



Annual Report 2024

Registered Charity 1172525

The Wisbech Food Bank Registered Charity No.1172525

Annual report of the activity of The Wisbech Food Bank covering the period 1st April 2023 until 31st March 2024

Legal and Administrative Information

The Wisbech Food Bank was set up in 2013 as a part of Churches Together in Wisbech. In 2017, the trustees sought and achieved CIO status.

The Trustees of The Wisbech Food Bank present their annual report and accounts for the year ended 31st March 2024 and confirm they comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, the Wisbech Food Bank constitution and the Trustees Act 2000.

Trustees

The Trustees of The Wisbech Food Bank who served during the period from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 were :-

Bryan Baker

Chantelle Fiddy

Eilis Gardner – resigned 31.8.23

Susan Hillyer – resigned 22.5.23

Simon King

Monika Mazeikaite – appointed 27.11.23

Catherine Noonan

Jeremy Pallant

Paul Unwin – resigned 31.8.23

Julie White

Address

The correspondence address for the charity is 358 High Road, Newton in the Isle, Wisbech, PE13 5HS

The Objects of the Wisbech Food Bank as set out in the Constitution are:

The relief of hardship for people in Wisbech and the surrounding area 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:

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.

Review of Activities and Achievements during the year

- The Distribution Centre at the Wisbech Baptist Church was open for two hours on Mondays Wednesdays and Fridays. A total of 3096kgs of food was distributed to 4533 clients, of which 2852 were adults and 1681 were children. Fresh fruit and vegetables along with meat vouchers for the local butchers were distributed along with food parcels.
- Thanks to grants from Trussell Trust we were able to employ a Citizens Advice advisor and a “buddy” to help maximise our clients’ income and minimise their outgoings and support them to achieve this. During this year financial gains for people using this service totalled £294,023 and managed debt totalled £48,803. 108 people no longer need to use the Foodbank.
Our Assistant Project Manager has been overseeing volunteering and the warehouse. A very successful Volunteers Day was held and a networking lunch for the referral agencies.
- A large monetary donation towards Christmas allowed us to give clients a voucher to spend in Tesco. Also Cadent gifted money to Trussell Trust who in turn gave Project Managers access to the Charis platform to issue fuel and supermarket vouchers which were very well received.
- The number of referral agencies has continued to increase and the database of referral agency contacts has been updated to comply with the General Data Protection Regulations.
- Collections have, once again, been arranged in the local supermarkets and the total for all donations received during the year is 29,912kgs. Food distributed for the year came to 31,820kgs
- During the Harvest Festival period, Trustees have given talks about food poverty to local schools and organisations.
- Three Trustees resigned, Eilis Gardner, Susan Hillyer and Paul Unwin. A new Trustee was appointed: Monika Mazeikaite with responsibility for Safeguarding.
- The Trustees secured further grant funding of £6,000 per year from the Elizabeth Wright Charity towards the staffing costs.

- The Trustees have renegotiated their relationship with Wisbech Baptist Church in the light of increased Food Bank usage and the associated increase in heating and lighting costs.
- The Trustees held ten quorate, minuted, Trustees' meetings in order to arrange the collection and distribution of food, to purchase food to balance demand to supply and to deploy our team of volunteers to store, pack and distribute food to our clients.
- The charity regularly entered data on the Trussell Trust management information system to allow monitoring of the supply and demand for food and to understand the needs of its clients.
- The Trustees have regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in their administration of the charity.
- The Trustees have reviewed their policies for Health and Safety and Safeguarding and associated Risk Assessments.

Future Plans

The Trustees will:-

- consider options to expand the service and to maximise the impact for beneficiaries;
- explore the potential for new partnerships with the County Council and other statutory agencies;
- develop additional signposting materials;
- organise training and support for volunteers and Trustees; and
- continue to update the volunteer and client records to ensure compliance with GDPR.

Financial Position

The trustees believe that the charity's financial position is strong. The accounts show income of £90,759 set against expenditure for the year of £88,313, resulting in a surplus of income over expenditure for the year of £2,446 and total funds held of £87,290.

The main sources of income are donations from supporters, either on a regular basis through standing orders, or in one-off donations, online giving via Give.net, grants from local charities, and donations from Tesco plc and Asda Stores Ltd based on the quantity of food collected at their stores through a scheme run by the Trussell Trust.

The main areas of expenditure are food, meat vouchers, salaries, rent, insurance, and administration costs.

The charity continues to benefit greatly from free use of storage facilities both at Fenland Haulage & Storage and the Remo Eco Superstore, also from the use of facilities at Wisbech Baptist Church at minimal cost.

The charity holds sufficient reserves to provide alternative facilities for warehousing and distribution whilst they seek alternative sources of funding, should the need arise.

The Trustees would like to record their thanks to the following:-

Our team of hardworking volunteers
The Trussell Trust
Margaret Gibbs and Derek Carter
Wisbech Baptist Church
Nikki & Marcus from Remo Eco Superstore
Fenland Haulage & Storage
Cadburys
Earth Breeze
JS Holmes
Robin Hine
Ivan Cooper
Dave Gibbs
Monika Mazeikaite
Julie Bush
Adriana Vysniauskaite
Aija Zemdega
Citizens Advice Rural Cambs
The Trustees of the Elizabeth Wrights Charity
The Paragon Charitable Foundation
Rotary Club of Wisbech
Cubico Sustainable Investments
The Lodge of United Good Fellowship 809
The Masonic Charitable Foundation
The Charity Girls
Kevin Smith from the Horsefair Shopping Centre
Our network of donors, collectors and our network of referral agencies
Asda, Heron Foods, Morrisons, Tesco, and Wisbech Library.



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name
The Wisbech Foodbank

On accounts for the year
ended

31 March 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1172525

Set out on pages

1 and 2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

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

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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.~~ *N/A*

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:

Ivan Cooper

Date:

10/5/2024

Name:

Ivan Cooper

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

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CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
The Wisbech Foodbank

CC16a
1172624

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/04/2023

To

31/03/2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	22,488		-	22,488	30,163
Gift Aid	1,086		-	1,086	1,530
Grants	6,500	54,463	-	60,963	68,695
Trussell Trust	4,277	-	-	4,277	3,679
Bank Interest	1,935	-	-	1,935	1,135
Sundry Income	10	-	-	10	1,388
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	36,296	54,463	-	90,759	106,590
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	36,296	54,463	-	90,759	106,590
A3 Payments					
Salaries & Wages	7,091	10,380	-	17,471	11,520
Fees	280	-	-	280	290
Admin Expenses	1,116	-	-	1,116	1,305
Equipment Purchases	71	97	-	168	345
Insurance	331	-	-	331	327
Premises Costs	1,040	-	-	1,040	1,040
Food Purchases	14,196	-	-	14,196	18,609
Carrier Bags	594	-	-	594	867
Other Costs	6,987	1,295	-	8,282	7,804
Financial Inclusion Project		44,835	-	44,835	22,418
Sub total	31,706	56,607	-	88,313	64,525
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	31,706	56,607	-	88,313	64,525
Net of receipts/(payments)	4,590	- 2,144	-	2,446	42,065
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	4,590	- 2,144	-	2,446	42,065