

Manna 2024

## Chair's Report

The Trustees are responsible for:

- Keeping accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011.
- Preparing accounts which comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act.
- Safeguarding the assets of the charity.

and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and Review of the Trust's Activities, Progress and Achievements during the period ending December 2023.

During the year the Trustees had 4 meetings to discuss and monitor the charity's processes, and we recruited a new trustee – Jennifer Medcraft. Some of the trustees were also involved in the day to running of the charity in that they were involved in packing and delivery of food parcels to clients.

This is the third year of the organisation being an independent charity. The trustees continued to seek support and advice from 'Trust Advice' – formerly Advice for the Voluntary Sector (known as AFVS), a support and advice organisation which provides ongoing charity advice and training.

During the year the executive committee reviewed and updated the organisation's policies, and agreed a schedule for future policy reviews. All volunteers are required to sign to register that they have read and understood them.

The charity takes referrals from a range of statutory and non-statutory organisations. Referrals have increased, year on year. During 2023, Manna was invited to join Spelthorne Borough Council [SBC] Food & welfare Network, and became founding members of the group. The aim of the group is to streamline the referral process for foodbanks within the Borough and to increase the legitimate use of them, whilst supporting residents to become independent and not reliant on the services of foodbanks. Our involvement fits neatly within our charity objects of providing 'urgent and immediate need', while other foodbanks in the area are able to provide more long-lasting support and wraparound services.

We are grateful for the support we receive from local donation points, local schools [particularly at Harvest and Christmas] and large corporate organisations in the area.