

Weston-super-Mare Foodbank

Trustee Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2025

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements of Weston-super-Mare Foodbank ("the Charity") for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Structure, Governance and Management

Weston-super-Mare Foodbank is registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with the Charity Commission Reference Number 1177071, and is governed by a constitution dated 8th February 2018, and operates from its Registered Office of North Street, Weston-super-Mare BS23 1QF.

During the year the following were Trustees:

Felicity Wilson
Leslie Hathaway
Rev Julie Birkett
William Painter
Margaret Bailey
Mark Bodley
Natalie Dawn Gale-Sides
Andrew Allen

Objectives and Activities

The Charity exists for the public benefit, the relief of financial hardship amongst people in need in North Somerset and the United Kingdom by providing food and training and strengthening and empowering individuals, families and communities.

Achievements and Performance

Weston-super-Mare Foodbank is a charity that enables the community in and around Weston-super-Mare to meet the emergency food needs of those within the same community who are at a crisis point in their lives. Thousands benefit; thousands more enable this to take place. The Foodbank is simply a means of linking a generous community with those in need of support.

During the 12 months to March 2025, Weston-super-Mare Foodbank has provided emergency food for about 7,200 people, a slight drop compared to the previous year. 85,000kg of food has been distributed but for the first time since the foodbank was opened, we had to buy a substantial amount of food to supplement our donations. With the continued increase in food prices, donations have dropped dramatically, some weeks we are receiving less than half our previous donation levels. In addition to providing emergency food, the Charity has supported local families with the provision of school holiday meals, gifts at Christmas, treats etc.

The footfall in the smaller outlets has increased as clients are starting to become more aware of the offering. We have been able to learn a lot from clients with dietary needs as well as hear stories of hardship and hope. 2024-25 was a year with a lot of changes with the closure of the Hughenden outlet in October 24 and the opening of a small outlet in the Big Worle hub. We have known for a long time that the distance from Worle to the town centre was an issue for clients. We were approached by the steering group and Citizens Advice who run a drop in there on

The warehouse is fully operational and providing essential support to the distribution centres. Thanks to the space available and the warehouse manager position, a whole new cohort of volunteers have been recruited and work from the warehouse 4 days a week. The 2 vans are located there and are used to collect food as well as distribute stock to the centres. The warehouse has offered a lot of space for young people with additional needs to volunteer.

Financial Review

The Charity receives donations from individuals and organisations who support the work of the Foodbank. The Foodbank has also received a grant from the North Somerset Council to support the work in the area.

For the full year the Charity had four part time employees and up to 50 volunteers split across our locations and teams. The majority of volunteers offer 5 hours of their time each week but a number of them volunteer across teams, up to 15 hours per week.

The financial circumstances for the year are set out in the accompanying financial statements. Thanks to the continued grant for Financial Inclusion work, we are able to host a Citizens Advice worker 3 times a week. In addition Citizens Advice is present at Big Worle while we run our session but this is not funded by us.

The Purple Sheep Pantry started operating without a bank account and Weston-super-Mare Foodbank supported the Charity by receiving income and making payments on their behalf. During the year the Charity opened its own bank account and the balance of £23,522 was transferred from Weston-super-Mare Foodbank to the Purple Sheep Pantry bank account.

The accounts for the year have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

The Charity has cash reserves of £173,955 as at 31 March 2025 (Last year £242,990), most of which is held in a Co-Op Bank Account and Insignis Deposits.

The Trustees have adopted a Reserves Policy which requires 3 months' of unrestricted expenditure to be held in unrestricted reserves. This equates to approximately £50k.

This will allow the Charity to continue to operate for a minimal period of time should giving reduce. The Trustees recognise that the financial commitment relating to the warehouse lease marks an additional risk, and therefore the Charity holds reserves against this in recognition that there is no separate income stream that funds this currently. The value of the reserves will be monitored on a regular basis in the light of current giving levels, items of expenditure, and annually as part of the budget process.

At the balance sheet date, the Charity held unrestricted reserves of £159,673 (Last year £192,986). While this figure is above the required level, the Trustees believe that following a review of commitments, including the operational costs of the Warehouse, and investments in "more than initiatives", that the level of reserves is appropriate.

The unrestricted reserves reduction in the year was partly due to the costs of operating from the Hughenden Centre when renting from Enjoy church which finished during the year, and partly from higher demand and operating costs with reduced donations post covid.

The budget for 2025/2026 shows a shortfall of £76k in the knowledge that one regular donation will cease at the end of March and on the assumption that the Foodbank operates from the Hughenden Centre under the new ownership of Weston Ark at a reduced rent.

It is assumed that the operating costs of the Foodbank will continue to be higher than the income into the future, the balance of reserves providing a buffer into 2026/2027.

At the balance sheet date the organisation has restricted reserves of £14,282 (Last year £50,004). These relate to Grants and Donations relating to Additional services being offered to the clients (currently Citizens Advice North Somerset).

The Trustees are satisfied that the Charity holds sufficient reserves at the Balance Sheet date, together with ongoing income anticipated, to enable the Charity to function effectively in the coming year.

Statement of Trustees Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the income resources and application of resources of the Charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgement and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provision of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Trustee

07/10/2025

Receipts and Payments Accounts

	12 Months to 31 March 2025			31 March 2024
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Total Funds £
Receipts				
General Donations	128,553	39,142	167,696	206,896
Total Receipts	128,553	39,142	167,696	206,896
Payments				
Salaries, National Insurance & Pension costs	67,888	39,472	107,360	92,405
Premises Costs	48,499	21,864	70,363	67,778
Vehicle Costs	2,057	-	2,057	3,102
Administrative and Other Costs	33,037	392	33,429	37,842
			0	
Total Payments	151,481	61,728	213,209	201,127
Net of Receipts / (Payments)	(22,928)	(22,586)	(45,513)	5,769
Cash Funds Last Year	192,986	50,004	242,990	237,221
Funds Transfer (Hughenden Road)	(10,385)	10,385	0	
Funds Transfer (Purple Sheep)		(23,522)	(23,522)	
Cash Funds This Year End	159,673	14,281	173,955	242,990

There were no Designated Funds in either period

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 March 2025

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Cash Funds			
Co-op Bank Account	19,020	-	19,020
Insignis Investments	139,595	14,281	153,876
Petty Cash	1,058	-	1,058
Total Cash Funds	159,673	14,281	173,955

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 March 2024

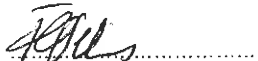
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Cash Funds			
Co-op Bank Account	16,252	-	16,252
Insignis Investments	176,292	50,004	226,296
Petty Cash	442	-	442
Total Cash Funds	192,986	50,004	242,990

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Trustee

07/10/2025



Trustee

7/10/2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Weston-super-Mare Foodbank

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Weston-super-Mare Foodbank (the Charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025..

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the Charity 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 charity 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: 1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or 2. the accounts do not accord with 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 a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Name: Peter Needham

Address: 7 Juniper Place, Weston-super-Mare, North Somerset. BS22 9XD

Date: 21st October 2025