposes, food purchases and value of food distributed.

Net receipts for the year therefore totalled £16,288

Restricted funding for specific activities include CAP, CA, EVC, food hub/cooking club, advocacy salary. The current amount of restricted funding held is £54,096

Free reserves remaining to cover all other overheads are £39,734

The general reserve fund of six months running costs set by the board has now been breached as we enter the next financial period (6 months running costs is now approximately £43K)

Section G**Declaration**

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

MJ Mills

Full name(s)

Martin John Mills

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chairman

Date

29/10/25

**EASTERN VALLEY FOODBANK
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

CHARITY NUMBER: 1170433

**EASTERN VALLEY FOODBANK
INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Eastern Valley Foodbank for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and;
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning 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 the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act;
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed

**Gavin Watkins FCCA
David House
Mill Road
Pontnewynydd
Pontypool
NP4 6NG**

**EASTERN VALLEY FOODBANK
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

		2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Receipts					
General donations			25,762		28,665
Grants - General			37,096		32,315
Grants – Reserved	Note 1		94,074		55,160
Supermarket rebates			4,237		7,143
Value of food donated	Note 2		141,582		112,161
Stock revaluation	Note 3		6,719		13,304
			<hr/>		<hr/>
			309,469		248,748
Payments					
Storage costs including repairs and rent		7,650		14,762	
Overheads incl. Salaries		50,797		47,287	
Grants – Reserved	Note 1	70,143		48,558	
Food purchased		16,168		11,029	
Value of food distributed		148,423		123,204	
		<hr/>		<hr/>	
			293,182		244,840
			<hr/>		<hr/>
NET RECEIPTS			16,288		3,908
			<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>

**EASTERN VALLEY FOODBANK
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS				
Stock	39,690		39,812	
Reserved funds	52,714		28,783	
Cash at bank and in hand	41,235		48,756	
	<u>133,639</u>		<u>117,351</u>	
		133,639		117,351
NET ASSETS		133,639		117,351
		<u><u>133,639</u></u>		<u><u>117,351</u></u>
FUNDS				
Opening balance		117,351		113,443
Net Receipts for the year		16,288		3,908
TOTAL FUNDS		133,639		117,351
		<u><u>133,639</u></u>		<u><u>117,351</u></u>

Approved by the trustees on October 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

**EASTERN VALLEY FOODBANK
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

Note 1

Grants – Reserved

	Inc £	Exp £
Financial help for Foodbank users via CAP and Citizens Advice	44,352	44,352
Counselling and Life Skills help for Foodbank users	6,543	6,531
Advocacy pilot to help Foodbank users manage debt	6,240	3,120
Transport Costs	-	6,627
Resilience grants	6,939	5,000
Community Garden	-	993
Warm Hub (Winter 2023/24)	-	3,520
Facilities Improvements	30,000	-
	94,074	70,143

Note 2

Food donated and purchased, valued at £2.77 per kg in accordance with Trussell Trust recommendation (2023: £2.37 per kg)

Note 3

Revaluation of opening stock to £2.77 per kg from £2.37 per kg in 2023.

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