

**THE FOREST FOODBANK**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**31ST DECEMBER 2024**



**THE FOREST FOODBANK**  
**REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

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**THE FOREST FOOD BANK**

**ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

**COMMITTEE:**

Mrs D Beard – Acting Chair  
Mrs J Anderson - Treasurer  
Mr M Williams  
Mr D Wise

**PRINCIPAL  
ADDRESS:**

Eastern United Site  
Ruspidge Road  
Cinderford  
Gloucestershire  
GL14 3AW

**INDEPENDENT  
EXAMINER:**

Knights  
Accountants and Tax Advisors  
21 Highnam Business Centre  
Highnam  
Gloucester  
GL2 8DN

## **THE FOREST FOODBANK**

### **COMMITTEE REPORT**

#### **PRINCIPAL OBJECT AND STATUS OF CHARITY**

The organisation is registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with the Charity Commission, reference number 1183196, is governed by a constitution dated 14<sup>th</sup> August 2020 and operates from Eastern United Site, Ruspidge Road, Cinderford, Gloucestershire, GL14 3AW.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) are:

- To relieve persons throughout The Forest of Dean and outlying areas, and in such ways as the trustees from time to time think fit, in particular, but not exclusively by:
- In furtherance of the first object, to supply goods to beneficiaries, either directly or through agency partners approved by the Trustees. Goods to include (but not limited to) food, including tinned and dried foods, to ensure a healthy, balanced and nutritious diet sufficient for a minimum of three days at a time; essential toiletries, household items, clothing as available, fuel poverty support where provision of such services does not compromise the primary purpose of the (CIO).
- To do any other thing consistent with the primary purpose of the CIO, including (but not limited to) the provision of support or signposting to relevant information and other advisory services.

#### **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

The Forest Foodbank is a charity that enables the community in and around the Forest of Dean to meet the emergency food needs of those within the same community who are at crisis point in their lives.

During the period to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024, The Forest Foodbank has provided emergency food for approximately 3,400 (including approximately 1,300 children), distributing 34,000kg of food and essential household supplies. This represented a 10% year-on-year increase in the quantity of food supplied versus the year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024.

The 'Foodbank' has returned to the distribution model used prior to COVID-19 restrictions and operated half-day opening distribution centres in 3 locations where demand is greatest, providing coverage for Cinderford, Coleford and Lydney. Clients either travel to the nearest location or delivery is provided for those unable to attend in person.

## **THE FOREST FOODBANK**

### **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE**

#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

General donations continued as a similar monthly rate to the previous year, providing sufficient funding to support the activities of the charity without having to utilise cash reserves

Premises costs were impacted by a one-off refit of the warehouse which was required to increase storage capacity and improve safety by providing suitably rated equipment for the weight of goods being handled which will provide a fit-for-purpose facility for the foreseeable future.

The organisation has cash reserves of £243,037 as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 (2023 - £247,482), which is held in Lloyds Bank current and deposit accounts.

The Trustees are satisfied that they have sufficient reserves at the Balance Sheet date, together with the ongoing income anticipated, to enable the organisation to function effectively and deliver strategic plans for the coming year.

## **THE FOREST FOOD BANK**

### **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE**

#### **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES**

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

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

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

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

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

D Beard  
Trustee

Date: 21<sup>st</sup> October 2025

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO**

### **THE FOREST FOODBANK**

We report on the accounts of The Forest Foodbank for the period ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024.

#### **BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General directions given by the Charity Commissioners, section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out our examination we have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5)(b) of the Act.

An independent examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the association and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from you as the committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

#### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to our attention:

- (1) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that, in any material aspect, the requirements:

to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011:  
and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirement of the Charities Act 2011.

have not been met; or

- (2) to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Knights  
Accountants and Tax Advisors  
21 Highnam Business Centre  
Highnam  
GLOUCESTER.  
GL2 8DN

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> October 2025

**THE FOREST FOODBANK**

**BALANCE SHEET**

**AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>				
Plant and machinery	485		571	
Fixtures and fittings	7,974		9,381	
Computer Equipment	<u>419</u>		<u>1,011</u>	
		8,878		10,963
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Prepayments	284		336	
Bank Accounts – Lloyds Bank Current Account	15,941		37,952	
Lloyds Bank Deposit Account	<u>227,096</u>		<u>209,530</u>	
	243,321		247,818	
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>				
Creditors – amounts falling due within 1 year (Note 2)	<u>402</u>		<u>384</u>	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		242,919		247,434
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>251,797</u>		<u>258,397</u>

***REPRESENTED BY:***

***GENERAL FUND***

Balance Brought Forward	258,397	244,825
(Deficit)/Surplus of income over expenditure	<u>(6,600)</u>	<u>13,572</u>
Balance Carried Forward	<u>251,797</u>	<u>258,397</u>

Approved by the Committees on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

MRS D BEARD – ACTING CHAIR



**THE FOREST FOODBANK**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

	2024		2023
	£	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>			
Donations	51,347		58,456
Grant Income	83,739		73,659
Sundry Receipts	-		-
Deposit Account Interest	<u>2,566</u>		<u>1,937</u>
		137,652	134,052
 <b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Purchases and consumables	51,244		46,921
Wages	25,629		28,051
Pensions	2,169		2,043
Rent	5,753		5,940
Insurance	718		643
Light and heat	1,200		202
Telephone	2,339		1,612
Post and stationery	219		91
Advertising	-		939
Travel expenses	4,403		3,476
Repairs and renewals	2,238		190
Computer & I.T. costs	1,619		254
Miscellaneous expenses	1,436		1,221
Volunteers entertaining	-		503
Accountancy	420		468
Professional fees	42,780		25,489
Bank charges	-		-
Other penalties and interest	-		100
Depreciation – Plant & Machinery	86		90
Depreciation- Fixture & Fittings	1,407		1,655
Depreciation- Comp Equipment	<u>592</u>		<u>592</u>
		<u>144,252</u>	<u>120,480</u>
 <b>(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR</b>		 <u>(6,600)</u>	 <u>13,572</u>

**THE FOREST FOODBANK**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**(a) Accounting Convention**

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention on an accruals basis.

**(b) Accounting by Charities**

The recommendations of SORP2 (Accounting by Charities) have been followed in the preparation of these accounts.

**(c) Fund Accounting**

The Charity's general fund consists of funds which the Association may use for its purpose at its discretion.

**2. CREDITORS**

	£
Accrued expenses	<u>402</u>