

Middlewich & District Foodbank
Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Registered Charity Number 1170679



Report and Accounts for the year ended 5th April 2025

Middlewich& District Foodbank Report of the Trustees for the Year ended 5th April 2025

Trustees: Rev Simon Drew (Chair)

John Duley

Anne O'Keefe

Amy Townsend resigned

Duncan Soutar

Stephen Molesworth resigned

Hayley Saich

Registered Office and operational address : Unit 7 Holly House Estate,
Middlewich Road
Middlewich
Cheshire
CW10 9LT

Independent Examiner : Michael Collier
59, Ravenscroft
Holmes Chapel CW4 7HJ

Key Management Personnel : The Trustees consider themselves and the manager to be the key management personnel.

Food bank Manager : Nicky Colclough

Treasurer : Mike Worden

Warehouse Manager : Bryan Semple

Middlewich& District Foodbank

Report of the Trustees for the Year ended 5th April 2025

Objectives and Activities

Middlewich & District Foodbank (MDF) exists to provide emergency assistance to individuals and families in Middlewich and the surrounding area via a sustainable foodbank and other connected activities.

This is done by providing a food parcel which contains a seven-day supply of food to those in need who have been identified by our referral agencies. The foodbank also provides toiletries, household cleaning products and nappies. At times we have also been able to supply fresh fruit, vegetables and bread.

Food parcels have been distributed twice a week from locations in central Middlewich and if needed they are delivered to those unable to access our services any other way.

The charity can only support its clients because of the volunteers who give freely of their time and energy in a number of different ways.

- Collecting food from supermarkets
- Sorting and storing the food in the warehouse
- Liaising with referrers and ensuring that communication with the whole community including churches, schools and doctors' surgeries is undertaken
- Making up parcels and transferring them to distribution hubs
- Providing food and much more to our clients and delivering to those who need it.
- Essential fundraising from individuals, businesses, community groups and grant applications.

MDF is a member food bank of Trussell which provides governance support and advice as required.

The Trustees have reviewed their governance documents in line with Charity Commission guidelines on public benefit and those of Trussell. The Trustees consider that during the year ended 5th April 2025 the key objective of providing emergency assistance to people of Middlewich and the surrounding districts has been met and has been of benefit to the public. The Trustees, when forming the strategy for the year, are mindful of how the plans will help to meet MDF's objectives.

Achievements and Performance

As can be seen from the table below during the year we have seen the number of referral agencies increase to 48. By far the main reason for clients being referred is low income with other factors including benefit delays and changes, ill health and debt.

In line with other food banks in Cheshire we saw the number of people using the services of MDF fall during the year. There still, however, remains a serious need for food from our clients.

Annual Statistics	2022/23	2023/24
Total number of people fed	1726	1770
Number of children fed	728	731
Number of adults fed	998	1039
Number of referral agencies	48	67
Total stock received <ul style="list-style-type: none">• % purchased• % from supermarkets• % schools, churches, businesses, charities and individuals• % transferred from other foodbanks and charities	25,343kg 3.85% 63.15% 29.15% 3.85%	25,428 kg 1.04% 67.53% 12.89% 4.48%
Total food purchased	974kg	263kg
Total stock distributed to local people	24,002kg	22,704kg

We do not monetise our stock and it is not included in the accounts however stock held at 5 April 2025 was 6,616 kg with a value of £ 18,326.32. We use the Trussell estimate of the value of £2.77 per 1kg of stock.

During the year the Foodbank received the second installment of a grant from Trussell which covered the cost of the rent at the warehouse facility which had been secured on a five year lease.

The other major expenditure during the year was the purchase of a Vauxhall van to enable safe movement of stock from supermarkets to the warehouse and to and from our distribution hubs.

Financial Review

The formal accounts are attached to this report together with explanatory notes. The Independent Examiner's report is attached to the accounts. We are grateful to Michael Collier for undertaking the review for us again this year.

During the year the charity's finances increased by £5,282.

This was helped by a grant of £12,000 from Trussell for the second year's rent for the warehouse.

In addition MDF has continued to receive very generous support from the John Halford Charity of £20,000 towards the employment costs of the Foodbank manager, the only paid employee.

The other large purchase was for a Vauxhall van to enable stock movement safely. This was purchased in no small part by the generous support of Middlewich Community Church.

The remaining funding comes from generous donations from individuals, local businesses, community groups and fundraising activities.

MDF holds £45,000 as reserves to ensure that it can both meet its contractual obligations in relation to both employment and the warehouse lease and to ensure that it can cope with any short-term changes in its funding patterns. The level of reserves is reviewed annually by the Trustees or more frequently if there is a significant event with a financial commitment such as leasing a new warehouse.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Foodbank is constituted as a charitable incorporated organization governed by its constitution whose only voting members are the Trustees. New Trustees are appointed at a meeting of the Trustee board and are selected to ensure that the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the charity is available.

The Trustees delegate operational control of the foodbank to the manager and an Operations Committee of volunteers.

The Trustees ensure that the necessary policies and procedures required are in place and MDF forms part of the wider Trussell network of food banks.

Receipts and Payments Account
For the year ended 5th April 2025

Previous year ended 5th April 2024			Notes	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total £
£	<u>Income</u>					
32000	Grants (Employment & Lease)	1		32000	2887	34887
19778	Donations	2		0	21924	21924
709	Bank Interest			0	1443	1443
<u>52487</u>				<u>32000</u>	<u>26254</u>	<u>58254</u>
	<u>Expenditure</u>					
395	Acct charges			0	661	661
255	Equipment			0	215	215
19527	Employment	3		21196	0	21196
2056	Food shortages/fresh food			0	20	20
376	Insurance			0	586	586
2822	Rent	6		12782	0	12782
1343	Summer/Christmas Projects	5		0	58	58
3362	Sundries			0	2380	2380
2300	Supermarket Vouchers	8		0	1700	1700
404	Training			0	98	98
1231	Utilities			360	2527	2887
1685	Vehicle costs	4		0	10390	10390
<u>35756</u>				<u>34338</u>	<u>18635</u>	<u>52972</u>
48114	Balance of Funds at 6/4/2024			20462	44382	64845
16730	Net Movement in Funds			-2338	7619	5282
<u>64845</u>	Balance of Funds at 5/4/2025			<u>18126</u>	<u>52001</u>	<u>70127</u>

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts

	Represented at close of play 5/4 /25	£
30668	Postal CCD account	31657
16898	Savings account	35741
5527	Operations Account	76
11639	Business Reserve Account	2596
112	Petty Cash	57
<u>64845</u>	Total	<u>70127</u>

Middlewich & District Food Bank

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

**Registered charity
number**

1170679

Balance Sheet**5th April 2025**

5 th April 2024		Notes	
£			£
	<u>Monetary Assets</u>		
64733	Bank Balances		70070
112	Petty Cash		57
<u>64845</u>			<u>70127</u>
	Represented by:		
	<u>Accumulated Fund</u>		
20420	Balance brought forward		44382
8962	Deficit / Surplus in Year		7619
-30,000	Transfer to Reserve		0
<u>-618</u>			<u>52001</u>
45,000	<u>Reserve Fund</u>	7	45000
	<u>Restricted Funds</u>	1	
15043	Rent Grant CF		13901
5420	Employment grant CF		4224
0	Other remaining grants		0
<u>20463</u>			<u>18126</u>
<u>64845</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>		<u>70127</u>
	<u>Non-Monetary Assets and Liabilities</u>		
4227	Motor Vehicle	4	9958
310	Supermarket Vouchers	8	740

The notes on the following pages form part of the accounts. The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' report and the Accounts and Notes.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

John Duley (Act Chair)

Anne O'Keefe (Treasurer)

Date 2 July 2025

Notes to the Accounts for the Year ended 5th April 2025

1 Grants / Restricted funds

During the year the Trustees have received grants as follows:

£20,000 from JHC towards the Employment costs of the Foodbank manager and £12000 from the Trussell Trust towards the rent of our new warehouse premises.

There was also a grant for warehouse equipment which was received in 24/25 after the equipment had been purchased from Foodbank funds in 23/34. It has therefore been listed as unrestricted.

2 Donations

These were up just over 10% on the previous year. Through Just Giving, regular standing orders and general one-off donations, from the Coates, Freemasons, Dane Housing, Halpin Hands. There has also been a regular monthly donation from Middlewich Community Church.

Without the continued generosity of our supporters the Foodbank would not be able to support its clients and we are extremely grateful.

3 Employment

The Foodbank has one paid member of staff, Nicky Harris the manager. The Foodbank uses TCS accountants to run the payroll.

4 Motor Vehicle

In the year the Dacia estate vehicle was replaced with a newer, larger van which reduces multiple journeys for stock collection and parcel deliveries, and safer for the driver. The cost was £11064, offset by £3500 part exchange for the old vehicle. Total paid was £7564

Depreciation of the vehicle value for 6 months is calculated at 10% on a straight-line basis for this fiscal year.

5 Summer/ Christmas Parcels

There were no summer parcels this year, as the government provided funding through schools. Christmas parcels were once again provided, mainly from stock, with just large bags purchased.

6 Rent

The warehouse is on a 5 year lease which started in Feb 2024, with 3 year break clause. Annual rent is £12,000 and £720 contracted maintenance and the first two years are being paid from grant funding.

7 Reserve Funds

The Reserve Fund has been maintained at £45,000 in accordance with the reserves policy. The fund is there to ensure that the Foodbank can honour all its financial commitments if it could not continue to operate. The increase results from the rental commitments under the warehouse lease.

Reserve funds are held across, a charity Postal account and a savings account, both of which generate interest. The level is reviewed annually or if there are major changes in the Foodbank operations.

8

Supermarket Vouchers

Vouchers totalling £1700 were purchased primarily to hand out with the Christmas parcels. These were used to give clients the opportunity to obtain fresh food to supplement the standard parcels. At the end of the fiscal year the Foodbank held £740 of vouchers.

MIDDLEWICH AND DISTRICT FOODBANK

Registered Charity Number - 1170679

Charitable incorporated Organisation

Report of the Independent Examiner on the Accounts for the year ended 5th April 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Middlewich and District Foodbank for the year ended 5th April 2025.

**Responsibility
and Basis of
report**

As the charity trustees of Middlewich and District Foodbank 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 Middlewich and District Foodbank 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

A) Accounting records were not kept in respect of Middlewich and District foodbank as required by section 130 of the Act; or

B) the accounts do not accord to those records.

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 proper understanding of the accounts reached.

Signed**Date**

30/7/2025

Name :

Michael Collier

**Relevant Professional Qualification or
body :-**

BANKING OFFICIAL (RETIRED)

Address :

59 Ravenscroft, Holmes Chapel, CW4 7HJ