

INDEPENDENT FOOD AID NETWORK

England & Wales - Charity number 1180382

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2018-10-19

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 71-75
Shelton Street
London

Phone 07971010991

Email admin@foodaidnetwork.org.uk

Website www.foodaidnetwork.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE ORGANISATION ARE THE PREVENTION OR RELIEF OF POVERTY IN THE UNITED KINGDOM BY PROVIDING: GRANTS, ITEMS AND SERVICES TO INDIVIDUALS IN NEED AND/OR CHARITIES, OR OTHER ORGANISATIONS WORKING TO PREVENT OR RELIEVE POVERTY. TO PREVENT OR RELIEVE POVERTY THROUGH UNDERTAKING AND SUPPORTING RESEARCH INTO FACTORS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO POVERTY AND THE MOST APPROPRIATE WAYS TO MITIGATE THESE. IT WILL ACHIEVE THIS BY:- PROVIDING A FORUM, PROMOTING BEST PRACTICE AND OFFERING A COLLECTIVE VOICE FOR INDEPENDENT, GRASSROOTS FOOD AID PROVIDERS- WORKING WITH AND PROMOTING THE VOICES OF PEOPLE IN FOOD INSECURITY- PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING ABOUT THE CAUSES OF FOOD POVERTY- IMPROVING PROVISION TO PEOPLE IN NEED OF FOOD- CONDUCTING AND PROMOTING CRITICAL, OPEN-ACCESS RESEARCH RELATING TO FOOD POVERTY

Activities: Independent Food Aid Network (IFAN) seeks to connect and support grassroots independent food aid providers, to provide a voice for these groups by advocating on their behalf at a national level, and to campaign for food security for all - and the end for the need of charitable food aid in the UK.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£117,606	£247,354	-	-
2023-12-31	£255,813	£256,440	-	-
2022-12-31	£268,317	£116,725	-	-
2021-12-31	£210,779	£226,923	-	-
2020-12-31	£263,205	£160,461	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Deirdre Alison Woods	Chair	2019-01-21
CLlr Kemi Akinola		2019-01-21
Dr KAYLEIGH GARTHWAITE		2018-10-19
Dr Sinead Furey		2020-12-02
Felicia Boshorin		2019-11-01
MADELEINE POWER		2018-10-19
Professor JONATHAN ROGER MAY		2018-10-19

INDEPENDENT FOOD AID NETWORK

England & Wales - Charity number 1180382

Accounts

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1180382

**Independent Food Aid Network
Unaudited Financial Statements
31 December 2024**

Independent Food Aid Network

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2024

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Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report

Year ended 31 December 2024

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Independent Food Aid Network
Charity registration number	1180382
Principal office	71-75, Shelton Street London WC2H 9JQ

The trustees

Dr K Garthwaite - Treasurer
Cllr K Akinola
Ms D Woods - Chair
Dr M Power
Mr R Makwana (Resigned 30 April 2024)
Prof J May
Ms F Boshorin
Dr S Furey

Independent examiner	Nicola Jane Cadwallader For and On Behalf of David Cadwallader & Co Limited Suite 3 Bignell Park Barns Chesterton Bicester Oxon OX26 1TD
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Structure, governance and management

The charity was registered under its Governing document as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with the Charity Commission on 19 October 2018 under Charity number 1180382.

The charity is governed by its Trustees.

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2024

Objectives and activities

The objectives of the organisation are the prevention or relief of poverty in the United Kingdom by providing:

- grants, items and services to individuals in need and/or charities, or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty
- to prevent or relieve poverty through undertaking and supporting research into factors that contribute to poverty and the most appropriate ways to mitigate these

It achieves this by:

- providing a forum, promoting best practice and offering a collective voice for independent, grassroots food aid providers
- working with and promoting the voices of people in food insecurity
- providing opportunities for learning about the causes of food poverty
- improving provision to people in need of food
- conducting and promoting critical, open-access research relating to food poverty

Public Benefit Statement

In setting the objectives of the Charity and planning our activities, the trustees have paid due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2024

Achievements and performance

Throughout 2024, the Independent Food Aid Network (IFAN) continued to advocate for 'cash first' or income-focused approaches to reducing and eliminating food insecurity at a UK-wide, national, and local level in pursuit of its vision of a country without the need for charitable food aid where adequate and nutritious food is available to all. IFAN also supported and represented its member organisations (food banks and other charitable food aid providers) doing their utmost to support large numbers of people unable to afford food as they continued to face significant challenges to cope with demand.

IFAN's board of trustees was chaired by Dee Woods in 2024. Trustee Rajesh Makwana resigned in April 2024, otherwise the board of trustees saw no other changes. Dr Kayleigh Garthwaite remained Treasurer throughout 2024.

IFAN's Director, Sabine Goodwin, was employed full-time throughout 2024 as were Abby Preston and Emma Österberg. Abby and Emma were initially employed as Project Officers and then, in the Autumn of 2024, became Policy and Project Officers. IFAN's part-time Finance Officer, Jo Finnerty, also remained in post throughout 2024 as did part-time Project Officer, Ashleigh Haney. IFAN's Project Manager, Maria Marshall, left her post in March 2024 for a new role with CPAG in Scotland. In the Spring of 2024, Charlotte White became IFAN's part-time Member Support Officer, and later, Member Support and Policy Officer. For most of 2024, IFAN was supported by volunteers Anna Gavurin and Clare Gavurin. Volunteer Alex Tate also helped IFAN with a project collating data on local authority cash first approaches.

IFAN collated and reported on data contributed by its member organisations in March and August 2024. IFAN reported that independent food banks were struggling to cope with rising demand as food and financial donations fell while volunteers and staff members have become burnt out. IFAN has continued to widely share the message that a charitable food aid response to food insecurity is both unsustainable and ineffective.

IFAN pushed forward with its flagship 'Worrying About Money?' resources project across the UK throughout 2024. The IFAN team also rolled out a new colour palette while completing six-monthly updates for 'Worrying About Money?' leaflets. This refreshed colour palette was chosen to complement IFAN's brand colours as well as to take account of the accessibility requirements of blind and partially sighted people.

Thanks to funding from the William Kessler Family Charitable Fund, numerous new 'Worrying About Money?' leaflets and their alternative versions have been co-produced and disseminated in England. New leaflets have also been co-produced in Wales and in Northern Ireland. IFAN has also co-created translated, easy read, poster, BSL, and audio versions of local 'Worrying About Money?' leaflets as and when they're needed in individual communities. In addition, every 'Worrying About Money?' has an easily accessible interactive version following the step-by-step format.

IFAN has co-run various online and in-person launch events for new 'Worrying About Money?' leaflets published in England generating more interest in and orders for local leaflets. Abby and Emma have also worked alongside local partners to run online and in-person Money Counts training sessions linked to individual areas to help support workers and volunteers gain confidence in using 'Worrying About Money?' resources. Sessions in Haringey, Cornwall, Wakefield, and Bradford have been particularly popular and well-attended. IFAN co-delivered this training with a range of local partners including Trussell, Citizens Advice, Transformation Cornwall, Feeding Bradford, and IFAN member the Gospel Centre Food Bank in Haringey.

The 'Worrying About Money?' resources have again made a lasting impact in 2024. The collaborative work in both High Peak and Staffordshire Moorlands in Derbyshire is a notable example. Local authorities in these areas sent their local leaflets out with council tax bills in the Spring of 2024. The

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2024

success of the project in High Peak has led to partners in two more areas in Derbyshire, Derbyshire Dales and South Derbyshire, co-developing leaflets with IFAN.

The resources have also made a particular impact in the south west of England. IFAN and Trussell co-ran an online event, Cash First Communities South West, focused on a cash first approach to food insecurity in October that show-cased local partnership work on 'Worrying About Money?' resources.

In Scotland, thanks to funding from the Scottish Government, IFAN has continued to expand the reach of 'Worrying About Money?' resources as well as accompanying Money Counts training sessions. In 2024, again as a result of Scottish Government funding, IFAN commissioned the Scottish Centre of Social Research (ScotCen) to evaluate the impact of the 'Worrying About Money?' guide in Scotland. The research team conducted semi-structured interviews with members of the public facing financial insecurity across Scotland who had used 'Worrying About Money?' resources.

The report's findings include:

- having information presented in one resource, rather than spread across multiple sources, helped to minimise the physical, mental, and emotional energy needed to seek support
- the inclusion of local support organisations in the guide was welcomed by participants who had experienced local services as often more approachable and less bureaucratic than larger national services
- the inclusion of information on when the guide was last updated increased participants' confidence that the sources of support would be available if they made contact

The IFAN team has delivered presentations on the 'Worrying About Money?' resources at various conferences and meetings in across the UK in 2024. Abby contributed to a panel session at Resolve Poverty's 'The Power of Place in Tackling Poverty' conference in March referencing the project in terms of how best to respond to poverty locally. Several local authority financial inclusion groups have requested an introduction to the 'Worrying About Money?' leaflets from one of the IFAN team in 2024 and often, these sessions have led to the co-development of new leaflets. In October 2024, Emma delivered presentations in Newcastle at the Nourishing Future Network conference on Poverty, Inequality, and Food Security in Preconception, and the first 2001 Days, and at the Inequalities and Health Summit in Liverpool. In London, the IFAN team spoke about the 'Worrying About Money?' resources at the Hounslow Food Summit, Feeding Barnet - A Food Security Summit, and the Islington Food Summit. IFAN's Member Support and Policy Officer, Charlotte White, wrote a blog on the impact of the leaflets published in December 2024. The 'Worrying About Money?' resources project was also the focus of a Glasgow Caledonian University Scottish Poverty and Inequality Research Unit (SPIRU) Tackling Poverty Locally Directory entry.

IFAN has advocated for a cash first approach to food insecurity at a local, regional, national, and UK-wide level throughout 2024. IFAN has made calls for long-term, income-focused solutions to food insecurity at public events, in meetings with elected representatives, civil servants, and local authority teams, and in the media. Sabine represented IFAN at a roundtable meeting with DWP Ministers on the UK Government's developing child poverty strategy in Glasgow in November 2024. In the latter part of 2024, IFAN contributed to the emerging food poverty strategy linked to Labour's manifesto commitment 'to end mass dependence on emergency food parcels'.

Following July's election, IFAN wrote to the new Prime Minister saying: 'Your new government now has a once in a generation opportunity to reverse the tide of poverty that has swept the country over the past fourteen years. Its impact has been felt across generations as people's physical and mental health have been thwarted. We urge you to take much needed actions as swiftly as possible.' IFAN also put together a briefing for new MPs on Eradicating food insecurity while ending the need for food banks and other forms of charitable food aid in the UK. This has been used to connect with new and re-elected MPs.

IFAN has made strong calls throughout the year on the need to extend the Household Support Fund in

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2024

England and to replace it with permanent crisis support through cash payments. IFAN collaborated with other anti-poverty charities to co-produce a briefing on the need for permanent crisis support and co-ran a survey for local authorities, frontline organisations, and people with lived experience covering this issue. With the help of volunteers, IFAN developed a resource on its website to chart the availability of cash payments through local authorities in England.

IFAN has continued to call for a cash first approach to infant and maternal food insecurity publishing a latest briefing on this issue in November 2024. IFAN also contributed to the Scottish Government's Guide to Responding to and Preventing Infant Food Insecurity in Scotland as a member of a short life working group.

In the Autumn of 2024, IFAN contributed to Just Fair's submission on behalf of civil society in England to the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights saying: 'Responding to food insecurity with charitable food aid has proved ineffective and unsustainable. Since the emergence of more and more food banks as a response to the impact of austerity policies, millions upon millions of food parcels have been distributed by thousands of food banks. However, it's clear from data collated by the DWP as well as the FSA that food insecurity has risen just as charitable food aid has been distributed. A food parcel can only ever temporarily alleviate hunger and cannot be effective at reducing food insecurity and poverty.'

IFAN has also continued to contribute to various academic studies linked to tackling food insecurity through advisory group membership or facilitating links to member organisations. IFAN's director, Sabine Goodwin, has written numerous opinion pieces for the Big Issue championing a cash first approach to food insecurity, and has contributed to newspaper pieces, radio interviews as well as a podcast. IFAN has also contributed to many joint campaigns and alliances and has signed various letters and statements calling for systemic policy changes to address food insecurity and poverty. IFAN has sent out regular newsletters to its supporters and has continued to advocate for change with its use of its well-known infographics. In September 2024, Abby attended the Labour Party conference on IFAN's behalf.

In Scotland, IFAN pressed on with its advocacy for a cash first approach to food insecurity as the Scottish Government's plan towards ending the need for food banks entered its second year (IFAN's 'Worrying About Money?' resources project is referenced in Action 6 of the plan). Together with the Trussell Trust, IFAN co-ran the in-person Cash First Communities conference in Glasgow welcoming nearly 140 attendees including representatives of advice services, food aid organisations, and local authorities to chart cash first progress in Scotland.

At a local level, in Cornwall, IFAN has continued to collaborate with Transformation Cornwall, Trussell, and Cornwall Council to embed a cash first approach to food insecurity locally and, to this end, organised an in-person event in Truro at the start of the year looking at how best to support people facing financial hardship in Cornwall. In Edinburgh, IFAN contributed to the development of Edinburgh Community Food's Cash First Toolkit and an event linked to its launch.

Throughout 2024, IFAN has supported its member organisations to use and share 'Worrying About Money?' resources while championing the use of cash payments, shopping vouchers or gift cards instead of or alongside emergency food parcels. IFAN has worked to amplify the voices of independent food bank managers and has continued to support member organisations through numerous member meetings focused on issues of concern ranging from government policy changes to personal resilience in the face of unrelenting demand to food supply problems. In 2024, IFAN has also supported member organisations by connecting them to practical help and up-to-date resources through regular updates and its member information pages.

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2024

Financial review

Major sources of income:

IFAN's major sources of income have been from:

- Scottish Government funding
- London Plus
- and funding through donations from the general public

Total income for the year was £117,606 and total expenditure was £247,354, which resulted in a deficit of (£129,748). This compares to a deficit of (£627) for the previous year. Funds held at 31 December 2024 were £106,303 of which £102,737 was unrestricted and £3,566 was restricted (At 31 December 2023 £232,345 were unrestricted and £3,706 was restricted, a total of £236,051).

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have set a policy of holding 5 months operating costs in unrestricted funds to enable the charity to meet all of its liabilities should operations have to cease at some point in the future. Based on our annual operating budget current reserves at the end of 2024 were equivalent to the agreed 5 months of unrestricted funds.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 19/3/25 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Dr K Garthwaite
Treasurer

Independent Food Aid Network

Independent Examiner's Report to the Partners of Independent Food Aid Network

Year ended 31 December 2024

I report to the partners on my examination of the financial statements of Independent Food Aid Network ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the partners of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements 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 charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do 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.



Nicola Jane Cadwallader
Independent Examiner

For and On Behalf of
David Cadwallader & Co Limited
Suite 3 Bignell Park Barns
Chesterton
Bicester Oxon
OX26 1TD

14 April 2025

Independent Food Aid Network

Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 December 2024

		2024	2023		
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	4	53,896	63,710	117,606	255,813
Total income		<u>53,896</u>	<u>63,710</u>	<u>117,606</u>	<u>255,813</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	5,6	183,048	64,306	247,354	256,440
Total expenditure		<u>183,048</u>	<u>64,306</u>	<u>247,354</u>	<u>256,440</u>
Net expenditure		<u>(129,152)</u>	<u>(596)</u>	<u>(129,748)</u>	<u>(627)</u>
Transfers between funds		(456)	456	–	–
Net movement in funds		<u>(129,608)</u>	<u>(140)</u>	<u>(129,748)</u>	<u>(627)</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		232,345	3,706	236,051	236,678
Total funds carried forward		<u>102,737</u>	<u>3,566</u>	<u>106,303</u>	<u>236,051</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 10 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

Independent Food Aid Network

Statement of Financial Position

31 December 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		111,693	243,598
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>5,390</u>	<u>7,547</u>
Net current assets		<u>106,303</u>	<u>236,051</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>106,303</u>	<u>236,051</u>
Net assets		<u>106,303</u>	<u>236,051</u>
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		3,566	3,706
Unrestricted funds		<u>102,737</u>	<u>232,345</u>
Total charity funds	13	<u>106,303</u>	<u>236,051</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Dr K Garthwaite
Treasurer

The notes on pages 10 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2024

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales and is unincorporated. The address of the principal office is 71-75 Shelton Street, London, WC2H 9JQ.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act 2011.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the partners for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Operating leases

Lease payments are recognised as an expense over the lease term on a straight-line basis. The aggregate benefit of lease incentives is recognised as a reduction to expense over the lease term, on a straight-line basis.

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2024

4. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Donations			
Unrestricted grants and donations	53,896	–	53,896
Dyers	–	–	–
Scottish Government	–	63,710	63,710
Aurum Charitable Trust	–	–	–
ScotCen consultancy fee	–	–	–
London Plus Grant - Project	–	–	–
William Kessler Family Trust	–	–	–
	<u>53,896</u>	<u>63,710</u>	<u>117,606</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Donations			
Unrestricted grants and donations	97,848	–	97,848
Dyers	8,000	–	8,000
Scottish Government	–	37,065	37,065
Aurum Charitable Trust	–	20,000	20,000
ScotCen consultancy fee	–	2,000	2,000
London Plus Grant - Project	–	10,900	10,900
William Kessler Family Trust	80,000	–	80,000
	<u>185,848</u>	<u>69,965</u>	<u>255,813</u>

5. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Research, connect, support and advocacy	181,818	64,306	246,124
Support costs	1,230	–	1,230
	<u>183,048</u>	<u>64,306</u>	<u>247,354</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Research, connect, support and advocacy	184,753	70,527	255,280
Support costs	1,160	–	1,160
	<u>185,913</u>	<u>70,527</u>	<u>256,440</u>

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2024

6. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly	Support costs	Total funds 2024	Total fund 2023
	£	£	£	£
Research, connect, support and advocacy	246,124	–	246,124	255,280
Governance costs	–	1,230	1,230	1,160
	<u>246,124</u>	<u>1,230</u>	<u>247,354</u>	<u>256,440</u>

7. Net expenditure

Net expenditure is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024	2023
	£	£
Operating lease rentals	<u>188</u>	<u>–</u>

8. Independent examination fees

	2024	2023
	£	£
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>1,230</u>	<u>1,160</u>

9. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	159,569	170,715
Social security costs	9,901	12,696
Employer contributions to pension plans	2,881	3,723
	<u>172,351</u>	<u>187,134</u>

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	116,328	43,515
Social security costs	7,283	4,338
Employer contributions to pension plans	1,553	860
	<u>125,164</u>	<u>48,713</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 6 (2023: 6).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2023: Nil).

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2024

10. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees.

One of the trustees has claimed expenses or had their expenses of £160 met by the charity.

There were no other trustees expenses in the period.

11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	1,221	1,154
Social security and other taxes	3,639	5,437
Other creditors	530	956
	<u>5,390</u>	<u>7,547</u>

12. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £2,881 (2023: £3,723).

13. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 January				At
	2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31 December
	£	£	£	£	2024
					£
General funds	<u>232,345</u>	<u>53,896</u>	<u>(183,048)</u>	<u>(456)</u>	<u>102,737</u>

	At 1 January				At
	2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31 December
	£	£	£	£	2023
					£
General funds	<u>233,842</u>	<u>185,848</u>	<u>(185,913)</u>	<u>(1,432)</u>	<u>232,345</u>

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2024

13. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

Restricted funds

	At 1 January 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2024 £
Scottish Government	–	63,710	(60,144)	–	3,566
Aurum Charitable Trust	–	–	–	–	–
Cornwall Council	1,116	–	(1,572)	456	–
London Plus	2,590	–	(2,590)	–	–
ScotCen	–	–	–	–	–
	<u>3,706</u>	<u>63,710</u>	<u>(64,306)</u>	<u>456</u>	<u>3,566</u>

	At 1 January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2023 £
Scottish Government	–	37,065	(38,497)	1,432	–
Aurum Charitable Trust	–	20,000	(20,000)	–	–
Cornwall Council	2,836	–	(1,720)	–	1,116
London Plus	–	10,900	(8,310)	–	2,590
ScotCen	–	2,000	(2,000)	–	–
	<u>2,836</u>	<u>69,965</u>	<u>(70,527)</u>	<u>1,432</u>	<u>3,706</u>

14. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Current assets	108,127	3,566	111,693
Creditors less than 1 year	(5,390)	–	(5,390)
Net assets	<u>102,737</u>	<u>3,566</u>	<u>106,303</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Current assets	239,892	3,706	243,598
Creditors less than 1 year	(7,547)	–	(7,547)
Net assets	<u>232,345</u>	<u>3,706</u>	<u>236,051</u>

15. Related parties

There were no related party transactions which require disclosure under FRS102.

INDEPENDENT FOOD AID NETWORK

England & Wales - Charity number 1180382

Accounts

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1180382

**Independent Food Aid Network
Unaudited Financial Statements
31 December 2023**

Independent Food Aid Network

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2023

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Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report

Year ended 31 December 2023

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name Independent Food Aid Network
Charity registration number 1180382
Principal office 71-75, Shelton Street
London
WC2H 9JQ

The trustees

Dr K Garthwaite - Treasurer
Cllr K Akinola
Ms D Woods - Chair
Dr M Power
Mr R Makwana (Resigned 30 April 2024)
Prof J May
Ms F Boshorin
Dr S Furey

Independent examiner Nicola Jane Cadwallader
For and On Behalf of
David Cadwallader & Co Limited
Suite 3 Bignell Park Barns
Chesterton
Bicester Oxon
OX26 1TD

Structure, governance and management

The charity was registered under its Governing document as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with the Charity Commission on 19 October 2018 under Charity number 1180382.

The charity is governed by its Trustees.

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

Objectives and activities

The objects of the organisation are the prevention or relief of poverty in the United Kingdom by providing:

- grants, items and services to individuals in need and/or charities, or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty
- to prevent or relieve poverty through undertaking and supporting research into factors that contribute to poverty and the most appropriate ways to mitigate these

It achieves this by:

- providing a forum, promoting best practice and offering a collective voice for independent, grassroots food aid providers
- working with and promoting the voices of people in food insecurity
- providing opportunities for learning about the causes of food poverty
- improving provision to people in need of food
- conducting and promoting critical, open-access research relating to food poverty

Public Benefit Statement

In setting the objectives of the Charity and planning our activities, the trustees have paid due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

Achievements and performance

Throughout 2023, IFAN's small team continued to advocate for a 'cash first' approach to food insecurity on a national and local level in pursuit of its vision of a country without the need for charitable food aid where adequate and nutritious food is available to all. IFAN also continued to support and represent its member organisation teams (food banks and other charitable food aid providers) doing their utmost to support increasing numbers of people unable to afford food as they faced significant challenges to cope with demand.

IFAN's board of trustees has seen no changes in 2023 and continues to be chaired by Dee Woods. Dr Kayleigh Garthwaite remains Treasurer. All full-time staff members remained in post: Sabine Goodwin as Director, Maria Marshall as Project Manager, Abby Preston as Project Officer, and Emma Österberg also as Project Officer. In May 2023, IFAN hired a part-time Finance Officer, Jo Finnerty. In August 2023, Ashleigh Haney started to work some 'Keeping in Touch' days and in November she rejoined IFAN on a part-time basis as Project Officer. Throughout 2023 IFAN has been supported by our volunteer Anna Gavurin who was joined by another volunteer Clare Gavurin in the Autumn of 2023.

IFAN collated and reported on data contributed by its member organisations in February, August, April, and November of 2023. IFAN has consistently reported that independent food banks are struggling to cope with rising demand as food and financial donations have fallen and volunteer and staff burnout has meant food banks are struggling to cope. IFAN has been able to widely share the message that a charitable food aid response to food insecurity is both unsustainable and ineffective. IFAN has worked to amplify the voices of independent food bank managers representing member organisations through these reports and by connecting them to journalists and academics. IFAN's reports have been shared on social media, within the anti-poverty sector and with civil servants, MPs, and journalists. Media coverage of IFAN's data reporting has included reports in print in The Guardian, The Observer, The Independent, The Mirror, The Express and the Big Issue as well as radio coverage on BBC Radio 4 Sunday. IFAN's data has been referenced in various reports and briefings including the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (EFRA) Committee Report on Food Security and the latest House of Commons Library Food Banks in the UK report.

Further media coverage referencing IFAN's advocacy on a cash first approach to food insecurity included two radio interviews on LBC with IFAN's director Sabine Goodwin linked to the launch of the King's Coronation Food Project as well as an interview with Paul Lewis on BBC Radio 4 Money Box on the rise of baby banks. Sabine was also interviewed on BBC News South East on this subject following a piece in The Guardian linked to her comments on royal patronage of baby banks and the ineffectiveness of a charitable response to poverty. Sabine was also invited to be a panellist on a BBC Money Box Live programme on the cost of food in March 2023.

Sabine has also written numerous opinion pieces for the Big Issue, The BMJ and IFAN's blog page in 2023. Her most recent piece for the Big Issue was in response to King Charles' launch of the Coronation Food Project with the support of the same publication. In this piece, Sabine highlighted the danger of conflating the problems of food waste and food poverty. Earlier in the year, Sabine, Dr Kayleigh Garthwaite and Professor Graham Riches wrote to The Observer alongside many academics and activists on this issue. They pointed out: "While the expansion of organised surplus food redistribution might seem like a win-win solution, this practice fails to reduce food waste levels while undermining policies designed to address food insecurity." Their letter, Guaranteeing food for all, was published in March 2023.

Sabine and IFAN's project manager, Maria Marshall, co-wrote a letter to The Guardian in response to an opinion piece by Gordon Brown that was published in November 2023. Another significant piece by both Sabine and Maria was their joint blog on Cash First and the Right Food that was published in May 2023. Sabine and Maria also contributed to the Coventry University Research Centre for Agroecology, Water and Resilience Policy Brief on the Right to Food.

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

IFAN has continued to advocate for a cash first approach to food insecurity through engagement with policy makers and elected representatives. In January 2023, Maria contributed oral evidence to the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Ending the Need for Food Banks. This evidence was referenced in the APPG's subsequent report *Cash or food: Exploring effective responses to destitution*. In February 2023, IFAN responded to the call for input from the United Nations (UN) Special Rapporteur on the right to food on 'Violence and the right to food.' IFAN's submission was published on UN Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner website. Sabine gave evidence to London Economy Committee in October 2022 and the London Assembly Committee's subsequent report *Food Insecurity in London* was published in April 2023 making numerous mentions of a cash first approach to food insecurity. IFAN was invited by the Ministry of Justice to participate in their stakeholder engagement event focussed on the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in November 2023. Throughout the year, Sabine and Maria have attended meetings with DWP, Scottish Government and Welsh Government officials during which they have been able to report on the situation on the ground and advocate for a cash first approach to food insecurity.

Throughout 2023, Sabine has continued to represent IFAN on the Scottish Government's Steering Group on Ending the Need for Food Banks linked to its plan *Cash-First: Towards Ending the Need for Food Banks in Scotland*. In May 2023, Sabine was invited to attend an anti-poverty summit hosted by the new First Minister in Edinburgh. She co-wrote a blog linked to the Scottish Government's long-awaited plan to end the need for food banks with the Head of Trussell Trust Scotland just before the summit.

Once it was finally published, one of the actions in the Scottish Government's plan on ending the need for food banks once was the Food Insecurity Pilot run by Citizens Advice Scotland. IFAN contributed to this pilot by presenting information on a cash first approach to food insecurity at an initial stakeholder engagement meeting and by facilitating a survey of food aid providers in pilot areas which will feed into the project's evaluation report.

IFAN has made a contribution to urgent discussions about the most appropriate way to support increasing numbers of parents and carers struggling to afford to feed their infants. IFAN has played a role in the Scottish Government's Short Life Working Group on infant food insecurity set up during the summer of 2023. Maria and IFAN's project officer Emma Österberg contributed presentations on IFAN's cash first referral leaflets and evidence on infant food insecurity and food bank practice in relation to the provision of formula milk at two stakeholder roundtable discussions in Glasgow. IFAN has also developed a version of their Money Counts training course linked to their cash first referral leaflets specifically for support workers helping parents and carers unable to afford food. IFAN contributed to FEED guidance for food and baby banks and has published three briefings relating to infant food insecurity and a cash first approach linked to specific data collated from their members on the subject. IFAN's latest report on this issue, *Reducing food insecurity in UK households with infants*, was published in December 2023 and was featured in *The Guardian* alongside comments from Sabine. During 2023, IFAN also produced and shared an infographic to help embed a cash first approach in infant feeding referral pathways.

IFAN has continued to advocate for adequate, accessible, and prompt crisis payments in cash at a local authority level and shared examples of best practice. In Cornwall, IFAN has continued to collaborate with the Trussell Trust, Transformation Cornwall and Cornwall Council to improve the availability and accessibility of local financial support by co-delivering Money Counts training sessions, publishing and disseminating Cornwall 'Worrying About Money?' leaflets and posters thanks to funding from Cornwall Council, jointly holding an in-person discussion forum in June in St Austell, contributing a joint report and interventions to Cornwall Council's strategic work on the cost-of-living crisis in Cornwall and co-producing a presentation by Cornwall Council at a conference led by Dr Rachel Loopstra (*Understanding the impacts of local authority responses to the cost-of-living crisis on food insecurity*) at Liverpool University in July 2023 on our joint work aimed at reducing financial hardship in

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

in Cornwall. IFAN published a joint blog on this collaborative work in June 2023. Our joint report, Finding ways to improve availability and access to financial support in Cornwall, was published in August 2023 following our in-person event in St Austell.

Throughout 2023, IFAN has run a project to identify levels of local authority cash first support in England. This work, focused in areas where there are IFAN cash first referral leaflets in circulation, has been undertaken by IFAN's volunteer Anna Gavurin who has painstakingly collated information on how local authorities are distributing any crisis support and the Household Support Fund. Later in the year, Anna was joined by IFAN's new volunteer Clare Gavurin. This invaluable research has allowed IFAN to build a web page entitled Can you get cash in a crisis? The page uses a traffic light system to identify which local authorities are distributing support by way of cash payments and IFAN will use this resource to highlight the benefits of a cash first approach to food insecurity at a local level.

In work led by IFAN's project officers Abby Preston in England and Wales and Emma in Scotland, IFAN has worked to further co-develop 'Worrying About Money?' cash first referral leaflets in England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland as well as to keep existing resources up to date. IFAN aims to update the 'Worrying About Money?' resources at least every six months or as amendments are required. There are now over 120 cash first referral leaflets covering 112 local authorities. Funding from the William Kessler Family Charitable Fund, London Plus and the GLA, and the Scottish Government has made the extent of this work possible. The leaflets are now available in PDF, hard copy, one-page poster, interactive, translated, Easy Read, and audio formats. The various resources are proving to be invaluable assets in our collaborative work with multiple partners to cement a cash first approach to food insecurity in local communities across UK. In 2023, IFAN published reports on their work to co-develop, publish, and disseminate cash first referral leaflets in Scotland and England. IFAN published a blog by a Trussell Trust food bank manager about co-developing a local cash first referral leaflet in April 2023. Abby and Emma co-ran or participated in numerous in-person and online launch events linked to individual leaflets. Abby, Emma, Maria, and Sabine also contributed to various in-person and online events with presentations and interventions on a cash first approach to food insecurity and the cash first referral leaflets. For example, Maria and Abby led an online event in December for England's Money Guiders' network - 'Ending the food bank paradox with cash first'.

Through the course of 2023, IFAN has co-delivered a total of 20 'Money Counts' training sessions linked to cash first referral leaflets both online and in person. These sessions are designed for frontline volunteers and support workers to help build confidence and share information on local cash first support as they support people facing money worries and financial crisis. Thanks to funding from London Plus and the Greater London Authority (GLA), IFAN has been working with local partners to deliver London Money Counts training across London boroughs since March 2023 both online and in person. This funding also allowed IFAN to cover further leaflet and poster print runs and to commission additional translated versions. As an extension of this work, Emma delivered two in-person 'Talking about Money' sessions alongside Perth and Kinross Citizens Advice at their November Cultivating Collaboration and Change through the Cost-of-Living Crisis Conference. The workshops introduced the 'Worrying About Money?' leaflet as a tool for starting money worries' conversations and provided a space to share best practice. In February 2023, IFAN's online event 'Building Cash First' was attended by over 100 people and brought together stakeholders who have worked on the cash first referral leaflet project across the UK to share best practice.

IFAN has advocated and reported on the benefits of a cash first approach to food insecurity more widely through various online and in-person events. In Scotland, the delayed publication of the Scottish Government's plan on ending the need for food banks provided the context for IFAN and the Trussell Trust to co-host a conference entitled A Cash First Future. The event held in Glasgow in March 2023, brought together people working with local authorities, the advice sector, the NHS, food banks, food pantries, social supermarkets, food redistribution charities, anti-poverty charities as well as the Scottish Government and other elected representatives to share learning, perspectives and plans to build a cash first future. Break-out workshops and plenary sessions covered both what a cash first future could look like and how it could be put into practice. IFAN published a joint report with the

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

Trussell Trust based on learning from the conference in November 2023.

The Scottish Government finally published its plan towards ending the need for food banks in June 2023. Commenting on this, Sabine wrote an opinion piece for the Big Issue entitled Could food banks be relegated to the history books? A few months later, IFAN co-hosted an event at the SCVO's The Gathering conference in November, again with the Trussell Trust. The event, 'Building a cash first future: Can we make food banks history in Scotland?' brought together campaigners from across different sectors to consider what a cash first future looks like in the context of the Scottish Government's national plan towards ending the need for food banks and included a keynote speech from Shirley-Anne Somerville MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice. Sabine has also represented IFAN on the advisory group of a Trussell Trust-led project on financial inclusion in Scotland.

Alongside Greater Manchester Poverty Action (GMPA), IFAN co-hosted a fringe event at the Labour Party Conference in Liverpool in October entitled 'Cash First is Common Sense'. Panellists including Tom Pollard of the New Economics Foundation, Polly Jones of the Trussell Trust, Antonia Bance of the Trades Union Congress, Jen Coleman of IFAN member the Black Country Foodbank and Sabine Goodwin of IFAN spoke about the need for commitments to a cash first approach to food insecurity. The very well-attended session was chaired by GMPA's Graham Whitham.

IFAN has also used its template letter to MPs to advocate for a cash first approach to food insecurity. The letter, available on IFAN's website, is adapted according to latest policy developments and can be downloaded by members of the public. In December 2024, Sabine wrote a blog, *Appealing for Change - Glossing over the causes of poverty might elicit donations but there's a harsh reality to be faced, about the need to campaign for change alongside providing donations.*

IFAN has continued to play a role within wider anti-poverty alliances which has provided other opportunities to advocate for income-focused solutions to poverty. IFAN also supports several joint campaigns focussed on reducing poverty and often contributed quotes to the Stop the Squeeze campaign in 2023. IFAN and individual IFAN member organisations supported the Guarantee our Essentials campaign run by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and the Trussell Trust.

In February 2023, IFAN jointly ran two webinars in our Structural Inequalities webinar series alongside Feeding Britain and the University of York. Both *A route out of poverty: The effect of low wages and insecure work on food insecurity* and *State sanctioned hunger: Sanctions, deductions and rising food insecurity* were very well-attended and provided IFAN opportunities to call for a cash first approach to food insecurity.

During 2023, Sabine was engaged on behalf of IFAN as a consultant for ScotCen's research project on behalf of the Trussell Trust looking at disability and financial hardship. The final report, *Disability and financial hardship: How disability benefits contribute to the need for food banks in the UK*, was published in October 2023.

IFAN has also used its by now well-known infographics to advocate for a cash first approach to food insecurity. IFAN distributes the infographics via social media and as A6 postcards. A new infographic, *Cash First: Ending the need for charitable food aid*, was designed, and published in 2023.

IFAN has continued to use Twitter as its main social media platform and has instigated a plan to use Instagram, LinkedIn, and Facebook more frequently. IFAN has also sent out regular newsletters.

In 2023, IFAN continued to support member organisations through numerous member meetings focussed on issues of concern ranging from government policy changes to food supply problems. These regular sessions for UK-wide members and Scotland members facilitated critical information-sharing and provided valuable opportunities for members to be able to connect with each other.

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

In 2023, IFAN has supported member organisations by connecting members to practical help and up-to-date resources. IFAN ensures its members' funding opportunities page is kept as up-to-date as possible and regularly support member organisations with changes such as introducing the distribution of shopping vouchers and gift cards to their operations.

IFAN has supported members with practical concerns by facilitating dialogues with government agencies and departments. For example, IFAN facilitated a meeting for London members with Transport for London during the rollout of the Ultra-Low Emissions Zone and has been able to help with members' individual concerns around this change. And in September 2023, IFAN facilitated a meeting between IFAN member and Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) civil servants about Jobcentre referrals and sanction increases.

IFAN has done its utmost to keep its member pages up to date to include as much relevant and useful information for member organisation as possible. Most pages for members are restricted for use by members only but our web page on Nutritional Guidelines for food parcels are made publicly available and are used by a variety of frontline services.

IFAN has continued to send out regular member updates providing news and information pertaining to IFAN's advocacy, developments set to impact members and practical support.

In October 2023, IFAN facilitated an in-person meeting in Huddersfield for the first time since the pandemic. Representatives of member organisations congregated at the Huddersfield City Mission for a four-hour session. This meeting allowed food bank managers and team members an opportunity to share concerns, ideas, and best practice. Charlotte White, manager of IFAN member Earlsfield Foodbank, said of the day that there were "many valuable discussions including on volunteer fatigue, supply pressures, cash first and, of course, how worried we are about the winter ahead." Charlotte referred to this meeting in one of her regular pieces for the Big Issue.

IFAN's team has also been asked to speak at events and meetings held by member organisations. In July 2023, Sabine, Maria, Abby, and Emma all met online with the board of trustees of IFAN member the Glossopdale Foodbank to discuss the merits of a cash first approach to food insecurity. In September 2023, Abby travelled to Winchester to speak at IFAN member the Winchester Basic Bank's AGM about a cash first approach to food insecurity. And in November 2023, Sabine travelled back to Huddersfield to speak at IFAN member The Welcome Centre's AGM again about a cash first approach to food insecurity.

In 2023, IFAN established a FAQ page on our website to help with queries from members of the public. IFAN involved member organisation feedback in developing these questions and answers.

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

Financial review

Major sources of income:

IFAN's major sources of income have been from:

- the Aurum Charitable Trust
- Scottish Government funding
- London Plus
- The William Kessler Family Charitable Fund
- and funding through donations from the general public

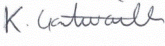
Total income for the year was £255,813 and total expenditure was £256,440, which resulted in a deficit of £(627). This compares to a surplus of £149,700 for the previous year. Funds held at 31 December 2023 were £236,051 of which £232,345 was unrestricted and £3,706 was restricted (At 31 December 2022 £233,842 were unrestricted and £2,836 was restricted, a total of £236,678).

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have set a policy of holding 5 months operating costs in unrestricted funds to enable the charity to meet all of its liabilities should operations have to cease at some point in the future. Based on our annual operating budget, and taking into account our designated funds (£120,000), current reserves at the end of 2023 were equivalent to the agreed 5 months of unrestricted funds.

3/5/2024

The trustees' annual report was approved on and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

DocuSigned by:

9887E0F2F939475...
Dr K Garthwaite
Treasurer

Independent Food Aid Network

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Independent Food Aid Network

Year ended 31 December 2023

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Independent Food Aid Network ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements 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

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do 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.

DocuSigned by:

ED0859A1314E440
Nicola Jane Cadwallader
Independent Examiner

For and On Behalf of
David Cadwallader & Co Limited
Suite 3 Bignell Park Barns
Chesterton
Bicester Oxon
OX26 1TD
3/5/2024

Independent Food Aid Network

Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 December 2023

		2023		2022	
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	4	185,848	69,965	255,813	340,891
Total income		<u>185,848</u>	<u>69,965</u>	<u>255,813</u>	<u>340,891</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	5,6	185,913	70,527	256,440	191,191
Total expenditure		<u>185,913</u>	<u>70,527</u>	<u>256,440</u>	<u>191,191</u>
Net (expenditure)/income		<u>(65)</u>	<u>(562)</u>	<u>(627)</u>	<u>149,700</u>
Transfers between funds		(1,432)	1,432	–	–
Net movement in funds		<u>(1,497)</u>	<u>870</u>	<u>(627)</u>	<u>149,700</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		233,842	2,836	236,678	86,978
Total funds carried forward		<u>232,345</u>	<u>3,706</u>	<u>236,051</u>	<u>236,678</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 12 to 18 form part of these financial statements.


Independent Food Aid Network

Statement of Financial Position

31 December 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		243,598	242,617
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			
	10	7,547	5,939
Net current assets			
		236,051	236,678
Total assets less current liabilities			
		236,051	236,678
Net assets			
		236,051	236,678
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		3,706	2,836
Unrestricted funds		232,345	233,842
Total charity funds			
	12	236,051	236,678

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 3/5/2024....., and are signed on behalf of the board by:

DocuSigned by:

 9887E0F2F939475...
 Dr K Garthwaite
 Treasurer

The notes on pages 12 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2023

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales and is unincorporated. The address of the principal office is 71-75 Shelton Street, London, WC2H 9JQ.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act 2011.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments *(continued)*

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

4. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Donations			
Unrestricted grants and donations	97,848	–	97,848
Dyers	8,000	–	8,000
Scottish Government	–	37,065	37,065
Aurum Charitable Trust	–	20,000	20,000
Cornwall Council	–	–	–
ScotGen consultancy fee	–	2,000	2,000
London Plus Grant - Project	–	10,900	10,900
William Kessler Family Trust	80,000	–	80,000
	<u>185,848</u>	<u>69,965</u>	<u>255,813</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Donations			
Unrestricted grants and donations	180,317	–	180,317
Dyers	8,000	–	8,000
Scottish Government	–	48,874	48,874
Aurum Charitable Trust	–	20,000	20,000
Cornwall Council	–	3,700	3,700
ScotGen consultancy fee	–	–	–
London Plus Grant - Project	–	–	–
William Kessler Family Trust	80,000	–	80,000
	<u>268,317</u>	<u>72,574</u>	<u>340,891</u>

5. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Research, connect, support and advocacy	184,753	70,527	255,280
Support costs	1,160	–	1,160
	<u>185,913</u>	<u>70,527</u>	<u>256,440</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Research, connect, support and advocacy	115,621	74,466	190,087
Support costs	1,104	–	1,104
	<u>116,725</u>	<u>74,466</u>	<u>191,191</u>

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

6. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly	Support costs	Total funds 2023	Total fund 2022
	£	£	£	£
Research, connect, support and advocacy	255,280	–	255,280	190,087
Governance costs	–	1,160	1,160	1,104
	<u>255,280</u>	<u>1,160</u>	<u>256,440</u>	<u>191,191</u>

7. Independent examination fees

	2023	2022
	£	£
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>1,160</u>	<u>1,104</u>

8. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	116,328	43,515
Social security costs	7,283	4,338
Employer contributions to pension plans	1,553	860
	<u>125,164</u>	<u>48,713</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 6 (2022: 4).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2022: Nil).

9. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees.

One of the trustees has claimed expenses or had their expenses of £160 met by the charity.

There were no other trustees expenses in the period.

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	1,154	1,104
Social security and other taxes	5,437	4,217
Other creditors	956	618
	<u>7,547</u>	<u>5,939</u>

11. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £3,723 (2022: £2,338).

12. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 January 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>233,842</u>	<u>185,848</u>	<u>(185,913)</u>	<u>(1,432)</u>	<u>232,345</u>

	At 1 January 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>82,250</u>	<u>268,317</u>	<u>(116,725)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>233,842</u>

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

12. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

Restricted funds

	At 1 January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2023 £
Nourish Scotland	–	–	–	–	–
Scottish Government	–	37,065	(38,497)	1,432	–
Aurum Charitable Trust	–	20,000	(20,000)	–	–
Cornwall Council	2,836	–	(1,720)	–	1,116
London Plus	–	10,900	(8,310)	–	2,590
ScotGen	–	2,000	(2,000)	–	–
	<u>2,836</u>	<u>69,965</u>	<u>(70,527)</u>	<u>1,432</u>	<u>3,706</u>

	At 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2022 £
Nourish Scotland	(1)	1	–	–	–
Scottish Government	4,729	48,873	(53,602)	–	–
Aurum Charitable Trust	–	20,000	(20,000)	–	–
Cornwall Council	–	3,700	(864)	–	2,836
London Plus	–	–	–	–	–
ScotGen	–	–	–	–	–
	<u>4,728</u>	<u>72,574</u>	<u>(74,466)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>2,836</u>

13. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Current assets	239,892	3,706	243,598
Creditors less than 1 year	(7,547)	–	(7,547)
Net assets	<u>232,345</u>	<u>3,706</u>	<u>236,051</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Current assets	239,781	2,836	242,617
Creditors less than 1 year	(5,939)	–	(5,939)
Net assets	<u>233,842</u>	<u>2,836</u>	<u>236,678</u>

14. Related parties

There were no related party transactions which require disclosure under FRS102.

INDEPENDENT FOOD AID NETWORK

England & Wales - Charity number 1180382

Accounts

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1180382

**Independent Food Aid Network
Unaudited Financial Statements
31 December 2022**

Independent Food Aid Network

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2022

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Statement of financial activities	7
Statement of financial position	8
Notes to the financial statements	9

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report

Year ended 31 December 2022

The partners present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Independent Food Aid Network
Charity registration number	1180382
Principal office	71-75, Shelton Street London WC2H 9JQ

The partners

Dr K Garthwaite - Treasurer
Cllr K Akinola
Ms D Woods - Chair
Dr M Power
Mr R Makwana
Prof J May
Ms F Boshorin
Dr S Furey

Independent examiner	Nicola Jane Cadwallader For and On Behalf of David Cadwallader & Co Limited Suite 3 Bignell Park Barns Chesterton Bicester Oxon OX26 1TD
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Structure, governance and management

The charity was registered under its Governing document as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with the Charity Commission on 19 October 2018 under Charity number 1180382.

The charity is governed by its Trustees.

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2022

Objectives and activities

The objects of the organisation are the prevention or relief of poverty in the United Kingdom by providing:

- grants, items and services to individuals in need and/or charities, or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty
- to prevent or relieve poverty through undertaking and supporting research into factors that contribute to poverty and the most appropriate ways to mitigate these

It achieves this by:

- providing a forum, promoting best practice and offering a collective voice for independent, grassroots food aid providers
- working with and promoting the voices of people in food insecurity
- providing opportunities for learning about the causes of food poverty
- improving provision to people in need of food
- conducting and promoting critical, open-access research relating to food poverty

Public Benefit Statement

In setting the objectives of the Charity and planning our activities, the trustees have paid due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2022

Achievements and performance

Throughout 2022, the Independent Food Aid Network (IFAN) continued to support and represent its membership while simultaneously advocating for an end to the need for charitable food aid in the UK. IFAN has continued to promote a cash first or income-focused approach to food insecurity despite the increasing need for its members' services since the cut to Universal Credit in October 2021 and the onset of the cost-of-living crisis.

IFAN has continued to support and represent member organisations in 2022 through:

- multiple member meetings and discussion forums including a well-attended AGM for members and partner stakeholders involved with the cash first referral leaflet project in February 2022
- the distribution of over £60,000 in small grants to members organisations
- running numerous surveys resulting in various reports on increasing demand and the capacity of member organisations to cope
- partnership work with members in co-developing cash first referral leaflets
- connecting members with journalists and facilitating the publication of written pieces by representatives of our member organisations
- the development of an updated briefing on the use of shopping vouchers
- the sharing of best practice on the use of vouchers instead of or alongside food parcels, general information on current developments, funding opportunities and advice
- the provision of information and resources for member organisations including nutritional guidelines for food parcels
- working with the Food Standards Agency (FSA) to feed into guidelines for frontline food aid organisations
- advocacy on behalf of members in terms of access to food and other resources

In 2022, IFAN advocated for a cash first approach to food insecurity in its efforts to reduce the need for charitable food aid and represent its member organisations through:

- advocating for all local authorities to provide adequate, well-promoted and easily accessible cash payments to people in financial crisis
- advocating for systemic changes that would see social security payments and wages match the cost of living and the root causes of food insecurity and poverty addressed
- co-developing, circulating and updating 'Worrying About Money?' cash first referral leaflets across multiple local authorities alongside local partners (By the end of 2022, leaflets had been published for over 100 local authorities and the resources were available as hard copies, interactive versions, posters, and easy read versions.)
- advocating for and promoting advice services and any available local cash first support as the first ports of call for anyone facing money worries
- supporting member organisations to use shopping cards or vouchers and/or cash grants instead of or alongside food parcels or other food support
- support of the Citizens Advice Scotland food insecurity pilot linked to the Scottish Government's draft plan to end the need for food banks
- the collation of data through surveys on increases in need for our members' services and food supply concerns (IFAN data has featured on the front page of The Guardian as well as on ITV News during 2022. An additional survey of IFAN members was run by BBC Moneybox alongside IFAN and resulting figures were featured in a Moneybox programme in July 2022.)
- media output including quotes, interviews and comment pieces throughout the year in print and on radio and television (IFAN's Sabine Goodwin contributed opinion pieces to The BMJ, The Big Issue and Woman and Home.)
- well-publicised letters to the Prime Minister
- a template letter for MPs regularly updated and available on the IFAN website
- a joint letter to the PM alongside the Trussell Trust and Feeding Britain in October 2022 (Delivered by Jen Coleman of Black Country Food Bank and Rajesh Makwana of Sufra)
- joint letters with other anti-poverty organisations

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2022

- the publication/sharing of IFAN's infographics
- involvement with various joint campaigns and alliances as well as steering and advisory groups including: the Scottish Government Ending the Need for Food Banks Steering Group in Scotland, the Advisory Group for Child Poverty Action Group's Ending the Need for Food Banks Project, the Advisory Group of JRF's Deep Poverty and Destitution Project, the Greater London Authority Food Aid Sub-Group, the Stop the Squeeze campaign, the Essentials Guarantee campaign, the Sustain alliance, the Scottish Food Coalition and the Carer Poverty Coalition
- contributions to various research projects
- involvement with the FILL (Food Insecurity monitoring at the Local Level) Consortium
- the joint publication of Pushed to the Edge: Poverty, Food Banks, and Mental Health alongside Tom Pollard and the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) with thanks to IFAN members the Earlsfield Foodbank and the Community Cupboard
- submissions to the Scottish Government consultation on its draft plan to end the need for food banks, the APPG on ending the need for food banks inquiry and the EFRA Committee Inquiry on Food Security
- oral evidence to the London Assembly Economy Committee and the EFRA Committee Inquiry on Food Security
- contributions at various events and within discussion forums on a cash first approach to food insecurity
- the joint Structural Inequalities webinar series and accompanying output run alongside Feeding Britain and the University of York

Staff and Trustees:

Throughout 2022, IFAN has employed its Director, Sabine Goodwin, as well as Project Manager, Maria Marshall, on a full-time basis. Ashleigh Comber was employed full-time as Finance/Project Officer from January to July 2022 and part-time from October to December 2022. Katie Wright worked as both part-time and full-time Project Officer from January to August 2022. In June 2022, IFAN employed Abby Preston as a Project Officer on a full-time basis and in August 2022, Emma Österberg was employed as Project Officer on a full-time basis.

No new trustees have joined the board however trustee Dr Maddy Power was on maternity leave until September 2022 but remained on the board as trustee. Deirdre Woods remained the Chair of Trustees.

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2022

Financial review

Major sources of income:

IFAN's major sources of income have been from:

- the Aurum Charitable Trust
- Scottish Government funding
- William Kessler Family Trust
- StepChange
- The Cara Delevingne Foundation
- The Dyers' Company
- and funding through donations from the general public

In addition, IFAN received unexpected funding through Paypal donations and the Paypal Giving Fund from an appeal run in the Autumn of 2022. Restricted funding from Cornwall Council of £2,835.84 for cash first referral leaflet and poster printing costs was carried over to 2023.

Total income for the year was £340,891 and total expenditure was £191,191, which resulted in a surplus of £149,700. This compares to a deficit of £16,144 at the end of the previous year. Funds held at 31 December 2022 were £236,678 of which £233,842 was unrestricted and £2,836 was restricted (At 31 December 2021 £82,250 were unrestricted and £4,728 was restricted, a total of £86,978).

Designated Funds

The Board of Trustees have designated £80,000 from the William Kessler Family Trust to fund IFAN's 'Worrying About Money?' cash first referral leaflet project in England. These funds will be spent over the course of 2023.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have set a policy of holding 5 months operating costs in unrestricted funds to enable the charity to meet all of its liabilities should operations have to cease at some point in the future. Based on our annual operating budget, and taking into account our Designated Funds (£80k), current reserves at the end of 2022 were equivalent to approximately 6 months of unrestricted funds. The Board of Trustees considered this a prudent additional level of reserve above our agreed policy, given the challenging funding environment that currently exists for charities as well as the growing need for the organisation's advocacy and support of frontline organisations.

The trustees' annual report was approved on28.10.23..... and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Dr K Garthwaite
Treasurer

Independent Food Aid Network

Independent Examiner's Report to the Partners of Independent Food Aid Network

Year ended 31 December 2022

I report to the partners on my examination of the financial statements of Independent Food Aid Network ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the partners of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements 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.

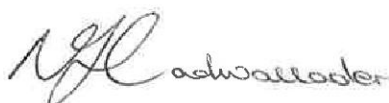
Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do 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.



Nicola Jane Cadwallader
Independent Examiner

For and On Behalf of
David Cadwallader & Co Limited
Suite 3 Bignell Park Barns
Chesterton
Bicester Oxon
OX26 1TD

30 October 2023

Independent Food Aid Network

Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 December 2022

		2022	2021		
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	4	268,317	72,574	340,891	210,779
Total income		<u>268,317</u>	<u>72,574</u>	<u>340,891</u>	<u>210,779</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	5,6	116,725	74,466	191,191	226,923
Total expenditure		<u>116,725</u>	<u>74,466</u>	<u>191,191</u>	<u>226,923</u>
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds		<u>151,592</u>	<u>(1,892)</u>	<u>149,700</u>	<u>(16,144)</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		82,250	4,728	86,978	103,122
Total funds carried forward		<u>233,842</u>	<u>2,836</u>	<u>236,678</u>	<u>86,978</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 9 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

Independent Food Aid Network

Statement of Financial Position

31 December 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		242,617	91,146
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	5,939	4,168
Net current assets		<u>236,678</u>	<u>86,978</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>236,678</u>	<u>86,978</u>
Net assets		<u>236,678</u>	<u>86,978</u>
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		2,836	4,728
Unrestricted funds		<u>233,842</u>	<u>82,250</u>
Total charity funds	12	<u>236,678</u>	<u>86,978</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 28.10.23, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



Dr K Garthwaite
Treasurer

The notes on pages 9 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2022

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales and is unincorporated. The address of the principal office is 71-75 Shelton Street, London, WC2H 9JQ.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act 2011.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the partners for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2022

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2022

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments *(continued)*

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2022

4. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Donations			
Unrestricted grants and donations	260,317	–	260,317
Nourish Scotland	–	–	–
Dyers	8,000	–	8,000
Scottish Government	–	48,874	48,874
Parcel Data Project	–	–	–
Members Grants	–	–	–
Aurum Charitable Trust	–	20,000	20,000
Cornwall Council	–	3,700	3,700
	<u>268,317</u>	<u>72,574</u>	<u>340,891</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Donations			
Unrestricted grants and donations	119,359	10,250	129,609
Nourish Scotland	–	6,378	6,378
Dyers	6,000	–	6,000
Scottish Government	–	28,773	28,773
Parcel Data Project	–	19,525	19,525
Members Grants	494	–	494
Aurum Charitable Trust	–	20,000	20,000
Cornwall Council	–	–	–
	<u>125,853</u>	<u>84,926</u>	<u>210,779</u>

5. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Research, connect, support and advocacy	115,619	74,466	190,086
Support costs	1,106	–	1,105
	<u>116,725</u>	<u>74,466</u>	<u>191,191</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Research, connect, support and advocacy	101,595	124,235	225,830
Support costs	1,093	–	1,093
	<u>102,688</u>	<u>124,235</u>	<u>226,923</u>

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2022

6. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total funds 2022 £	Total fund 2021 £
Research, connect, support and advocacy	190,086	–	190,086	225,830
Governance costs	–	1,105	1,105	1,093
	<u>190,086</u>	<u>1,105</u>	<u>191,191</u>	<u>226,923</u>

7. Independent examination fees

	2022 £	2021 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>1,104</u>	<u>910</u>

8. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	116,328	43,515
Social security costs	7,283	4,338
Employer contributions to pension plans	1,553	860
	<u>125,164</u>	<u>48,713</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 4 (2021: 4).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2021: Nil).

9. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees.

10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Accruals and deferred income	1,104	1,092
Social security and other taxes	4,217	2,779
Other creditors	618	297
	<u>5,939</u>	<u>4,168</u>

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2022

11. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £2,338 (2021: £1,553).

12. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 January 20 22 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December r 2022 £
General funds	<u>82,250</u>	<u>268,317</u>	<u>(116,725)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>233,842</u>

	At 1 January 20 21 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2021 £
General funds	<u>59,902</u>	<u>125,853</u>	<u>(102,688)</u>	<u>(817)</u>	<u>82,250</u>

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2022

12. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

Restricted funds

	At 1 January 20 22	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December r 2022 £
Nourish Scotland	(1)	1	–	–	–
IFAN core costs	–	–	–	–	–
University of York	–	–	–	–	–
Lottery Funding	–	–	–	–	–
Parcel data project	–	–	–	–	–
Scottish Government	4,729	48,873	(53,602)	–	–
Albert Hunt Trust	–	–	–	–	–
Aurum Charitable Trust	–	20,000	(20,000)	–	–
Cornwall Council	–	3,700	(864)	–	2,836
	<u>4,728</u>	<u>72,574</u>	<u>(74,466)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>2,836</u>

	At 1 January 20 21	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2021 £
Nourish Scotland	441	6,378	(6,820)	–	(1)
IFAN core costs	3,769	–	(3,769)	–	–
University of York	1,516	–	(1,516)	–	–
Lottery Funding	20,604	–	(21,421)	817	–
Parcel data project	16,890	19,525	(36,415)	–	–
Scottish Government	–	28,773	(24,044)	–	4,729
Albert Hunt Trust	–	10,250	(10,250)	–	–
Aurum Charitable Trust	–	20,000	(20,000)	–	–
Cornwall Council	–	–	–	–	–
	<u>43,220</u>	<u>84,926</u>	<u>(124,235)</u>	<u>817</u>	<u>4,728</u>

13. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Current assets	239,781	2,836	242,617
Creditors less than 1 year	(5,939)	–	(5,939)
Net assets	<u>233,842</u>	<u>2,836</u>	<u>236,678</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Current assets	86,419	4,727	91,146
Creditors less than 1 year	(4,168)	–	(4,168)
Net assets	<u>82,251</u>	<u>4,727</u>	<u>86,978</u>

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2022

14. Related parties

There were no related party transactions which require disclosure under FRS102.

INDEPENDENT FOOD AID NETWORK

England & Wales - Charity number 1180382

Accounts

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1180382

Independent Food Aid Network
Unaudited Financial Statements
31 December 2021

Independent Food Aid Network

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2021

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Statement of financial activities	8
Statement of financial position	9
Notes to the financial statements	10

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report

Year ended 31 December 2021

The partners present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Independent Food Aid Network
Charity registration number	1180382
Principal office	71-71, Shelton Street London WC2H 9JQ

The partners

Dr K Garthwaite - Treasurer
Cllr K Akinola
Ms D Woods - Chair
Dr M Power
Mr R Makwana
Prof J May
Ms F Boshorin
Dr S Furey

Independent examiner	Nicola Jane Cadwallader For and On Behalf of David Cadwallader & Co Limited Suite 3 Bignell Park Barns Chesterton Bicester Oxon OX26 1TD
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Structure, governance and management

The charity was registered under its Governing document as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with the Charity Commission on 19 October 2018 under Charity number 1180382.

The charity is governed by its Trustees.

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2021

Objectives and activities

The objects of the organisation are the prevention or relief of poverty in the United Kingdom by providing:

- grants, items and services to individuals in need and/or charities, or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty
- to prevent or relieve poverty through undertaking and supporting research into factors that contribute to poverty and the most appropriate ways to mitigate these

It achieves this by:

- providing a forum, promoting best practice and offering a collective voice for independent, grassroots food aid providers
- working with and promoting the voices of people in food insecurity
- providing opportunities for learning about the causes of food poverty
- improving provision to people in need of food
- conducting and promoting critical, open-access research relating to food poverty

Public Benefit Statement

In setting the objectives of the Charity and planning our activities, the trustees have paid due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2021

Achievements and performance

The Independent Food Aid Network (IFAN) supports, represents and advocates on behalf of hundreds of independent food aid providers operating across the UK. In 2021, IFAN continued to support and represent its membership of over five hundred frontline food aid organisations while simultaneously advocating for an end to the need for charitable food aid in the UK.

IFAN's support and representation of its member organisations:

IFAN supported and represented its member organisations in 2021 through:

- the facilitation of multiple member meetings, discussion forums and member to member connection
- the distribution of over £60,000 in small grants to members organisations
- our partnership work with members in co-developing cash first referral leaflets
- connecting members with journalists and facilitating the publication of pieces by representatives of our member organisations
- the development and publication of our briefing on the use of shopping vouchers
- the development of nutritional guidelines and recipes for our member organisations
- the sharing of best practice, general guidelines, and funding opportunities
- the coordination of the distribution of donated masks on numerous occasions
- advocating on our members' behalf in terms of access to food
- our well-publicised letters to the Prime Minister
- our joint letters with other anti-poverty organisations
- various media stories throughout the year in print and on radio and television raising awareness of the work of independent food aid providers
- the collation of data from independent food banks in 2021
- the running of three surveys on increases in need for our members' services and food supply concerns in the Autumn - all three surveys were featured in reporting in The Guardian, The Independent and through PA News (www.foodaidnetwork.org.uk/ifan-in-the-news)

IFAN's advocacy work:

Throughout 2021, IFAN has called for an end to the need for charitable food aid through its multi-faceted advocacy work particularly focused on a cash first approach to food insecurity. IFAN has made its case for a cash first approach to food insecurity through its collaborative work to co-develop cash first referral leaflets across the UK, its media output, the publication of infographics, its membership of various alliances, campaigns and stakeholder groups and its contributions to various research projects.

Cash first referral leaflets:

IFAN has led work to co-develop 'Worrying About Money?' cash first referral leaflets in multiple local authorities in Scotland, England, and Wales. The most up-to-date record of published leaflets can be found www.foodaidnetwork.org.uk/cash-first-leaflets. These leaflets are co-designed as straightforward resources for people facing money worries or financial crisis as well as support workers to quickly see available advice and cash first support options and which agencies are best placed to help. The aim of this project is to reduce the need for charitable food aid by helping people access any existing financial entitlements and advice on income maximisation as a cash first response to food insecurity. Each leaflet is individually co-produced alongside key local stakeholders in work led or supported by IFAN. By the end of 2021, IFAN had jointly published 'Worrying About Money?' leaflets for over 55 local authority areas with work underway to co-produce leaflets in a further 60 local authorities across the UK. By December 2021, hundreds of thousands of printed cash first referral leaflets were in circulation as well as online, poster versions, translated versions and interactive versions of the resources. Training sessions linked to the leaflets and aimed at frontline support workers and volunteers have also been supported by IFAN.

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2021

Thanks to Scottish Government funding, IFAN was able to commission ScotGen to evaluate the impact of the leaflets in Scotland and their report was published in November 2021. This report found that: "The leaflet has been recognised to be a useful tool which can help support income maximisation and poverty reduction at a service, organisational and local authority level. This has been demonstrated by a range of people from local authorities to NHS and third sector organisations who have been involved in using and disseminating the leaflet to date."

This project has clearly demonstrated that local partnership working is highly effective in initiating change and building momentum around a cash first approach to food insecurity. IFAN's Coordinator/Director, Sabine Goodwin, has also written pieces for The BMJ and The Big Issue referencing the leaflets and their impact and has spoken about a cash first approach to food insecurity and the leaflets at events hosted by the Glasgow Community Food Network, the North East Child Poverty Commission (NECPC) and Greater Manchester Poverty Action. IFAN has also run an event entitled The Case for Cash First that covered the leaflets and a cash first approach to food insecurity. The NECPC report on The safety net beneath the safety net published in October 2021 recommended that all local authorities in the North East co-develop a cash first referral leaflet with IFAN.

Advocacy on a cash first approach to food insecurity:

Throughout 2021, IFAN advocated for a cash first approach to food insecurity and income-based solutions to poverty and these calls have been highlighted in numerous ways including in:

- numerous opinion pieces in the British Medical Journal (BMJ), The Big Issue and The Guardian
- numerous interviews on radio and television throughout 2021
- numerous quotes in news pieces online and in print throughout 2021

Our infographic, put together by IFAN's Project Officer Maria Marshall, details the steps to end the need for food banks. It has gained significant interest on social media as well as with colleagues working in the anti-poverty sector, frontline volunteers, and local authority public health teams.

IFAN Coordinator/Director Sabine Goodwin represented IFAN at a Work and Pensions Select Committee hearing on Children in Poverty: Measurements and Targets in May 2021. She also represented IFAN in various key stakeholder groups focussed on ending the need for food banks including sessions of the APPG on ending the need for food banks; the advisory group for Child Poverty Action Group's Ending the Need for Food Banks project; and the steering group for the Scottish Government's draft national plan to end the need for food banks. Sabine Goodwin has also represented IFAN and its position on income-based solutions to food insecurity in meetings of the Voluntary Community Sector Emergency Partnership (VCSEP) Food Aid Group and the Greater London Authority Food Aid Sub-Group. And she advocated on behalf of IFAN member organisations in meetings with civil servants including with the Department for the Environment, Farming and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), the Scottish Government and the Welsh Government as well as with MPs and Shadow Cabinet members. Both Sabine Goodwin and Maria Marshall have spoken about the need for a cash first approach to food insecurity at various online events.

IFAN's work featured in the Scottish Government's draft national plan to end the need for food banks including reference to our briefing on the use of shopping vouchers instead of or alongside food parcels, a version of our infographic on ending the need for food banks and our cash first referral leaflet project.

As part of its advocacy on a cash first approach to food insecurity, IFAN has continued to be outspoken on the conflation of food waste redistribution with food poverty. Also in 2021, IFAN joined the Plenty to Share campaign that calls for the separation of the food waste and food poverty problems and Sabine Goodwin wrote a blog on this explaining our position that was featured on the campaign website. Sabine Goodwin also took part in an online Creative Conversation with Dr Flora Douglas of Robert Gordon University looking at this subject and co-wrote a blog on the subject.

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2021

Impact of the cut to Universal Credit in October 2021:

Together with the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) and over one hundred organisations in the KeepTheLifeline campaign, IFAN campaigned to keep the £20 uplift to Universal Credit knowing full well the impact its cut would have on so many and the work of its member organisations. Sabine Goodwin wrote a piece for The BMJ in late August about the "perfect storm" about to increase food bank use. On the 6th of October, the day of the cut, IFAN wrote a letter to the Prime Minister raising our concerns about the cut to Universal Credit at a time when member food banks risked running out of food. In November we facilitated a further article in The BMJ written by the manager of one of our member organisations on the impact of the cut. IFAN also worked with mental health social worker Tom Pollard alongside JRF to support research and interviews with people impacted by Universal Credit and access to two of IFAN's independent food bank member organisations. As previously mentioned, IFAN has run three surveys on increases in need for our members' services linked to the cut to Universal Credit and food supply concerns in the Autumn.

Structural inequalities webinar series:

IFAN continued to work alongside Feeding Britain and the University of York to jointly run the Structural Inequalities webinar series. IFAN also published joint reports based on the testimony gathered during the discussions. The series has been impactful in bringing together Feeding Britain and IFAN members in the same forum and in raising wider awareness of the critical issues raised. In 2021 IFAN ran webinars and put together joint reports on Disability and Food Insecurity and the Labour Market and Food Insecurity and also ran webinars on Immigration Policy and Food Insecurity and Barriers to accessing social security entitlements.

Staff:

Throughout 2021, IFAN has employed Coordinator/Director, Sabine Goodwin, as well as Project Officer, Maria Marshall, on a full-time basis. Ashleigh Comber was employed on a full-time basis from January to August 2021 as Finance and Cash First Officer. And Katie Wright was employed as Cash First Project Researcher throughout the year on a full-time then part-time basis. IFAN also employed Valentina Pesarin on a part-time temporary basis to help with policy and research work.

No new trustees have joined the board however trustee Dr Maddy Power went on maternity leave in October 2021 but remained on the board as trustee. Deirdre Woods remained the Chair of Trustees.

Major sources of income:

Our major sources of income have been from:

- the Aurum Charitable Trust
- the National Lottery Community Fund
- an Esmée Fairbairn grant
- the Albert Hunt Trust
- Scottish Government funding
- The BMJ Annual Appeal funding
- and funding through donations from the general public

There has been no change in terms of financial risk and our current reserves are £25,000.

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2021

Financial review

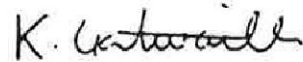
Total income for the year was £210,779 and total expenditure was £226,923, which resulted in a small deficit of £16,144. This compares to a surplus of £102,744 at the end of the previous year. Funds held at 31 December 2021 were £86,978 of which £82,250 were unrestricted and £4,728 was restricted.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have set a policy of holding 3 months operating costs in unrestricted funds to enable the charity to meet all of its liabilities should operations have to cease at some point in the future.

Based on last year's expenditure, current reserves are the equivalent of over 4 months of unrestricted funds. The Board of Trustees consider this a prudent additional level of reserve, given the challenging funding environment that currently exists for charities and the growing need for the organisation's advocacy and support for members with its vision to end the need for charitable food aid in mind.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 31 October 2022 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Dr K Garthwaite
Treasurer

Independent Food Aid Network

Independent Examiner's Report to the Partners of Independent Food Aid Network

Year ended 31 December 2021

I report to the partners on my examination of the financial statements of Independent Food Aid Network ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the partners of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements 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 charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do 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.



Nicola Jane Cadwallader
Independent Examiner

For and On Behalf of
David Cadwallader & Co Limited
Suite 3 Bignell Park Barns
Chesterton
Bicester Oxon
OX26 1TD

31 October 2022

Independent Food Aid Network

Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 December 2021

		Unrestricted funds £	2021 Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	4	125,853	84,926	210,779	263,205
Total income		<u>125,853</u>	<u>84,926</u>	<u>210,779</u>	<u>263,205</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	5,6	102,688	124,235	226,923	160,461
Total expenditure		<u>102,688</u>	<u>124,235</u>	<u>226,923</u>	<u>160,461</u>
Net (expenditure)/income		<u>23,165</u>	<u>(39,309)</u>	<u>(16,144)</u>	<u>102,744</u>
Transfers between funds		(817)	817	–	–
Net movement in funds		<u>22,348</u>	<u>(38,492)</u>	<u>(16,144)</u>	<u>102,744</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		59,902	43,220	103,122	378
Total funds carried forward		<u>82,250</u>	<u>4,728</u>	<u>86,978</u>	<u>103,122</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 10 to 17 form part of these financial statements.

Independent Food Aid Network

Statement of Financial Position

31 December 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		91,146	106,863
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	4,168	3,741
Net current assets		<u>86,978</u>	<u>103,122</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>86,978</u>	<u>103,122</u>
Net assets		<u>86,978</u>	<u>103,122</u>
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		4,728	43,220
Unrestricted funds		<u>82,250</u>	<u>59,902</u>
Total charity funds	12	<u>86,978</u>	<u>103,122</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 31 October 2022, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



Dr K Garthwaite
Treasurer

The notes on pages 10 to 17 form part of these financial statements.

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2021

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales and is unincorporated. The address of the principal office is 71-71, Shelton Street, London, WC2H 9JQ.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act 2011.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the partners for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2021

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2021

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments *(continued)*

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2021

4. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Donations			
Unrestricted grants and donations	119,359	10,250	129,609
Nourish Scotland	–	6,378	6,378
Roddick Foundation	–	–	–
Dyers	6,000	–	6,000
Restricted donation	–	–	–
University of York	–	–	–
Lottery Funding	–	28,773	28,773
Parcel Data Project	–	19,525	19,525
Members Grants	494	–	494
Aurum Charitable Trust	–	20,000	20,000
	<u>125,853</u>	<u>84,926</u>	<u>210,779</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £
Donations			
Unrestricted grants and donations	160,422	–	160,422
Nourish Scotland	–	4,280	4,280
Roddick Foundation	–	20,000	20,000
Dyers	–	4,000	4,000
Restricted donation	–	15,000	15,000
University of York	–	3,108	3,108
Lottery Funding	–	21,420	21,420
Parcel Data Project	–	34,475	34,475
Members Grants	–	500	500
Aurum Charitable Trust	–	–	–
	<u>160,422</u>	<u>102,783</u>	<u>263,205</u>

5. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Research, connect, support and advocacy	101,595	124,235	225,830
Support costs	1,093	–	1,093
	<u>102,688</u>	<u>124,235</u>	<u>226,923</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £
Research, connect, support and advocacy	99,722	59,563	159,285
Support costs	1,176	–	1,176
	<u>100,898</u>	<u>59,563</u>	<u>160,461</u>

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2021

6. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly	Support costs	Total funds 2021	Total fund 2020
	£	£	£	£
Research, connect, support and advocacy	225,830	–	225,830	159,285
Governance costs	–	1,093	1,093	1,176
	<u>225,830</u>	<u>1,093</u>	<u>226,923</u>	<u>160,461</u>

7. Independent examination fees

	2021	2020
	£	£
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>910</u>	<u>1,080</u>

8. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	116,328	43,515
Social security costs	7,283	4,338
Employer contributions to pension plans	1,553	860
	<u>125,164</u>	<u>48,713</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 4 (2020: 3).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2020: Nil).

9. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees.

10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	1,092	1,080
Social security and other taxes	2,779	2,467
Other creditors	297	194
	<u>4,168</u>	<u>3,741</u>

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2021

11. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £1,553 (2020: £860).

12. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 January 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2021 £
General funds	<u>59,902</u>	<u>125,853</u>	<u>(102,688)</u>	<u>(817)</u>	<u>82,250</u>

	At 1 January 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2020 £
General funds	<u>378</u>	<u>160,422</u>	<u>(100,898)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>59,902</u>

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2021

12. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

Restricted funds

	At 1 January 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2021 £
Nourish Scotland	441	6,378	(6,820)	–	(1)
Members grants: staff time	–	–	–	–	–
IFAN core costs	3,769	–	(3,769)	–	–
Members Grants/IFAN Core costs	–	–	–	–	–
University of York	1,516	–	(1,516)	–	–
Lottery Funding	20,604	–	(21,421)	817	–
Parcel data project	16,890	19,525	(36,415)	–	–
Grants to fund Frontline projects	–	–	–	–	–
Scottish Government	–	28,773	(24,044)	–	4,729
Albert Hunt Trust	–	10,250	(10,250)	–	–
Aurum Charitable Trust	–	20,000	(20,000)	–	–
	<u>43,220</u>	<u>84,926</u>	<u>(124,235)</u>	<u>817</u>	<u>4,728</u>

	At 1 January 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2020 £
Nourish Scotland	–	4,280	(3,839)	–	441
Members grants: staff time	–	20,000	(20,000)	–	–
IFAN core costs	–	4,000	(231)	–	3,769
Members Grants/IFAN Core costs	–	15,000	(15,000)	–	–
University of York	–	3,108	(1,592)	–	1,516
Lottery Funding	–	21,420	(816)	–	20,604
Parcel data project	–	34,475	(17,585)	–	16,890
Grants to fund Frontline projects	–	500	(500)	–	–
Scottish Government	–	–	–	–	–
Albert Hunt Trust	–	–	–	–	–
Aurum Charitable Trust	–	–	–	–	–
	<u>–</u>	<u>102,783</u>	<u>(59,563)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>43,220</u>

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2021

13. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Current assets	86,419	4,727	91,146
Creditors less than 1 year	<u>(4,168)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>(4,168)</u>
Net assets	<u>82,251</u>	<u>4,727</u>	<u>86,978</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £
Current assets	63,643	43,220	106,863
Creditors less than 1 year	<u>(3,741)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>(3,741)</u>
Net assets	<u>59,902</u>	<u>43,220</u>	<u>103,122</u>

14. Related parties

There were no related party transactions which require disclosure under FRS102.

INDEPENDENT FOOD AID NETWORK

England & Wales - Charity number 1180382

Accounts

Independent Food Aid Network
Unaudited Financial Statements
31 December 2020

Independent Food Aid Network

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2020

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Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report

Year ended 31 December 2020

The partners present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name Independent Food Aid Network

Charity registration number 1180382

Principal office 58 Standen Road
London
SW18 5TQ

The partners

Dr K Garthwaite - Treasurer
Cllr K Akinola
Ms D Woods - Chair
Dr M Power
Mr R Makwana
Prof J May
Ms F Boshorin
Dr S Furey (Appointed 2 December 2020)

Independent examiner Nicola Jane Cadwallader
For and On Behalf of
David Cadwallader & Co Limited
Suite 3 Bignell Park Barns
Chesterton
Bicester Oxon
OX26 1TD

Structure, governance and management

The charity was registered under its Governing document as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with the Charity Commission on 19 October 2018 under Charity number 1180382.

The charity is governed by its Trustees.

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2020

Objectives and activities

The objects of the organisation are the prevention or relief of poverty in the United Kingdom by providing:

- grants, items and services to individuals in need and/or charities, or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty
- to prevent or relieve poverty through undertaking and supporting research into factors that contribute to poverty and the most appropriate ways to mitigate these

It achieves this by:

- providing a forum, promoting best practice and offering a collective voice for independent, grassroots food aid providers
- working with and promoting the voices of people in food insecurity
- providing opportunities for learning about the causes of food poverty
- improving provision to people in need of food
- conducting and promoting critical, open-access research relating to food poverty

Public Benefit Statement

In setting the objectives of the Charity and planning our activities, the trustees have paid due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2020

Achievements and performance

During 2020, the Independent Food Aid Network (IFAN) more than doubled in size and its income and activities have increased significantly. IFAN's membership includes a range of independent food aid providers including, by the end of 2020, over 400 independent food banks.

The year started with the release of a second data set collated from independent food banks operating in Scotland on the 9th of January. This critical report demonstrated that at that time, 1,000 emergency food parcels were being distributed every day in Scotland. This was followed by a fundraiser for IFAN and the Trussell Trust at the Union Chapel in London. Over £5,000 was raised on IFAN's behalf thanks to the Show and Tell Make Some Noise event.

Since the onset of Covid-19 until the end of 2020, over 160 organisations running over 200 venues joined IFAN's membership. A third of these groups were new distributors of emergency food aid.

IFAN has been able to distribute nearly £60,000 in small grants to its member organisations to help their work on the frontline as they've struggled to manage because of the economic impact of Covid-19 pandemic. This funding was made possible through public donations, a £10,000 donation from Depop and as well as funds raised by the BMJ's Annual Appeal on behalf of IFAN at the end of the year.

IFAN has been fully engaged in supporting and advising member organisations in a myriad of ways including sharing up-to-date key information, funding options and nutritional guidelines for emergency food parcels. At the start of pandemic, IFAN sent out hundreds of handmade masks and bottles of hand sanitiser to its member organisations when neither could be sourced. IFAN also collaborated with Give Food who adapted their food supply operation to distribute hundreds of thousands of gloves to our members. IFAN ran regular meetings for member organisations throughout 2020 to provide updates on latest events and campaign plans, a forum for discussions and the sharing of best practice and ideas.

IFAN's Coordinator/Director, Sabine Goodwin, has advocated on behalf of member organisations in meetings with civil servants including with the Department for the Environment, Farming and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), the Scottish Government and the Welsh Government. Sabine attended regular meetings with the Greater London Authority (GLA) and was a member of the London Food Board's Food Aid Sub-Group. IFAN has advocated on members' behalf with major supermarkets including Tesco and Morrisons in terms of access to adequate food supply as well as with other third sector organisations including FareShare and Bankuet. At the start of the pandemic, IFAN first raised the alarm in the media about the impact of panic-buying on supplies to food banks.

IFAN has been able to collate critical data from independent food banks as they have responded to increased need as a result of the pandemic. IFAN released figures on independent food parcel distribution on five occasions, twice alongside The Trussell Trust. While helping to build a clear picture of increasing food bank use, IFAN has used its data releases to call for policy changes to reduce the need charitable food aid. In July 2020, IFAN member organisations wrote a letter to the Prime Minister detailing how the root causes of poverty needed to be addressed to reduce food bank use. IFAN's data has been referenced in multiple academic and news reports.

Throughout 2020, IFAN's Coordinator/Director, Sabine Goodwin, has campaigned and called for changes in line with IFAN's objectives with UK Government officials, MPs, Shadow Cabinet members, representatives of the Scottish Government, the Welsh Government, local authorities and the GLA. IFAN has also been a member of the Voluntary and Community Sector Emergencies Partnership (VCSEP) Food Group. IFAN is one of several anti-poverty charities (The Trussell Trust, CPAG, The Children's Society, Step Change, Joseph Rowntree Foundation, Turn to Us) which formed a coalition

Independent Food Aid Network

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2020

during early part of the pandemic calling for a Coronavirus Emergency Income Support Scheme. The coalition called for local authorities to distribute cash grants to individuals and families in need as part of adequate local welfare assistance schemes.

IFAN has also raised significant awareness of the work of independent food banks in the media during the course of 2020 and has introduced many of its member organisations to journalists so they can hear directly from the frontline.

During 2020, IFAN also started working alongside Nourish Scotland to support the co-development of cash first referral leaflets in local authorities across Scotland. Dr Chelsea Marshall of Nourish Scotland was seconded to IFAN for several months from June 2020. By December 2020, IFAN had extended the cash first referral leaflet project to England thanks to National Lottery funding. In September 2020, we co-ran a webinar with Feeding Britain to gather evidence on the growing need for food banks in the UK. And in October 2020, we co-published a report based on this evidence that was covered on the front page of The Guardian.

Also in September 2020, we jointly ran a webinar with the University of York on structural inequalities and food aid. A report was subsequently published based on the evidence gathered and IFAN continued to run a series of webinars on structural inequalities and food insecurity alongside the University of York and Feeding Britain.

At the beginning of December 2020, The BMJ launched their Annual Appeal on behalf of IFAN that was to generate significant funding for the organisation and its members. During the course of 2020, we were able to employ not only IFAN's Coordinator/Director Sabine Goodwin but Maria Marshall as Project Officer and Ashleigh Comber as part-time Finance and Membership Officer. Dr Chelsea Marshall also worked with IFAN on secondment from Nourish Scotland from June to December 2020.

IFAN is also grateful for the help and dedication of volunteers Katy Gordon and Isabel Rice and for the short-term work of Annie Connolly and Megan Waugh during the Spring of 2020.

Financial review

Total income for the year was £263,205 and total expenditure of £160,461, to generate net income of £102,744. Funds held at 31 December 2020 were £103,122, of which £59,902 were unrestricted and £43,220 were restricted.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have set a policy of holding 3 months operating costs. A figure of £25,000 was considered to be a reasonable level of reserves to be held that would enable the charity to meet all of its liabilities should operations have to cease at some point in the future.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 28 September 2021 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

Ms D Woods
Chair

Dr K Garthwaite
Treasurer

Independent Food Aid Network

Independent Examiner's Report to the Partners of Independent Food Aid Network

Year ended 31 December 2020

I report to the partners on my examination of the financial statements of Independent Food Aid Network ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the partners of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements 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

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do 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.

Nicola Jane Cadwallader
Independent Examiner

For and On Behalf of
David Cadwallader & Co Limited
Suite 3 Bignell Park Barns
Chesterton
Bicester Oxon
OX26 1TD

Independent Food Aid Network

Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 December 2020

		2020			2019
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	4	160,422	102,783	263,205	2,749
Other income	5	–	–	–	126
Total income		<u>160,422</u>	<u>102,783</u>	<u>263,205</u>	<u>2,875</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	6,7	<u>100,898</u>	<u>59,563</u>	<u>160,461</u>	<u>2,497</u>
Total expenditure		<u>100,898</u>	<u>59,563</u>	<u>160,461</u>	<u>2,497</u>
Net income and net movement in funds		<u>59,524</u>	<u>43,220</u>	<u>102,744</u>	<u>378</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		378	–	378	–
Total funds carried forward		<u>59,902</u>	<u>43,220</u>	<u>103,122</u>	<u>378</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 8 to 15 form part of these financial statements.

Independent Food Aid Network

Statement of Financial Position

31 December 2020

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		106,863	528
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>3,741</u>	<u>150</u>
Net current assets		<u>103,122</u>	<u>378</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>103,122</u>	<u>378</u>
Net assets		<u>103,122</u>	<u>378</u>
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		43,220	–
Unrestricted funds		<u>59,902</u>	<u>378</u>
Total charity funds	13	<u>103,122</u>	<u>378</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 28 September 2021, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Ms D Woods
Chair

Dr K Garthwaite
Treasurer

The notes on pages 8 to 15 form part of these financial statements.

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2020

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales and is unincorporated. The address of the principal office is 58 Standen Road, London, SW18 5TQ.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act 2011.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the partners for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2020

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2020

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments *(continued)*

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2020

4. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £
Donations			
Unrestricted grants and donations	160,422	–	160,422
Nourish Scotland	–	4,280	4,280
Roddick Foundation	–	20,000	20,000
Dyers	–	4,000	4,000
Restricted donation	–	15,000	15,000
University of York	–	3,108	3,108
Lottery Funding	–	21,420	21,420
Parcel Data Project	–	34,475	34,475
Members Grants	–	500	500
	<u>160,422</u>	<u>102,783</u>	<u>263,205</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2019 £
Donations			
Unrestricted grants and donations	2,249	500	2,749
Nourish Scotland	–	–	–
Roddick Foundation	–	–	–
Dyers	–	–	–
Restricted donation	–	–	–
University of York	–	–	–
Lottery Funding	–	–	–
Parcel Data Project	–	–	–
Members Grants	–	–	–
	<u>2,249</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>2,749</u>

5. Other income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2019 £
AGM income	–	–	126	126
	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>126</u>	<u>126</u>

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2020

6. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £
Research, connect, support and advocacy	99,722	59,563	159,285
Support costs	1,176	–	1,176
	<u>100,898</u>	<u>59,563</u>	<u>160,461</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2019 £
Research, connect, support and advocacy	1,848	500	2,348
Support costs	149	–	149
	<u>1,997</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>2,497</u>

7. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total funds 2020 £	Total fund 2019 £
Research, connect, support and advocacy	159,285	–	159,285	2,348
Governance costs	–	1,176	1,176	149
	<u>159,285</u>	<u>1,176</u>	<u>160,461</u>	<u>2,497</u>

8. Independent examination fees

	2020 £	2019 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>1,080</u>	<u>150</u>

9. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2020 £	2019 £
Wages and salaries	43,515	–
Social security costs	4,338	–
Employer contributions to pension plans	860	–
	<u>48,713</u>	<u>–</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 3 (2019: Nil).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2019: Nil).

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2020

10. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees.

11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020	2019
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	1,080	150
Social security and other taxes	2,467	–
Other creditors	194	–
	<u>3,741</u>	<u>150</u>

12. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £860 (2019: £Nil).

13. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 January 202			At 31 December 2020
	0	Income	Expenditure	2020
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>378</u>	<u>160,422</u>	<u>(100,898)</u>	<u>59,902</u>

	At 1 January 201			At 31 December 2019
	9	Income	Expenditure	2019
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>–</u>	<u>2,375</u>	<u>(1,997)</u>	<u>378</u>

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2020

13. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

Restricted funds

	At 1 January 2020	Income	Expenditure	At 31 December 2020
	£	£	£	£
Nourish Scotland	–	4,280	(3,839)	441
Members grants: staff time	–	20,000	(20,000)	–
IFAN core costs	–	4,000	(231)	3,769
Members Grants/IFAN Core costs	–	15,000	(15,000)	–
University of York	–	3,108	(1,592)	1,516
Lottery Funding	–	21,420	(816)	20,604
Parcel data project	–	34,475	(17,585)	16,890
Grants to fund Frontline projects	–	500	(500)	–
	<u>–</u>	<u>102,783</u>	<u>(59,563)</u>	<u>43,220</u>

	At 1 January 2019	Income	Expenditure	At 31 December 2019
	£	£	£	£
Nourish Scotland	–	500	(500)	–
Members grants: staff time	–	–	–	–
IFAN core costs	–	–	–	–
Members Grants/IFAN Core costs	–	–	–	–
University of York	–	–	–	–
Lottery Funding	–	–	–	–
Parcel data project	–	–	–	–
Grants to fund Frontline projects	–	–	–	–
	<u>–</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>(500)</u>	<u>–</u>

14. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£
Current assets	63,643	43,220	106,863
Creditors less than 1 year	(3,741)	–	(3,741)
Net assets	<u>59,902</u>	<u>43,220</u>	<u>103,122</u>

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2019
	£	£	£
Current assets	378	–	378
Creditors less than 1 year	–	–	–
Net assets	<u>378</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>378</u>

Independent Food Aid Network

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2020

15. Related parties

During the year there was one payment to a trustee in respect of a £100 Honorarium payment for for webinar contribution through University York funding.