

THE QUANTOCK FOODBANK

England & Wales · Charity number 1189991

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2020-06-18

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

Contact

Address 35 Brook Road
Williton
Taunton
TA4 4TE

Phone 07483815122

Email quantockfoodbank@gmail.com

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECT OF THE CIO IS:THE PREVENTION OR RELIEF OF POVERTY IN WATCHET, WILLITON AND SURROUNDING AREAS IN SUCH WAYS AS THE TRUSTEES FROM TIME-TO-TIME THINK FIT, BY SHOWING THE LOVE OF GOD IN PARTICULAR, BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY:(A) PROVIDING EMERGENCY FOOD, ESSENTIAL TOILETRIES AND OTHER HOUSEHOLD ITEMS TO INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES IN NEED AND/OR FOR THE DISTRIBUTION BY PROFESSIONAL AGENCIES, CHARITIES OR OTHER ORGANISATIONS WORKING TO PREVENT OR RELIEVE POVERTY, RESTORE DIGNITY, MAINTAIN HEALTH AND SUPPORT EFFORTS TO REGAIN INDEPENDENCE AND STABILITY.(B) SUCH OTHER MEANS INCLUDING (BUT NOT LIMITED TO) THE PROVISION OF SUPPORT TO ACCESS, OR SIGNPOSTING TO, RELEVANT AGENCIES, ADVISORY OR INFORMATION SERVICES.

Activities: The prevention or relief of poverty in Watchet, Williton and surrounding area by the provision of food, essential toiletries, and household items to people in need; working with professional partners to restore dignity, maintain health and support efforts to regain independence and stability, and providing support to access or signposting to relevant agencies, advisory or information services.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Somerset

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£40,784	£21,165	-	-
2024-03-31	£39,462	£88,378	-	-
2023-03-31	£43,847	£14,992	-	-
2022-03-31	£31,294	£8,785	-	-
2021-03-31	£57,018	£15,047	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Jane Sperring	Chair	2023-05-14
Catherine Mary Benham		2021-05-27
Chloe De Renzy-Martin		2025-11-26
Cllr Peter Frederick Payne		2019-05-15
Jane Wynne		2025-02-05
John Irven		2018-06-06
Marlene Mason		2018-06-06
Richard Learmont		2025-11-12
Samantha Searle		2018-06-06
Sarah Elizabeth Silvester		2018-06-06

Accounts



Quantock Foodbank

Registered Charity No. 1189991

ANNUAL REPORT



2025

07483 815122

quantockfoodbank@gmail.com

35 Brook Road, Williton, Taunton TA4 4TE

Thanks for all your help, you really have been a lifeline for me. I really appreciate the help more than you'll ever know. Much love to you all xx

I'm healing well thanks and up on my feet again! Just in time for school holidays. I think we're ok for food now. Thank you so much for your kindness and support over the past few months xxx

'Thank you for everything you have done for us this year we really appreciate it. Thank you for our Christmas bag it was so lovely! I hope you all have a lovely Christmas and new year and we look forward to seeing you soon. X

Hi, Unfortunately I'm not going to be able to make it tomorrow, I have an appointment. thank you so much for all your help. You've all been amazing.

Thank you. I'll still come & say hello sometimes. Thanks for all that you do, all of you. You're doing a great job.

From the Chair

Mr Clive Wooldridge

It is seven years since the inauguration of the Quantock Foodbank on 6 June 2018 and five years after being registered as a CIO Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 18 June 2020. We therefore wished to celebrate this milestone as well as the completion of a very successful project to take the Pantry Pilot, begun in July 2021, out to the villages. We also wanted to express our thanks to loyal and generous supporters who have joined us on the journey. The new fully electric Mobile Pantry has only been made possible by the indefatigable efforts and fundraising of so many people across the area.

In June we invited representatives from across a wide range of groups and organisations as well as individual donors and volunteers to join us for Afternoon Tea to mark the occasion. It was impossible to invite everyone, as there are hundreds of people who 'do their bit' on a regular basis and each and every one counts. It was an opportunity to recognise the ceaseless endeavour of unsung heroes, whether donors, trustees, volunteers or others in our communities who give faithfully and work diligently to carry out the aims of the charity.

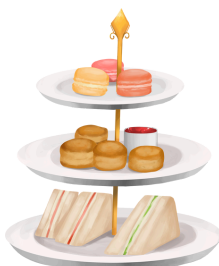
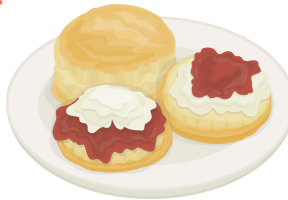
Students from Foxes Academy excelled as usual, providing a wonderful tea which was much appreciated by all the guests.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for this event as well as many more who had other commitments; it is impossible to over-emphasise how much we value your contribution. It was also a wonderful opportunity for people within the organisation and across the area to meet each other.

The need in our communities is greater than ever, with higher costs of goods and services impacting families and businesses alike; the smaller ones who usually provide seasonal employment so crucial to our area unable to take on staff, adding to the economic pressure on already over-stretched budgets.

To deal with the world as it is, not as we would wish it to be, requires resilience and resourcefulness. Possessing such skills, I am certain that our wonderful team will continue to overcome the challenges that arise in these times of extreme volatility and uncertainty.





TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 MARCH 2025

FOREWORD

The Trustees' Focus for 2024/2025 was completion of the Commissioning process by rolling out the mobile pantry to Stogursey & Nether Stowey at the end of April 2024, Williton in July 2024, in time for the start of the school holidays, and finally, in March 2025, the Pantry Pilot in the Methodist schoolroom gave way to the Mobile service for Watchet.

The last stage, post-project care, enabled the commissioning team to conduct periodic checks on the project to see and verify its performance. Modifications were identified to refine the operation; they were noted and implemented. Two of these were a reversing system and camera for the vehicle and a key safe and camera for the Annexe. Finally, a comparison was made of the most recent outcomes, CO2 emissions saved, and access given to villages who previously had none; against the objectives and requirements of the project, to roll out the successful static Pantry Pilot model in Watchet to other communities, particularly those without public transport, by means of an emission free electric vehicle.

Future developments still include a desire to limit the vehicle's reliance on charging from the grid, by constructing a solar port with storage batteries, but a feasibility report by a working group of two Trustees, a Director of West Somerset Green Forum, and a Solar Electrician, concluded that this was not achievable currently. It was noted that future location or new technology could supply other solutions. Phase 2 was therefore shelved and part of the Project Fund used to create an Asset Management Reserve. [Page 17] The Trustees will continue to explore co-operative action with other community groups who face similar risk to their operations from energy supply disruption.

The Quantock Foodbank is now a fully integrated Foodbank and Mobile Pantry; in other words those who traditionally accessed the Foodbank, for the most part, now receive free food support through the Mobile Food Pantries for the period of time determined by their referring agency. At the end of this period they are offered the option of joining the Pantry for a small contribution, currently £4 per week. This means that all in receipt of food support, whether paying or free of charge, are accorded the dignity of being given at least some food choices as well as choosing to say no to certain foods. It also has the advantage that someone who becomes unable to pay through change of circumstances can continue to access the pantry but free of charge whilst a referral takes place for urgent support from other services.

The CIO continues to rely entirely on volunteers for its management and operation.

In November 2024, we were devastated on receiving the news that our first driver for the Stogursey and Nether Stowey area was on life support, having had a catastrophic stroke at the age of 41. Every church in the Quantock area was praying for Andrew and his family, but he died on 2nd December when his organs were donated and gave life to others. It was a huge shock to everyone who knew him as an irrepressible, generous, and committed young man, who never missed a day keeping the vehicle safe on the road in all that the British weather threw at us in 2024. In Andrew's words 'he and Anna were Trailblazers for the new Mobile Pantry service to Stogursey and Nether Stowey', which also attracted clients from Cannington. He left his mark on the new service and we will never forget him.

In the aftermath of this loss, there was an amazing response from Trustees and Volunteers determined to cover Andrew's sessions until more drivers came forward. Trustees recognised the need to ensure the future resilience of the Charity to withstand upheaval and shocks. Risk Management is already a part of the Foodbank's strategic planning, and we are currently considering emergency planning and disaster recovery for both internal and external factors.

A loss of a different kind was the closure of Kilve Stores. This was a loss, not only to Kilve, but to the wider area. The photograph shows the final stock which came to us. It was marvellous to receive such a gift, yet so sad to know that it marked the end of a wonderful resource in every way for the community.

Matt had worked tirelessly, not just for the business, but raising thousands of pounds for charities including the Foodbank. Throughout the year, but especially at Christmas and Easter, Matt sourced and provided many of the lovely items that families using the Food Pantries so appreciate. Kilve Stores, thanks to Matt Hirst, was the beating heart of Kilve community and beyond, and will be greatly missed.



Foresight, insight, oversight and hindsight helps those in leadership roles throughout the charity to introduce and sustain organizational resilience. The Trustees have developed and utilised the first three key practices in a number of areas, particularly physical and cyber security. We are now using the fourth to learn from the first year of the new Mobile Service and identify the areas which need modification or strengthening.

In a fast-changing world, it is vital that we examine our resilience to outside influences which have the capacity to impact on our ability to function, let alone achieve our goals.

The Quantock Foodbank is a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation)
Charity Number: 1189991.

Registered address: 35 Brook Road, Williton, Taunton TA4 4TE

Email address: quantockfoodbank@gmail.com Telephone: 07483 815122

Operating address: The Annexe, Harbour Road, Watchet TA23 0AQ

Seven meetings were held during the period to 31 March 2025. Following the resignation of a Trustee, the Trustees co-opted a Volunteer to the Board, and the Charity Trustees were as follows:

Name	Office Held	Representing
Clive Wooldridge	Chair	CtWW
Councillor John Irven	Banking Officer Financial Governance Team	Watchet Town Council
Marlene Mason	Company Secretary & Treasurer Financial Governance Team	CtWW
Councillor Peter Payne	Internal Auditor Financial Governance Team	Williton Parish Council
Susan Rose Resigned	Premises Trustee	Methodist Trustees
Jane Scott	Secretary	Trustees
Sam Searle	Bank Signatory	CtWW
Izzy Silvester		Referring Agencies
Catherine Benham		CtWW
Jane Sperring		CtWW
Jane Wynne - Co-opted		Volunteers

The Foodbank and Pantries were dependent on Trustees and Volunteers in key positions:

Marlene Mason	General oversight of daily operations; Administration
Sam Searle	Yard operations; Maintenance of vehicle; Supervision of drivers
John Irven and Sam Searle	Driver training
Daphne Milton and Jackie White	Receipt of food donations; stock monitoring and control of stock levels; compliance with Environmental Health regulations and FSA standards
Allan King, Paul Hopkins, Anna Thomas	Drivers and Crew Stogursey and Nether Stowey
Jane Wynne, Terry Pentland, Chloe de Renzy-Martin, Allan King	Drivers and Crew Williton
Adam Gorman, Tracy Gorman, Benet Allen, Chris Blackmore	Drivers and Crew Watchet

The Foodbank had 21 Volunteers in total including those working in the Foodbank and Pantries, and those making collections.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Charity's governing document, a Constitution of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation whose only voting members are its charity trustees ('Foundation' model constitution), was adopted on 15 May 2019 and subsequently revised on 25 March 2021.

Trustees may be appointed by one of the established churches in Watchet or Williton and/or by Watchet Town Council or Williton Parish Council (the appointing bodies), who must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO. The churches concerned include, but are not limited to, Saint Peter's Church of England, Saint Decuman's Church of England, Watchet Methodist Church, Williton Methodist Church, Watchet Baptist Church, Watchet Salvation Army Corps and Watchet Roman Catholic Church.

All Trustees give their time and skills voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.

RISK MANAGEMENT STATEMENT

Trustees confirm that they have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and satisfied themselves that systems or procedures are established in order to manage those risks.

Operational Risk Assessments have also been carried out in respect of planned new activity at Watchet, where the existing pantry pilot was replaced by the new Mobile Pantry.

The Charity's policies are kept under review at regular intervals and new ones added as required; these include: Bullying and Harassment; Environmental Health - Statement on the Acceptability of Food Donations; Serious Incident Reporting; Whistleblowing.

Development of Disaster Recovery Plans are in progress and will be ongoing until all areas of concern have been addressed.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

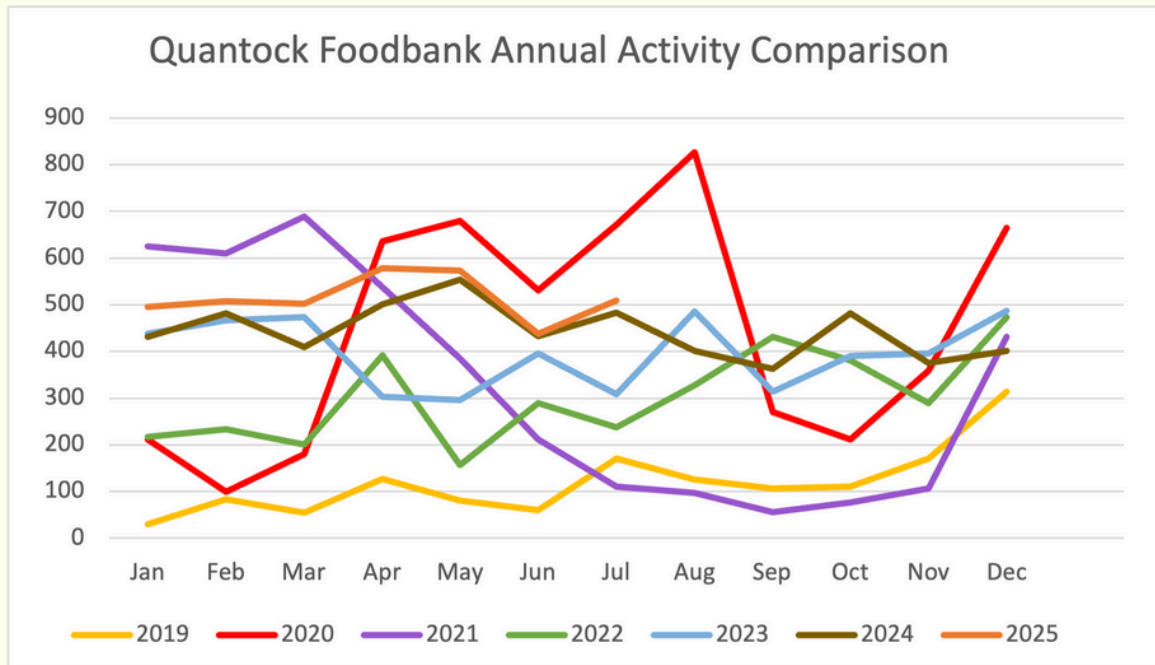
The purposes of the charity can be summarised as: The prevention or relief of poverty in Watchet, Williton and surrounding area by the provision of food, essential toiletries, and household items to people in need; working with professional partners to restore dignity, maintain health and support efforts to regain independence and stability, and providing support to access or signposting to relevant agencies, advisory or information services.

The main activity undertaken by the Foodbank is the distribution of ambient temperature food products, toiletries and other essential household items collected and/or donated by local shops and village stores, churches, individuals, schools and other community groups. The majority of clients are assessed and referred to the Foodbank or the Pantry by front-line professionals, however the Foodbank does act on emergency calls and messages before referring them to an appropriate agency for ongoing support.

The Quantock Foodbank and its partners in the voluntary sector continue to offer a wrap-around service in challenging circumstances, however there is a marked reluctance in some areas to engage with services being provided and this has, inevitably, resulted in services being reduced or withdrawn. The unanswered question is why some areas are overwhelmed with applicants for support whilst others, where need has been identified, remain disengaged; whether through diffidence, distrust, or some unknown factor has been difficult to ascertain. The Foodbank is not the only service seeking a solution.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Referrals to the Food Pantry continued to increase above 2024 levels along with food, energy, and particularly water costs, where consumers faced the biggest rise since the industry was privatised 36 years ago.



The Food Foundation's basket of food which cost £40.96 in April 2022, cost £52.13 in January 2025, an increase of 27%. Prices are permanently higher and still increasing at an alarming rate. Most of us have spotted the supermarkets' tactics of reducing the price for two weeks, using a BOGOF offer, and then raising it by up to 50p at the end or, if the increase is more modest, the weight has been reduced.

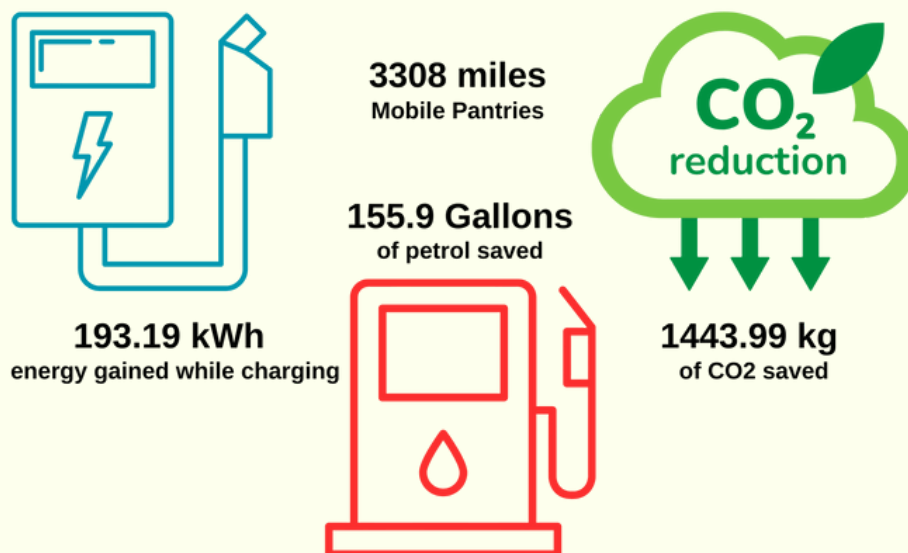
In 2023 to 2024, 64.5% of Adults age 18 or over in England were estimated to be overweight or living with obesity; creating a public health epidemic involving chronic conditions such as Type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease. In the same period, 38.6% of Adults in the least deprived areas reported eating at least five portions of fruit and vegetables per day, compared with 20% living in the most deprived areas.

In the period to May 2025, 1.5 million families had used a foodbank. Over 5 million low income families reported skipping meals, and 4.1 million reported going hungry. The situation is most acute for low-income families with three or more children, where 9 in 10 families were going without essentials.

The food system is failing to deliver and does not take into account the needs of the poorest who spend the greatest proportion of their income on food. Over-fishing, soil erosion and water shortage threatens food security, and climate change, in the form of extreme weather events, impacts on production. Overconsumption and waste further exert pressure on the whole industry, which is a major contributor to greenhouse gases.

Last year we said we were looking forward to reporting how much CO2 had been saved, and this year we are happy to announce that, compared to running a petrol van, CO2 emissions have been reduced by 1.4 tonnes. The savings have been made even greater by the UK's closure of coal fired power stations.

Sustainability Metrics March 2024 to August 2025



The Quantock Foodbank operates Monday to Thursday each week and needs volunteers to cover every session that it is operational, whether in the Annexe or on the Mobile Pantry. It also depends on its Trustees rolling their sleeves up too and working alongside them. In total every year this amounts to a minimum of 2200 hours or 457 working days. It is impossible to calculate the number of hours that Donors spend raising funds, whether lovingly growing produce or making jams and chutneys for sale on their stall, singing in choirs, playing music or holding coffee mornings. What an absolutely amazing bunch of people!!

At certain times of the year, we like to offer seasonal treats and the Pantries for the last week of October included a Pumpkin, Marshmallows, Chocolate Digestives, Baguettes and Hot Dogs, as well as recipes for nutritious and waste saving Pumpkin soup and a sticky treat - S'mores!

Easy S'mores

Easy and delicious, S'mores are a great dessert whether eating around a campfire or in your home. Chocolate covered biscuits sandwiched around toasted marshmallows.

INGREDIENTS

- Packet of Chocolate Digestive Biscuits
- Packet of Marshmallows

DIRECTIONS

1. Place the biscuits on a plate, chocolate-side up. This will be the base of your S'more.
2. Set the top biscuits nearby.
3. Thread the marshmallows on a skewer or thin stick.
4. Toast over an open flame until hot & soft in the middle - the marshmallows might get a little droopy (be careful to keep them on the skewer). If they catch on fire, just blow them out and continue toasting until browned.
5. Slide toasted marshmallows onto the biscuits (chocolate side) and sandwich the other biscuit on top.
6. Press down slightly until the marshmallow oozes out the sides a little.
7. These are best eaten immediately, but are still good eaten after they cool.

Easy Pumpkin Soup

Easy to make for all the people who would like to cook but don't have time because of busy schedules, and it is eco friendly, using the flesh which is normally discarded from the carved pumpkin.

INGREDIENTS

- Flesh Carved from pumpkin chopped into small pieces. Use immediately or cover and store in fridge (48 hours)
- 1 Onion (chopped finely)
- 2 Potatoes (Chopped)
- 1 tablespoon butter or oil
- 1 vegetable stock cube dissolved in 500ml of boiling water
- Pinch of pepper
- Parsley
- Cream or plain Yoghurt (optional)

DIRECTIONS

1. Add butter/oil to a saucepan and fry onions until soft
2. Add the chopped potatoes and pumpkin and cook on a slow heat for a short time, stirring to prevent burning
3. Add the stock and bring to the boil
4. Reduce the heat and cook until vegetables are soft
5. Add pepper to taste
6. Blitz in a blender or use a stick blender until smooth
7. If the soup is too thick, milk or water can be added
8. Garnish with parsley and a swirl of cream or yoghurt

The pantries on the week of Shrove Tuesday included Pancake mix, a lemon and a jar of honey, and six weeks later all the usual Easter treats.

News from the Crews

The Mobile Pantry service to Williton has been going for just over a year now. It started in the school summer holiday period, so it took the families a little while to get used to the new place and time. Numbers are usually lower anyway in the tourist season as there is a greater range of short-term employment. At the start of the holiday period, families' usual routines change, although we can get increased demand as the holiday progresses. The van is central in Williton, although tucked out of easy sight, so it is accessible for people to use, and there is parking nearby if needed. I was a little daunted in taking on the role of a driver, having never driven an electric car, never mind a van, but I found it easy to learn and now hop happily between the van and my car. I even know how to charge it!

By mid-autumn, numbers picked up, and everyone became much more used to the new place and time. New users increased in number and, by the end of winter, we served the greatest number from any of the van trips. You do not need a gym membership when loading the van with the goods for over 20 people! It's a bit disheartening some weeks when you unload a good deal as clients forget appointments or have last-minute issues, but these are few in number.



Williton Load

The crews have changed a little since the start. Serving our users requires certain skills, and some find it's not really what they want to give their time to. Recruitment of volunteers is tricky at times, but we are fortunate that we have a core team now. It helps that those coming to us do meet a regular group of faces, so rapport and trust are built up. This means that discussions around decreasing usage, some clients may have been with us for a while and need to be weaned off support or referred onto other agencies, are easier to raise.



We predict, with the increased costs related to employment and our usual seasonal variation, our numbers will swell once more in the coming months, so yet again I fear there will be no need for a gym membership.

Jane Wynne

Children in the UK face “shorter,unhealthier lives”

A new report, *A Fit and Healthy Childhood: Early Years Nutrition – Setting the Standards for Change*, was developed by a Cross-Party Group to “champion improved nutrition standards for young children”. According to the report poor nutrition in babies and toddlers is fuelling a future public health crisis.

Statistics in the report show that:

- obesity levels in pre-school children are rising, particularly among children from the most deprived areas of the UK, where numbers are more than double that of those living in the least deprived areas.
- the proportion of ultra-processed foods (UPFs) in children’s diets rises between 18 months and 3.5 years, while consumption of healthy, nutrient-rich foods declines.

The report calls on the government to act now to make change, including:

- A national nutrition strategy that provides guidance during preconception, pregnancy and postnatal periods via professional training.
- Mandatory nutritional composition, marketing and labelling standards for commercial baby and toddler food and drink products.
- The extension of free school meals to children in early years settings.

The Quantock Food Pantry – Helping the Next Generation

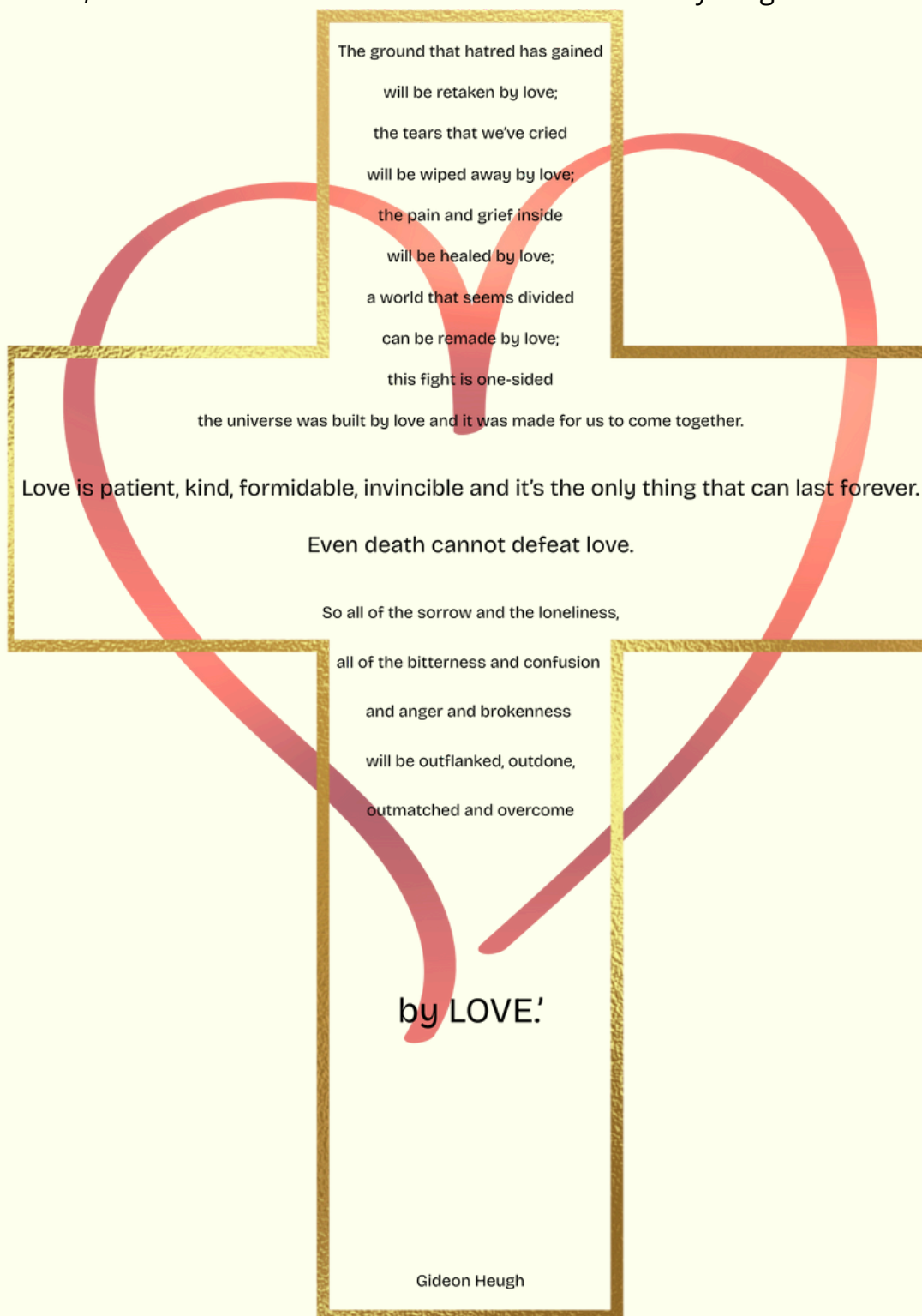
Nutrition from the prenatal period through infancy and early childhood is critical because these are periods of rapid growth and development. During the first 1,000 days—from conception to age two—the human body and brain undergo dramatic changes. This means the health status of mothers during pregnancy and the early days of an infant’s solid diet are very important.

The Mobile Pantry offers regular fresh fruit, vegetables, and eggs, suitable for young children as well as adults, as well as a carefully selected rotation of cupboard foods. We recognise that the brain is especially sensitive to nutrition during the early years and the early building blocks for brain development, healthy growth and a resistant immune system affects the child’s ability to grow, learn and thrive in their future years. To aid this further, the volunteers also check if the new parents are accessing the Healthy Start programme, as the work of Health Visitors has changed considerably over the years, and we find many parents are missing out on this scheme.

Recent research has found that full-term babies born into poverty have a similar profile of developmental issues as preterm babies born to wealthier families. To help to combat this we can also suggest other agencies that may be able to assist more with finance and housing, or Home-Start West Somerset, for more child centred support, so that the whole family can have the best start possible.

and Finally.

The daily dose of depressing news at home and abroad may make it difficult to remain positive and optimistic, but at least our unusually long, hot, summer has put a smile on most people's faces. When the sun shines it's easier to be upbeat and wish for better days to come, but what we really need is something to give us hope; a rock to cling on to. Our faith provides that unfailing anchor through all the storms that life throws at us, and it's where we find our resilience when everything else fails.



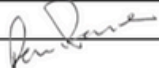
Our Chair's mantra over the last few years is worth repeating:
"Wherever we are, Whatever it costs, for as long as it takes."

The Quantock Foodbank		1189991		CC16a
Receipts and payments accounts				
For the period from	Period start date 01/04/2024	To	Period end date 31/03/2025	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
General	3,274	-	-	3,274	6,005
Children's Activities	-	-	-	-	-
Cookery and Recipe Project	-	-	-	-	-
Mobile Pantry including Eat Well Keep Well	-	18,206	-	18,206	2,880
Pantry Pilot including Eat Well Keep Well	-	6,585	-	6,585	8,371
Project Funds	-	4,849	-	4,849	22,206
Risk Management - Succession	7,870	-	-	7,870	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	11,144	29,640	-	40,784	39,462
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	11,144	29,640	-	40,784	39,462
A3 Payments					
Car Park/Secure Park/Pantry Pilot Transport	280	770	-	1,050	3,267
Cleaning/PPE/Health and Safety/Security	112	547	-	659	232
Domain Registration	-	-	-	-	419
Equipment	45	1,157	-	1,202	77
Food	-	11,229	-	11,229	7,309
Household and Toiletries	-	1,756	-	1,756	936
Insurance, Premises & Room Hire	818	1,113	-	1,931	2,202
Office and Administration	271	223	-	494	392
Pantry Bags/Sundry Operational	26	-	-	26	1,036
Vehicle Systems/Maintenance/Charging	-	767	-	767	-
Volunteers / Training	-	-	-	-	607
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	1,552	17,561	-	19,113	16,477
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Ford E-Transit	-	2,051	-	2,051	71,901
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	2,051	-	2,051	71,901
Total payments	1,552	19,612	-	21,165	88,378
Net of receipts/(payments)	9,592	10,028	-	19,619	- 48,916
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	20,533	31,645	-	52,178	101,094
Cash funds this year end	30,125	41,673	-	71,798	52,178

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

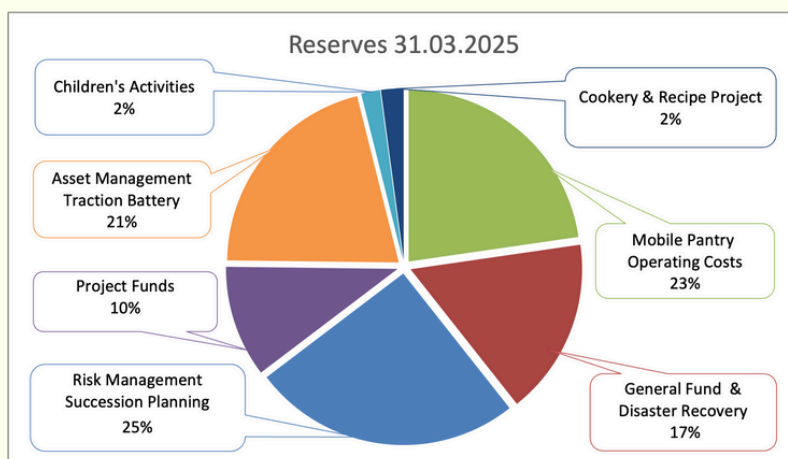
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank	30,075	41,625	-
	Cash	50	47	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	30,125	41,673	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	Gift Aid Reclaim	334	461	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Ford E-Transit with customised Box Body	Mobile Pantry	73,595	-
	Reversing System and Camera	Mobile Pantry	2,051	-
	Electric Powered Flat Bed Trolley	General	3,402	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
			Marlene Mason	25/05/2025
			Peter Payne	20/06/2025

Financial Governance and Reserves Policy

The Quantock Foodbank has a Financial Governance Team of three Trustees whose responsibilities are: Banking Officer; Treasurer and Company Secretary; and Internal Auditor. This ensures good financial control and a separation of powers, particularly as the Treasurer is also the Managing Trustee of the Foodbank. Accounts are prepared each quarter and internally audited before presentation to the Trustees.

As a matter of good practice the Trustees have, over the last few years, been conducting Risk Assessments on various aspects of the Charity's operations and exposure to external influences whether malign or otherwise; developing or updating policies such as Cyber Security, Disaster Recovery, and Risk Management, with a view to future proofing the Foodbank against adverse circumstances.

Without financial provision the Charity cannot respond adequately to unforeseen events, and the Trustees have utilised surplus general funds to create reserves for Disaster recovery and Succession planning. An Asset Management reserve has been created for the provision of depreciation of the electric traction battery, with funds from Phase 2 of the Mobile Pantry project which has been shelved; these have also been used to augment the operational reserve, for Increased costs associated with additional activity generated by the new Mobile Pantry service, as a hedge against unexpected income volatility.



A statutory audit is not required for these accounts since the income of the Quantock Foodbank is under the threshold set by the Charity Commission, however an independent examination of the accounts has been completed.

This report and accounts has been approved for publication by the Trustees after scrutiny by the Independent Examiner, whose certificate is appended.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees and dated 17 September 2025.

Revd Jane Sperring



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's
report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
The Quantock Foodbank CIO

On accounts for the year
ended

31st March 2025

Charity no
(if any)

1189991

Set out on pages

1

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 03 / 2025.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 (~~other than that disclosed below~~ *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Sarah Watling

Date: 28/08/2025

Name:

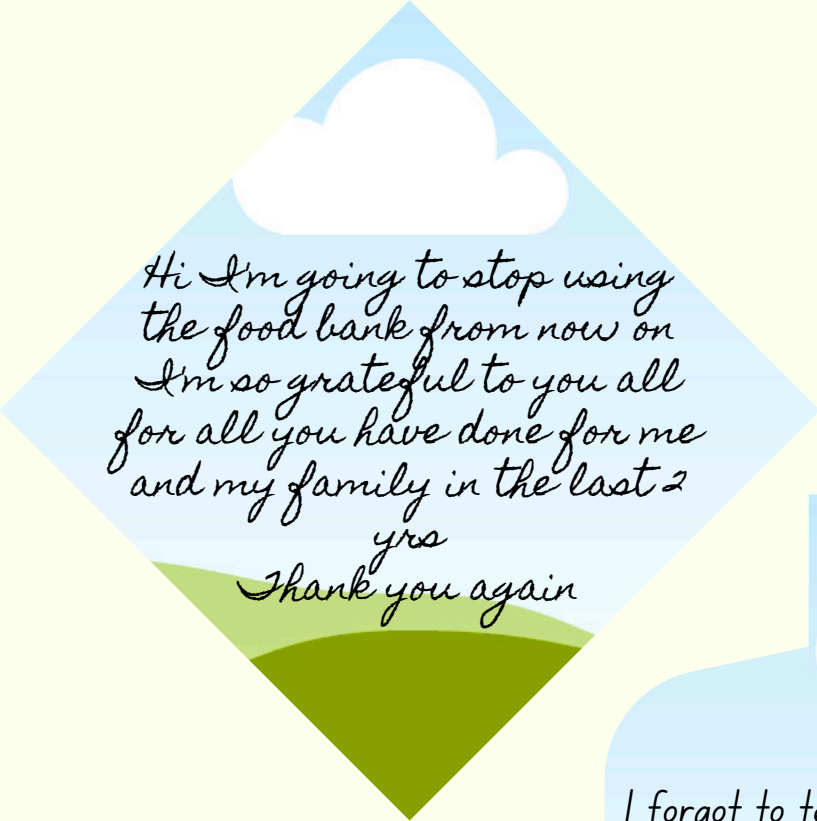
SARAH WATLING

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

MAAT

Address:

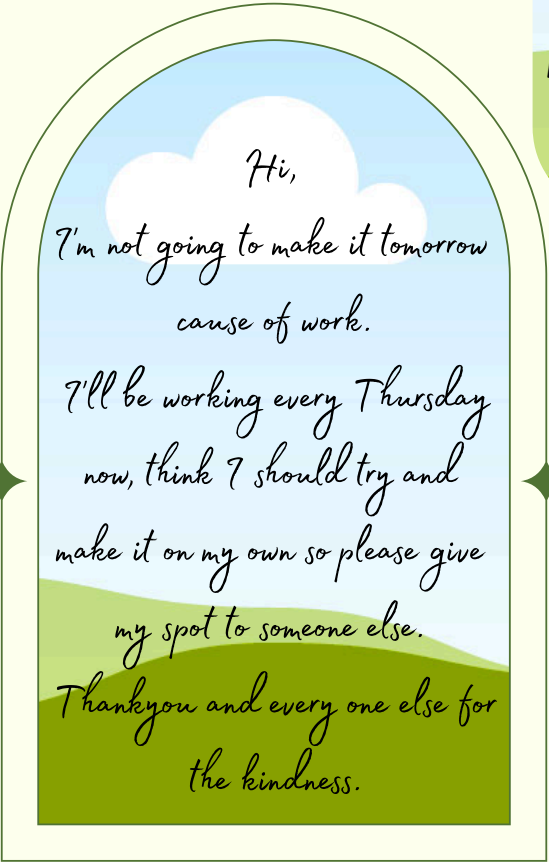
THE OLD SCHOOLHOUSE, MONKSILVER, TAUNTON
SOMERSET, TA4 4HY



Hi I'm going to stop using
the food bank from now on
I'm so grateful to you all
for all you have done for me
and my family in the last 2
yrs
Thank you again



I forgot to tell you that jar with nuts in honey
was very delicious you had given me last time
and I ate it with great pleasure. Thank you so
much for choosing such excellent food for me.
I'm really glad and appreciate your
endeavours!



Hi,
I'm not going to make it tomorrow
cause of work.
I'll be working every Thursday
now, think I should try and
make it on my own so please give
my spot to someone else.
Thankyou and every one else for
the kindness.



Thank you so
much for the food
and chats you've
all given me whilst
I've used the
pantry. xxx



DONORS

**ARE ITS
LIFEBLOOD**

VOLUNTEERS

**ARE ITS
BEATING HEART**

**OUR
CHARITY**

GOODWILL

**IS A PEARL
BEYOND PRICE**

**FINANCED BY THE PEOPLE
AND COMMUNITIES
OF THE QUANTOCK AREA**

Accounts



Quantock Foodbank

Registered Charity No. 1189991

ANNUAL REPORT

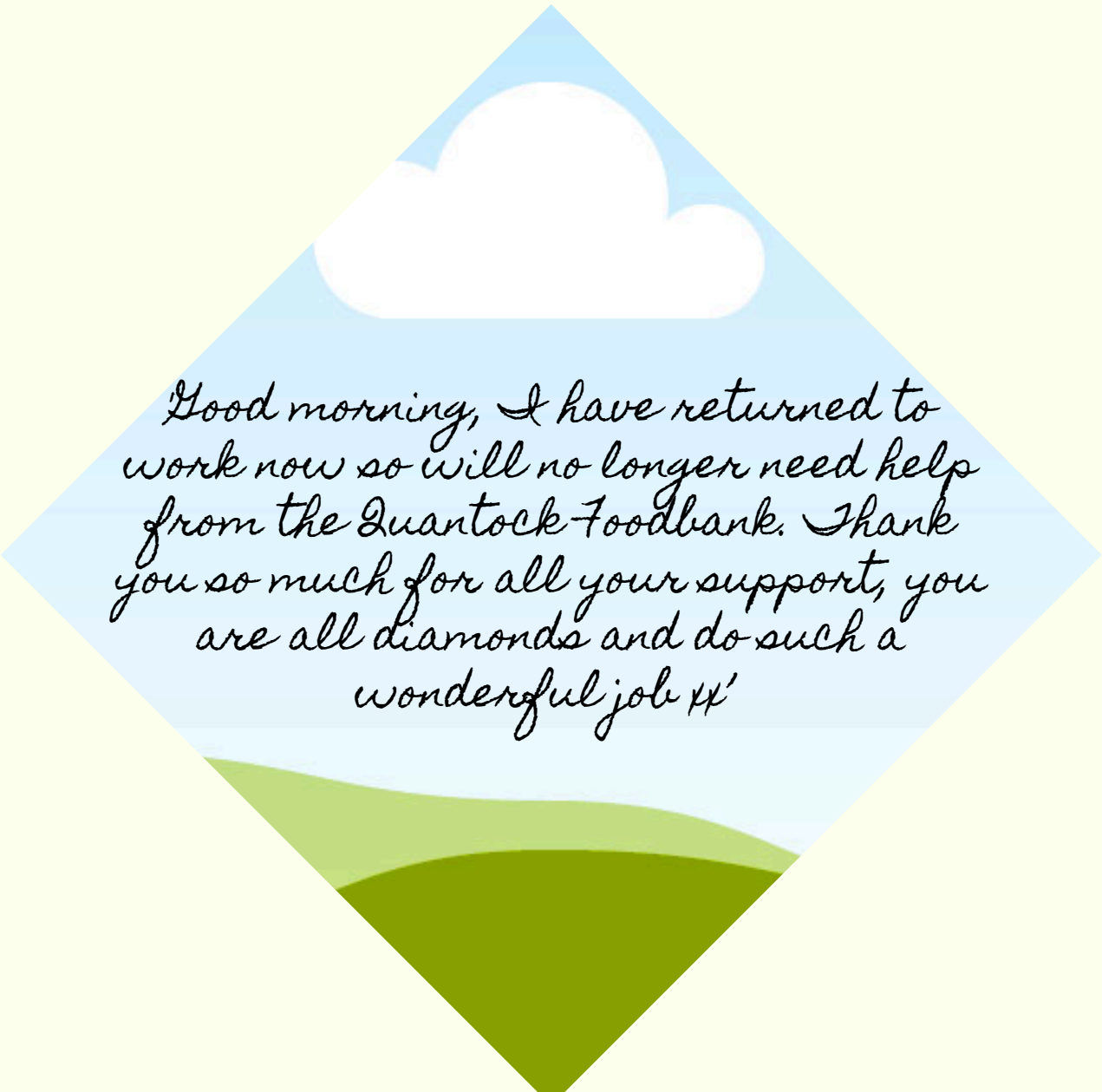


2024

07483 815122

quantockfoodbank@gmail.com

35 Brook Road, Williton, Taunton TA4 4TE



Good morning, I have returned to
work now so will no longer need help
from the Quantock Foodbank. Thank
you so much for all your support, you
are all diamonds and do such a
wonderful job xx'

From the Chair

Mr Clive Wooldridge

When I wrote the Chair's letter last year it was necessarily a little downbeat in respect of the limited progress of the Mobile Pantry, due to the delay on the vehicle arising from factors which were totally beyond our control. The situation we found ourselves in was very frustrating, but I did say also that anything worthwhile was worth waiting for. Consequently, when we launched the Mobile Pantry on the morning of 30th April, despite the inclement weather and having to introduce the Deputy Lieutenant of Somerset from under an umbrella, everyone was really happy, excited, and looking forward to this new part of a hugely successful project. That afternoon the Mobile Pantry made its first visit to client villages and I am happy to report that it was the first of many visits in the nearly six months since.

The brilliant vehicle was not the only technological improvement to the service we offer this year; we also took delivery of an electronic trolley which takes food trays from the Watchet Annexe to the Pantry vehicle, saving volunteers from having to carry heavy trays up the steep ramp to the main road. This was just another example of the thought which has gone into making the Mobile Pantry such a great addition to our already exceptional service made possible by all our volunteers past and present, and without whom we could not continue to offer such a vital service in the Quantock area. A heartfelt thank you to every one of them, and also to the people and organisations who continue to host the food bank in Watchet and the new vehicle in Williton.

I must also thank all our donors. Since we first introduced the idea of setting up a Foodbank in Watchet we have been blessed by the incredibly generous financial donations, as well as time and expertise of so many, and the enormous quantity of provisions flooding in from all of our surrounding communities and individuals which have maintained and strengthened our work. I could not possibly name them all, nor would I embarrass them; they know who they are and they continue their giving year by year. We are greatly indebted to them and we could not do without them!

I will finish this much more upbeat letter by thanking all the trustees for their continued support and by repeating our mantra of the last few years, "Wherever we are, whatever it costs, for as long as it takes." Without a doubt the Food Pantry, both mobile and static, carries on the excellent work the Foodbank began in 2018 and I feel sure it will continue to operate with great care and compassion, fulfilling the needs of all our clients within the wider Quantock area and its villages. I look forward to next year's opportunity to list the leaps forward we will have made in the coming year.





TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2023 TO 31 MARCH 2024

FOREWORD

The Trustees had two overriding aims during the year. The Quantock Foodbank would play its part in:

- Tackling the ongoing crisis of Food Poverty and
- Contributing to the reduction in harmful emissions fuelling climate change.

Research published in a working paper, led by the University of Bristol, claims schools have increasingly stepped in and are now the biggest source of charitable food and household aid for families struggling with the cost-of-living crisis. The report, reveals that there are more than 4,000 school-based 'food banks' in primary and secondary schools across England, which equates to one in every five schools running one. The study also found school food banks are more prevalent in deprived areas and schools; highlighting the severity of child food insecurity and the challenges facing low-income families. It calls for greater awareness amongst policy makers and reform, including an overhaul of the social security system, to address the growing issue.

The survey data used in the study indicates food banks exist in more than a fifth (21%) of schools and this rises to a third (33%) in schools with high numbers of students from deprived backgrounds. Charitable and third sector organisations, chiefly The Trussell Trust operating 1,646 food banks and The Independent Food Aid Network who have identified another 1,172 food banks, are key players. But the report suggests that the latest data indicates schools now outstrip this, running an estimated 4,250 'food banks'.

However, presenting facts from raw data may lead to false conclusions. The nature of a school food bank is not defined and many subscribed to, and had a weekly pallet of food delivered from Fareshare. In some instances, staffing constraints meant parents and students had unmonitored access, producing unwanted consequences. So the two providers are in a totally different category, fundamentally different, and cannot practically be compared; although it is true that access to Fareshare items offers a little extra each week, which may prevent families from needing the formal support of food banks and pantries.

Reform of our social security system is not the 'silver bullet' which will solve such a complex issue. With the rising influence of AI and automation in the jobs market and a widening global wealth gap, guaranteed income schemes have also been put forward as part of the solution to growing inequality. The most comprehensive system is known as universal basic income (UBI), defined by the World Bank as:

"A programme to be delivered in cash, unconditionally and to everyone. Its design features – all in cash, no conditions, and no targeting – challenge current practices to varying degrees." It says only a handful of countries have trialled UBI schemes and no country has one in place long-term.

The Welsh government's UBI pilot was launched to address the particular challenges faced by young people leaving local authority or foster care and transitioning into adulthood. It runs until May 2025 with the final evaluation, by Cardiff University, expected in 2027. However, it has announced that its UBI project will not be continued after the initial pilot ends in 2025 because of the cost.

There are other implications to be aware of which impact on food insecurity, including the effects of global climate change from which we are all likely to suffer. Consequentially, food insecurity looks likely to stay for the foreseeable future. Looking into such a future is not particularly easy, but the Trustees were prepared to face the challenge it presented, turning a vision into reality through dedication, strategy, and resilience. They were rewarded for their perseverance when their actions brought the vision to life, and the new all electric Mobile Pantry arrived.

On the day we took delivery of the new vehicle, an article in the Financial Times revealed that: "New members of the global super-rich gained more of their assets through inheritance than through wealth creation", the first time that this has been recorded. The great wealth transfer was "really gaining momentum from elderly baby boomers and Generation X to millennials and younger". However, it was really interesting to note that: whilst geopolitics was at the forefront of ultra-high-net-worth individuals' investment decisions, younger elites were far more likely to consider the societal impact of their assets than their parents. As the global wealth gap continues to widen and those in poverty increase, a quote in the article states that: "the key is to make sure that the next generation is properly prepared to handle the responsibility."

Without a shadow of doubt, our sponsors do take that responsibility seriously, sharing their wealth, time, and expertise with an unmatched generosity of spirit. The Quantock Foodbank is incredibly grateful to them, and we hope that they are satisfied with the outcome of their unstinting support and investment in the Charity, especially when they see the new all electric Mobile Pantry providing a service to those who had little or no access in and around the Quantock villages.

Our wonderful, loyal, volunteers, rather than live a quiet life of retirement, do what is needed for as long as they can, devoting their time and energy to serving others and living the prayer of St Ignatius of Loyola.

'Lord, teach us to be generous, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labour and not to look for any reward, except that of knowing that we do your will.'

The Quantock Foodbank is a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation)
Charity Number: 1189991.

Registered address: 35 Brook Road, Williton, Taunton TA4 4TE

Email address: quantockfoodbank@gmail.com Telephone: 07483 815122

Operating address: The Annexe, Harbour Road, Watchet TA23 0AQ

Following the resignation of a Trustee in September 2023, the Trustees co-opted the Secretary to the Trustees as an Officer of the Charity. Seven meetings were held during the year and the Charity Trustees were as follows:

Name	Office Held	Representing
Clive Wooldridge	Chair	CtWW
Councillor John Irven	Banking Officer Financial Governance Team	Watchet Town Council
Marlene Mason	Company Secretary & Treasurer Financial Governance Team	CtWW
Councillor Peter Payne	Internal Auditor Financial Governance Team	Williton Parish Council
Susan Rose	Premises Trustee	Methodist Trustees
Jane Scott - appointed November 2023	Secretary	Trustees
Sam Searle	Bank Signatory	CtWW
Izzy Silvester		Referring Agencies
Catherine Benham		CtWW
Julie Pelling - resigned September 2023		CtWW
Jane Sperring - appointed May 2023		CtWW

The Foodbank and Pantries were dependent on Trustees and Volunteers in key positions:

Marlene Mason	General oversight of daily operations; Administration
Sam Searle	Yard operations; Maintenance of vehicle; Supervision of drivers
John Irven and Sam Searle	Driver training
Daphne Milton and Jackie White	Receipt of food donations; Control of stock levels; Stock monitoring and Crating up supplies for three pantries each week
Andrew Marshall	Driver Stogursey and Nether Stowey
Anna Thomas	Crew Stogursey and Nether Stowey
Kim Martin and Jane Wynne	Drivers Williton
Sharon Vandepeer	Crew Williton

The Foodbank had 17 Volunteers in total including those working in the Foodbank and Pantries, and those making collections.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Charity's governing document, a Constitution of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation whose only voting members are its charity trustees ('Foundation' model constitution), was adopted on 15 May 2019 and subsequently revised on 25 March 2021.

Trustees may be appointed by one of the established churches in Watchet or Williton and/or by Watchet Town Council or Williton Parish Council (the appointing bodies), who must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO. The churches concerned include, but are not limited to, Saint Peter's Church of England, Saint Decuman's Church of England, Watchet Methodist Church, Williton Methodist Church, Watchet Baptist Church, Watchet Salvation Army Corps and Watchet Roman Catholic Church.

All Trustees give their time and skills voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.

RISK MANAGEMENT STATEMENT

Trustees confirm that they have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and satisfied themselves that systems or procedures are established in order to manage those risks.

Operational Risk Assessments have also been carried out in respect of planned new activity at Stogursey, Nether Stowey and Williton where the Mobile Pantry will operate.

The new Conflicts of Interest Policy requires Trustees to complete an annual declaration of interests form in addition to any declarations of interest made in respect of the business of a particular meeting. Trustees are elected and re-elected at the time of the Annual General Meeting; officers of the charity are elected at the first meeting after the AGM and Declaration of Interest Forms will require completion by all trustees at this time.

Development of a policy on serious incident reporting is in progress and will be retained as an item for action until complete.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

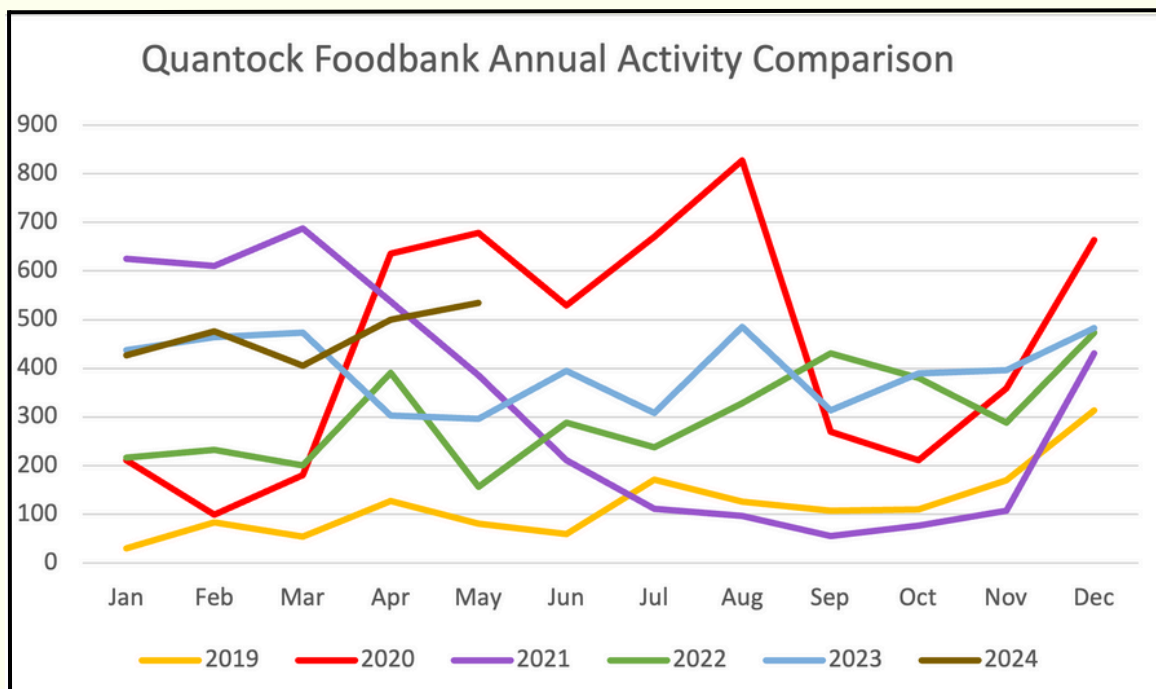
The purposes of the charity can be summarised as: The prevention or relief of poverty in Watchet, Williton and surrounding area by the provision of food, essential toiletries, and household items to people in need; working with professional partners to restore dignity, maintain health and support efforts to regain independence and stability, and providing support to access or signposting to relevant agencies, advisory or information services.

The main activity undertaken by the Foodbank is the distribution of ambient temperature food products, toiletries and other essential household items collected and/or donated by local shops and village stores, churches, individuals, schools and other community groups. The majority of clients are assessed and referred to the Foodbank or the Pantry by front-line professionals, however the Foodbank does act on emergency calls and messages before referring them to an appropriate agency for ongoing support.

Communicating with and maintaining a network of partners in the voluntary, public and private sector, which contributes to wrap-around service delivery, was made more difficult by Somerset Council's declaration of a financial emergency; resulting in extensive cuts to services and withdrawal of funding to charitable and community organisations. Providers facing greater workloads with less staff and diminished funds to support clients appropriately, referred them to the Foodbank and others such as Village Agents, in the hope that onward connections could be made locally.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Referrals to the Food Pantry continued to soar in the first quarter of 2024 as food prices continued to rise, even if at a lower rate. The extremely wet winter, with flooded fields, had an impact on the supply and cost of fresh vegetables, with broccoli and cauliflowers having to be imported.



The impact on wheat, barley, oats and oilseed rape harvests meant price rises on bread and biscuits. Meanwhile extreme weather globally drove up the price of cocoa, olive oil, rice, and soybeans, and people were struggling to accommodate the continually rising prices in their weekly budget. Many clients expressed delight when coffee, cakes, or chocolate treats were available on the pantry, as they could not afford them otherwise.

In the two years from April 2022 to March 2024, the Food Foundation's basket of food had increased by 24.1% outstripping any increases in benefits or wages. The cost of vegetables had risen by 39% on average, with some items like carrots increasing by as much as 150%. This dramatic increase in the cost of food on supermarket shelves has had a profound impact on people and their ability to eat a complete and healthy diet. Of 8 million people surveyed in January 2024, 44.2% of households who had experienced food insecurity, reported to have purchased less vegetables, and 59.9% said they had cut back on purchasing fruit.

To make healthy foods more affordable, it would help if the cost of healthy and sustainable diets were taken into account when setting benefits levels and the national living wage, and more use could be made of taxes to rebalance prices of healthy and unhealthy foods. In the meantime, it is therefore imperative that, whatever the cost, the Quantock Foodbank's Eat Well to Keep Well project continues.

Food Safety and Hygiene Inspection

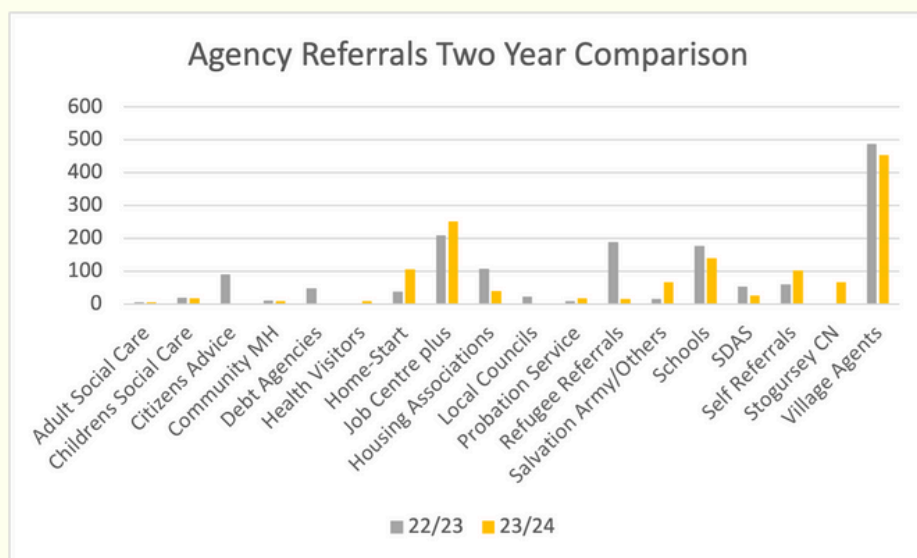
An inspection was carried out by Somerset Council on the premises of the Foodbank, at the Annexe and on the Mobile Pantry Vehicle. The highest Food Hygiene Rating of 5, Very Good, was awarded and certificates issued for the Annexe and the Vehicle.

Volunteer Training

Congratulations to the five volunteers who completed the Level 2 Food Safety course and, having achieved a pass on ten modules, were awarded their certificates.

Agency Referrals

Referral numbers will always fluctuate between services, however the drop in referrals made from 2022/23 to 2023/24 was due to the cessation of referrals from Citizens Advice, and mostly single Ukrainian refugees finding homes and work. Concurrently there was a rise in overall numbers of families accessing the Foodbank, as evidenced by an increase of more than 600 children.



Mini Police

Mini Police is delivered in Knights Templar school with the support of local Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs). The scheme provides a fun and interactive way to introduce children to a positive experience of policing and to get them involved in the local community, developing a sense of moral justice and social responsibility. As a response to what they had learnt, the children decided to have a food collection for those in need in Watchet. The Foodbank was delighted to receive an invitation to see them in their Mini Police uniforms at one of their sessions; to talk to them, answer any questions and receive the donations which they had collected.

THE PANTRY PILOT

The Pantry in Watchet continued to be the only point of access for communities across the Quantock Area whilst Commissioning, Driver training, Risk Assessments, and Test runs were taking place in order to commence operations with the new Mobile Pantry.

On the Watchet Pantry, we did find time to disseminate Public Health information; provide a recipe and ingredients, and partner with 'Contains Art' who distributed Bags of Art Materials for children in different age groups.

In May, the Coronation of King Charles III took place and all pantry members at that time were given a commemorative tin of Biscuits.



Are your child's MMR vaccinations up to date?

Over 102,000 children starting primary school in England are at risk of catching measles.

If your child has missed their first or second dose of the MMR vaccine, contact your GP practice to book an appointment.

If you are unsure if your child is due a vaccination or has missed a vaccination, check their red book or contact your GP practice.



Measles was on the rise again with the start of the new school term, and parents were reminded that their children were at risk if they had missed their first or second vaccinations.

Top Tips for Energy Saving leaflets were distributed which included a link to the Martyn Lewis website outlining cost efficient ways to heat the person not the home.

top tips: energy saving

- 1 Turn your thermostat down by one degree**
You can save up to £100 a year by turning your thermostat down by one degree. Energy Saving Trust says dropping the temperature by one degree could save £100 a year on average for a typical home.
- 2 Fill your dishwasher and washing machine**
This means you will be doing less loads of washing and drying. Dishwashers and washing machines are most efficient when they are full.
- 3 Invest in a heated airer**
A 2-year heated airer can dry your laundry in half the time and save you £100 a year on the cost of drying clothes. Energy Saving Trust says a 2-year heated airer can save you £100 a year on the cost of drying clothes.
- 4 Book a LEAF visit (Local Energy Advice Partnership)**
LEAF is a free service that is helping people keep warm and reduce their energy bills without costing them any money. You can get a LEAF visit from a local energy adviser. They will check your home for energy saving opportunities and give you advice on how to save money.
- 5 Heat the humber, not the home!**
This advisory page by Martin Lewis outlines the most cost efficient ways to heat your car and car seat which have this winter been £100.

enquiries@navigatecharity.org.uk
www.navigatecharity.org.uk
01823 299050

happy new year

for all your support in 2024
it's a great 2024!

MONEY MANAGEMENT WORKSHOPS & COURSES

Navigate the Money Maze

Navigate the Money Maze is a series of interactive workshops and courses designed to give everybody the information, tips and tools to help them manage their money with confidence.

Our courses and workshops are available to anyone living in our funded areas of Devon or Somerset, both face-to-face and online.

Learn to Manage Money

Learning to manage money involves planning and budgeting, making the process fun and engaging.

We work with you to understand your individual priorities. We want you to have a workshop feeling empowered to make your own financial decisions.

Those who complete the course will receive the Navigate the Money Maze Certificate of Attendance.

Course Topics

- 1. Money: Financial Literacy
- 2. Saving and Investing
- 3. Budgeting and Money Management
- 4. Personal Safety: Creditworthiness Building
- 5. Understanding Pay and Pensions
- 6. Debt: Saving Money

If you are looking for a course to attend please check out the 'Next Workshops' section below and register for the event or contact enquiries@navigatecharity.org.uk 01823 299050 to find out more.

Where appropriate, clients were signposted to Money Management courses which included budgeting, saving, and borrowing, and making financial decisions.

A recipe with all ingredients provided:
Avocado toast with poached eggs – nutritious and simple.

HOW TO MAKE AVOCADO TOAST WITH EGGS

The first step is to toast the bread and mash the avocados. You can mash it in a bowl with pepper and lemon juice, or limit clean-up and just mash it with a fork on the toasted bread.

THE MOBILE PANTRY

The Mobile Pantry project took up much of our time during 2023, when not busy with the demands of the Foodbank and Pantry Pilot.

After a magnificent financial response from the whole of the Quantock Deanery and the wider Quantock Communities, we took delivery of the new electric vehicle complete with four solar panels on the roof to power the lights, fridge and other equipment. It was a very chilly St Andrew's Day in Watchet, with not a soul about, but the smiles on our faces were warm.



The Foodbank had acknowledged the Anglican Church's third and fifth 'Marks of Mission':

- 'To respond to human need by loving service and
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth'.

As we go about this service, we will not be producing any harmful greenhouse gases and, when empty, the vehicle will return with donations collected from parishes saving more pollution delivering to us. We will play our part in shrinking the Diocese of Bath and Well's carbon footprint to net zero by 2030.

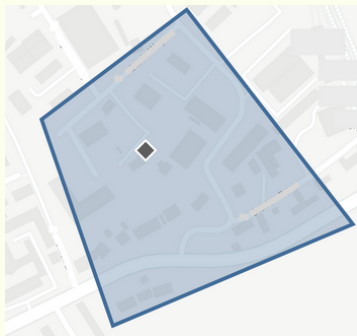


Our Faith, and our desire to put it into positive action, responding to human need by loving service, has seen the small mustard seed in 2018 grow into something which we could never have imagined.

Much preparation had been done before the delivery date including arranging insurance and a home for the vehicle to go to

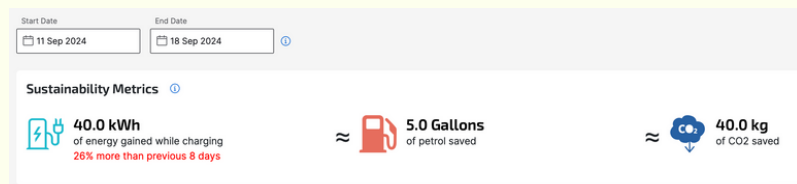


More work had been done at the yard to ensure that everything was available on site to perform regular maintenance tasks and to keep the vehicle charged. A separate meter and EV charging station were installed and drivers trained in the use of them and connection to the vehicle.



Ford Telematics is a live system which allows us to Geofence the vehicle within its base area, so that we are alerted if it is moved outside of our operating times. It also tracks the Mobile Pantry whenever it is operational giving real time updates on its movements, performance and battery health. Alerts are received when there are any service issues which require attention.

We look forward to reporting how much CO2 has been saved.



Shortly after the first Pantry run to Stogursey and Nether Stowey, the vehicle and its systems were put to the test. When the crew failed to return at the appointed time, the live tracking indicated that it had been stationary for some time on Putsham Hill and a call was made to the crew. The road was closed through Kilve due to an accident and our driver was reversing back up the hill, before making the homeward journey over the top of the Quantocks and down Crowcombe Hill!



This was the first big trial of the vehicle's capabilities after we had assured Ford that Porlock Hill was not in our area!! The crew also had quite a challenge negotiating the narrow road at Dead Woman's Ditch with many diverted vehicles coming from the other direction. However both crew and vehicle had survived with flying colours. Almost, but not quite, circumnavigating the whole of the Foodbank's area.





CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

The Quantock Foodbank

1189991

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
01/04/2023

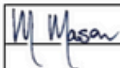
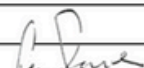
To

Period end date
31/03/2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
General	6,005		-	6,005	4,298
Children's Activities			-	-	10
Cookery and Recipe Project			-	-	-
Mobile Pantry Project		22,206	-	22,206	33,441
Eat Well to Keep Well / Pantry Pilot		8,371	-	8,371	6,098
Mobile Pantry Revenue		2,880	-	2,880	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	6,005	33,457	-	39,462	43,847
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	6,005	33,457	-	39,462	43,847
A3 Payments					
Domain Registration	119	300	-	419	
Equipment & Maintenance	5	72	-	77	675
Health and Safety	85	117	-	202	38
Cleaning Materials	30		-	30	
Pantry Bags		1,036	-	1,036	71
Food	53	7,256	-	7,309	6,956
Household and Toiletries		936	-	936	88
Volunteers / Training	500	107	-	607	22
Insurance, Premises & Room Hire	633	1,569	-	2,202	1,483
Office and Administration	354	38	-	392	310
Secure Parking and Pantry Pilot Transport	255	3,012	-	3,267	253
Sub total	2,034	14,443	-	16,477	9,896
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Ford E-Transit & Trolley	-	71,901	-	71,901	5,096
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	71,901	-	71,901	5,096
Total payments	2,034	86,344	-	88,378	14,992
Net of receipts/(payments)	3,971	- 52,887	-	- 48,916	28,855
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	16,563	84,531	-	101,094	72,238
Cash funds this year end	20,534	31,644	-	52,178	101,093

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

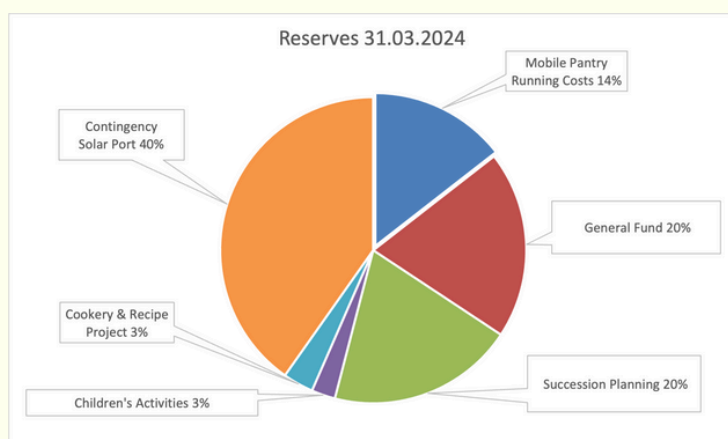
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank	20,484	31,613	-
	Cash	50	31	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	20,534	31,644	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	Gift Aid Reclaim	362	350	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Ford E-Transit with customised Box Body	Mobile Pantry	73,595	-
	Electric Powered Flat Bed Trolley	General	3,402	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	Sainsbury's Invoice 861366891	Pantry Pilot	210	28 March 2024
	Easter Bank Holiday - cleared 02/4/2024			
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Marlene Mason	18/06/2024	
		Peter Payne	18/06/2024	

Financial Governance and Reserves Policy

The Quantock Foodbank has a Financial Governance Team of three Trustees whose responsibilities are: Banking Officer; Treasurer and Company Secretary; and Internal Auditor. This ensures good financial control and a separation of powers, particularly as the Treasurer is also the Managing Trustee of the Foodbank.

Accounts are prepared each quarter and internally audited before presentation to the Trustees.

Reserves held are shown below and the General Fund reserve is higher in response to continuing global food insecurity. It is important to make the point that funds held in reserve are mainly available to the Charity because we are all Volunteers, and this enables us to plough every penny received from our wonderful Donors into provisions for those in need. It does have other benefits too in terms of keeping costs down, particularly insurance policies, which would otherwise be significantly more expensive if the Charity had employees. These funds can only be spent once unless they are replenished, and good financial management is therefore essential.



A statutory audit is not required for these accounts since the income of the Quantock Foodbank is under the threshold set by the Charity Commission, however an independent examination of the accounts has been completed.

This report and accounts has been approved by the Trustees after scrutiny by the Independent Examiner, whose certificate is appended.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees

Mr Clive Wooldridge, Chair

Dated 2 October 2024



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

**Independent examiner's
report on the accounts**

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the
trustees/members of**

Charity Name
The Quantock Foodbank CIO

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st March 2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

1189991

Set out on pages

1

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2024
As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed: Sarah Watling

Date: 06/07/24

Name: SARAH WATLING

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

MAAT.

Address:

THE OLD SCHOOLHOUSE, MONKSILVER
TAUNTON, SOMERSET. TA4 4HY.

Section B Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).



Thank you so much for your kindness this
afternoon and the amazing
selection of food! It's so appreciated and
lovely to have things I
wouldn't normally buy! Thank you again
xxx

PanelteX



TrustFord



**WITH THANKS
TO OUR
PROJECT
PARTNERS**

— COOK —

Handle-iT



Mentor
TRAINING

**FINANCED BY THE PEOPLE
AND COMMUNITIES
OF THE QUANTOCK AREA**

THE QUANTOCK FOODBANK

England & Wales - Charity number 1189991

Accounts



Quantock Foodbank

April 2022 - March 2023

ANNUAL REPORT



From the Chair

Mr Clive Wooldridge

This year has been exciting, yet at the same time somewhat frustrating due to reasons far beyond our control! I told you last year of our decision to make the Food Pantry a mobile service, enabling us to take the Pantry out to the villages around the Quantock area, saving our users the difficult task of trying to get into Watchet at a time when local transport is almost non-existent. I was pleased to tell you that we had ordered a new vehicle, which would make the Quantock Foodbank one of the first in the country to pioneer a customised electric vehicle visiting local villages, taking the Food Pantry to our users rather than asking them to come to us!

Unfortunately, vehicle manufacturers including Ford, had supply chain issues and instability. Increases in raw material costs, a tight labour market, and semiconductor chips in short supply, caused production problems; added to which there was incredibly high demand for the new E-Transit. In June these problems eased and our chassis arrived for customisation in July – along with fleets of others! So that, as I write, we are still waiting patiently for the big day when we can begin commissioning trials of our Mobile Pantry. However, my father always told me that anything good is worth waiting for; meanwhile, we continue to prepare for the start of our exciting new service.

In the interim, we have continued to run the Food Pantry from Watchet with huge success, providing a service which our users have found even more essential during the recent cost of living crisis than they did before.

I must take this opportunity to pay tribute to our volunteers and especially to Marlene Mason our treasurer and co-ordinator. Marlene has undergone eye surgery recently which meant someone else had to step up to co-ordinate things on a day-to-day basis. Daphne Milton, unsurprisingly, took over the role at short notice, and has been looking after everything exceptionally well during Marlene's recuperation. I also recognise that we are very fortunate to have an excellent team of volunteers, many of whom are more than capable of keeping the Foodbank and Pantry functioning effectively, whatever challenges present themselves.



Quantock Foodbank

I know that the operation of the Mobile Pantry will make more demands on our volunteers but I have no doubt they will do all we ask of them quietly and with calm efficiency. The same holds true for my committee of trustees, who work hard behind the scenes and our secretary, Jane Scott, who keeps us all in order and performing well. Thank you all very much!

Lastly, and of the greatest importance, my appreciation extends to our immense number of generous donors, as without them we could not operate. My grateful thanks to you all.

Hopefully my next Chair's letter will be able to reflect on the success of the Mobile Pantry and a chance to look forward to further great experiences together. For now, may I repeat my thanks to all those who continue to make the Foodbank and Food Pantry a quite remarkable success story, and a great benefit to all who use it.

I would like to finish by restating our mantra of the last couple of years, which appears to have become our Mission Statement.

"Wherever we are, whatever it costs, for as long as it takes."

I am so proud that everyone involved in running this great enterprise keeps this firmly in mind and, I am sure, will continue to do so into our most hopeful future.

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2022 TO 31 MARCH 2023**

FOREWORD

Looking back to 2018 where we began, we have come a long way in terms of how we think, operate, and respond to the needs of our communities. Time does not stand still and neither have we; changing our focus to meet the existing challenges, whether that has been Covid 19, post Covid related health issues both physical and mental, overstretched Health and Social Care services, or soaring inflation with devastating consequences. The adjustment of the population to post Covid life had been expected to take some time, but the outbreak of the war in Ukraine and resulting consumer price inflation, reaching record highs not seen for around forty years, placed even more stress on families and individuals.

However these were not the only issues; the vexing problem of income inequality had, according to the Office for National Statistics, 'increased by 1.3 percentage points to 35.7% when comparing financial year ending 2021 to FYE 2022. This was driven by a reduction in mean disposable income in the fifth poorest households (3.4%), attributed to reduced original income and cash benefits.' Yet, 'there was an increase in mean disposable income of the fifth richest households of similar magnitude (3.3%), driven by increased original income.' The ONS calculated that the richest 10% of British households held 43% of all wealth in 2020, while the poorest 50%, by contrast, owned just 9% and their income fell by 7.5% in 2022.

A sobering report published by the cross-party Poverty Strategy Commission found that 'households in poverty spend 16% of their income on childcare, and these exorbitant costs prevent parents from working'. The Food Pantry sees families in low paid employment who are worse off than those on benefits. 'Poverty rates remain stubbornly high with 1 in 3 children in poverty and 1 in 10 people in deep poverty'. The PSC concludes that 'the "resource gap" faced by 6 million families in poverty amounts to £6,000 per family per year. In other words, it would take £36 billion to bring them all a hair's breadth above the poverty line.'

It is against this background that the Trustees' report sets out what the Foodbank and, more particularly, the Food Pantry has been doing to relieve some of these pressures in the Quantock Foodbank's localities.

The Quantock Foodbank is a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation)
Charity Number: 1189991.

Registered address: 35 Brook Road, Williton, Taunton TA4 4TE

Email address: quantockfoodbank@gmail.com Telephone: 07483 815122

Operating address: The Annexe, Harbour Road, Watchet TA23 0AQ

Following the resignation of a Trustee in February 2023, a formal nomination was sought from the appropriate appointing body. Pending a formal nomination, a member of the appointing body's organisation joined meetings of Trustees. A resolution was passed by Trustees giving voting rights to the temporary nominee.

A Meeting Secretary was appointed by Trustees in February 2023.

During the reporting period, six meetings were held and Charity Trustees were as follows:

	Office Held	Representing
Clive Wooldridge	Chair	CtWW
Councillor John Irven	Banking Officer Financial Governance Team	Watchet Town Council
Marlene Mason	Company Secretary & Treasurer Financial Governance Team	CtWW
Councillor Peter Payne	Internal Auditor Financial Governance Team	Williton Parish Council
Susan Rose	Premises Trustee	Methodist Trustees
Joy Rownes (resigned February 2023)	Bank Signatory	CtWW
Sam Searle	Bank Signatory	CtWW
Izzy Silvester		Referring Agencies
Catherine Benham		CtWW
Julie Pelling (resigned September 2023)		CtWW
Jane Sperring Temporary nominee February 2023 – May 2023 Formally appointed May 2023		CtWW

In addition to the Trustees named above, the Foodbank was dependent on other key post holders:

Marlene Mason Operational Manager
Daphne Milton Team Leader
Paul Foreman Project Lead, Pantry Pilot
Jane Scott Secretary to the Trustees

The Foodbank had 15 Volunteers in total including those working in the Foodbank and its projects, and those making collections and deliveries.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity's governing document, a Constitution of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation whose only voting members are its charity trustees ('Foundation' model constitution), was adopted on 15 May 2019 and subsequently revised on 25 March 2021.

Trustees may be appointed by one of the established churches in Watchet or Williton and/or by Watchet Town Council or Williton Parish Council (the appointing bodies), who must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO. The churches concerned include, but are not limited to, Saint Peter's Church of England, Saint Decuman's Church of England, Watchet Methodist Church, Williton Methodist Church, Watchet Baptist Church, Watchet Salvation Army Corps and Watchet Roman Catholic Church.

All Trustees give their time and skills voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.

Risk Management Statement

Trustees confirm that they have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and satisfied themselves that systems or procedures are established in order to manage those risks.

In particular, during the period covered by this report, they have reviewed two policies to ensure that they still manage operational risks effectively in the following areas: Equality and Diversity, and Safeguarding. In addition, access control, password management, network security, data protection and disaster recovery have been reviewed, and a Cyber Security Policy adopted.

Operational Risk Assessments have also been carried out in respect of planned new activity.

The Quantock Foodbank's domain has been secured for a further five years, and five new domains secured for the Quantock Food Pantry against any commercial use of the name.

Objectives and Activities

The purposes of the charity can be summarised as: The prevention or relief of poverty in Watchet, Williton and surrounding area by the provision of food, essential toiletries, and household items to people in need; working with professional partners to restore dignity, maintain health and support efforts to regain independence and stability, and providing support to access or signposting to relevant agencies, advisory or information services.

The main activity undertaken by the Foodbank is the distribution of ambient temperature food products, toiletries and other essential household items collected and/or donated by local shops and village stores, churches, individuals, schools and other community groups. The majority

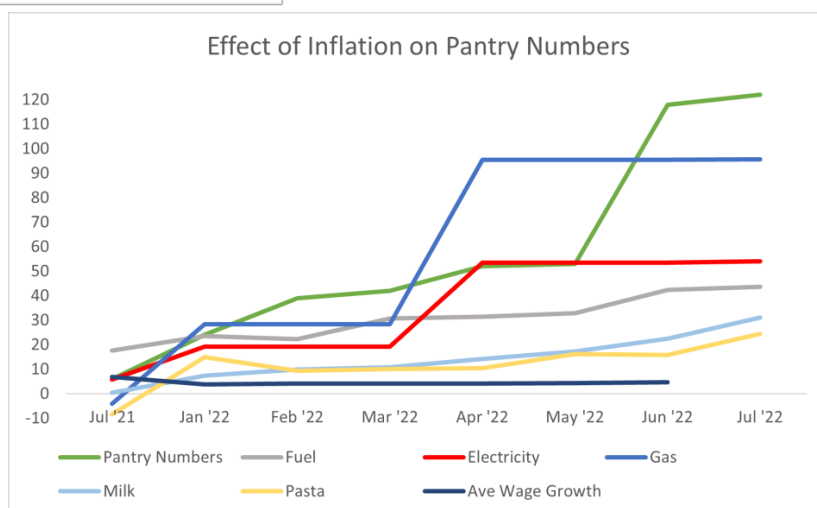
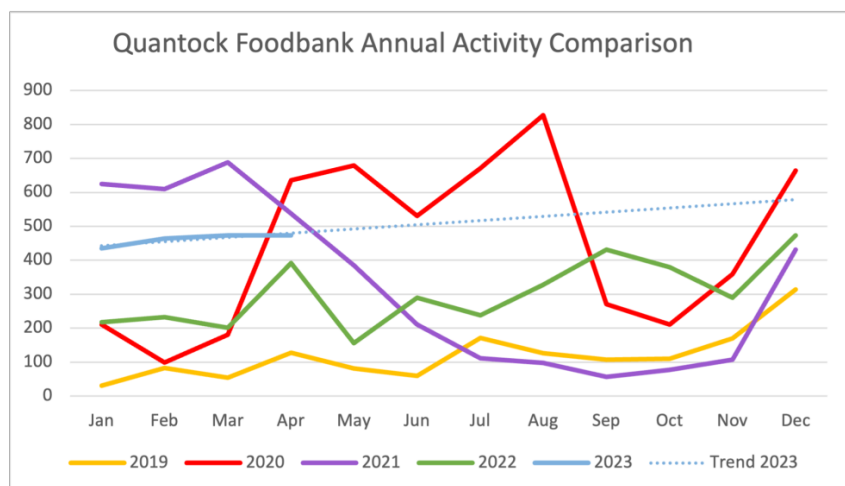
of clients are assessed and referred to the Foodbank or the Pantry by front-line professionals, however the Foodbank does act on emergency calls and messages before referring them to an appropriate agency for ongoing support.

The Foodbank maintains a network of partners in the voluntary, public and private sector, remaining in constant communication and collaboration with them and contributing to wrap-around service delivery.

The operation of the Foodbank is entirely dependent on donors and volunteers, and the Trustees wish to acknowledge their generous contribution to our Charity. They are at the heart of all we do and without their enormous help we would struggle to achieve all we attempt to or think and plan in such a big way for the future.

Achievements and Performance

The first quarter of 2023 showed a steady increase in people accessing the Food Pantry with numbers not far below Covid lockdown levels, despite the Government's intervention to help people offset the cost of energy.



The second chart graphically highlights the effect that inflation had on household finances and the stark choices that faced many families, turning them to the Food Pantry for support. Everyday essentials; pasta, butter and milk, had risen between 24% and 30% whilst the increase in confectionery was 4% and alcohol even lower at 2.8%, holding the overall percentage down, but the latter attracted no comment from the media.

The Foodbank's Projects



The Quantock Foodbank is listed as a Trusted Support provider on the Living Better Website and has continued to focus on the Health and Wellbeing of its clients. It has supported crucial Public Health messaging, with its volunteer team taking an inclusive, non-judgemental, person centred approach.

A Healthy Start

At the Pantry, it became apparent that eligible families had not applied or had difficulty applying for the Healthy Start Scheme. Posters were displayed and, in some cases, where requested, families referred to Home-Start for additional support. The Pantry also continued to provide fresh fruit, vegetables, and eggs!



Prevention is Better than Cure

Various posters were used to alert parents to viruses circulating; these included RSV, the most common cause of bronchiolitis in children under two. A few of the little ones we saw at the pantry had been taken or admitted to hospital so parents were also encouraged to get pre-schoolers vaccinated against flu.



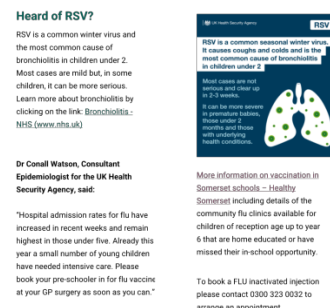
The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has warned parents and carers to be alert for signs of Step A infections across the country. But what are the warning signs?

What is Step A?
Step A is a bacteria that is sometimes found in the throat or on the skin that can cause a range of illnesses, including strep throat and impetigo. Step A can also cause scarlet fever, as well as a much rarer illness called invasive Group A Strep (iGAS).

What is scarlet fever?
Scarlet fever is a contagious infection that mostly affects young children. It is usually mild and can be treated with antibiotics but spreads very easily.

The symptoms of scarlet fever are a sore throat, headache and high temperature along with a fine body rash with a sandpaper-like feel. The rash usually starts on the chest and tummy and may spread. It will normally look pink or red on pale skin but may be harder to see on darker skin, though you will still be able to feel it.

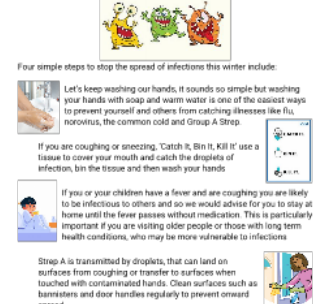
Another symptom is a white coating on the tongue which peels, leaving the tongue red, swollen and covered in little bumps (strawberry tongue).



Last winter also saw an outbreak of Scarlet Fever and Strep A. and all clients visiting the pantry were urged to remember that the spread of infections could be prevented by regular handwashing and cleaning of handrails, door handles etc.

Eligible Adults were also reminded to get their vaccinations for Covid-19, and especially for Flu which was circulating again post lockdowns, and against which people had little natural immunity.

STOP THE SPREAD OF INFECTION THIS WINTER



While case numbers are high, parents should be on the lookout for the symptoms of scarlet fever so that appropriate and timely treatment can be given. Scarlet fever is usually a mild illness that clears up quickly after a course of antibiotics. It often starts with a sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting, followed by a rash that feels like sandpaper to the touch. The rash usually develops after 12 to 48 hours, typically on the chest and stomach first, then rapidly spreading to other parts of the body.

Know Your Numbers Week 2022

The Pantry offered blood pressure checks as part of 'Take the Measure It Challenge'. Twelve people responded, some of whom had not been to their local surgery since before Covid, and were provided with a card recording their blood pressure.

Know Your Numbers Week 2022	
NAME	DATE: 8 September
Systolic	
Diastolic	
Pulse	



A Warm Space and a Hot Drink



Like many other venues up and down the country, from October through to the end of March we provided very welcome drinks, snacks and a room which was warm!

Household Support Grants

We alerted eligible families to this vital support and handed out leaflets or referred them to other services for help in making an application.

Each year we are only able to highlight a few of our projects and activities, but try to mention some others elsewhere in the report.

The Pantry Pilot

Transitioning from Foodbank to Food Pantry took place during the year, with the exception of genuine emergencies which will always be responded to. Those clients who would normally have been referred for Foodbank parcels, were given free access to the pantry for a period of time specified by the referring agency. The benefits of this soon spread through the communities, with the result that families began to ask how they could access the Pantry.

The Pantry had served the purposes it was set up to achieve:

- Helping people to take back control and become more self-reliant
- Preventing some from reaching the point where emergency parcels were necessary, and granting longer term access to address problems of particular concern to case workers, including primary and acute healthcare.
- Demonstrating that there was inequality of access, which the Trustees have tried to mitigate by approving bus fare refunds to those who had access to public transport.

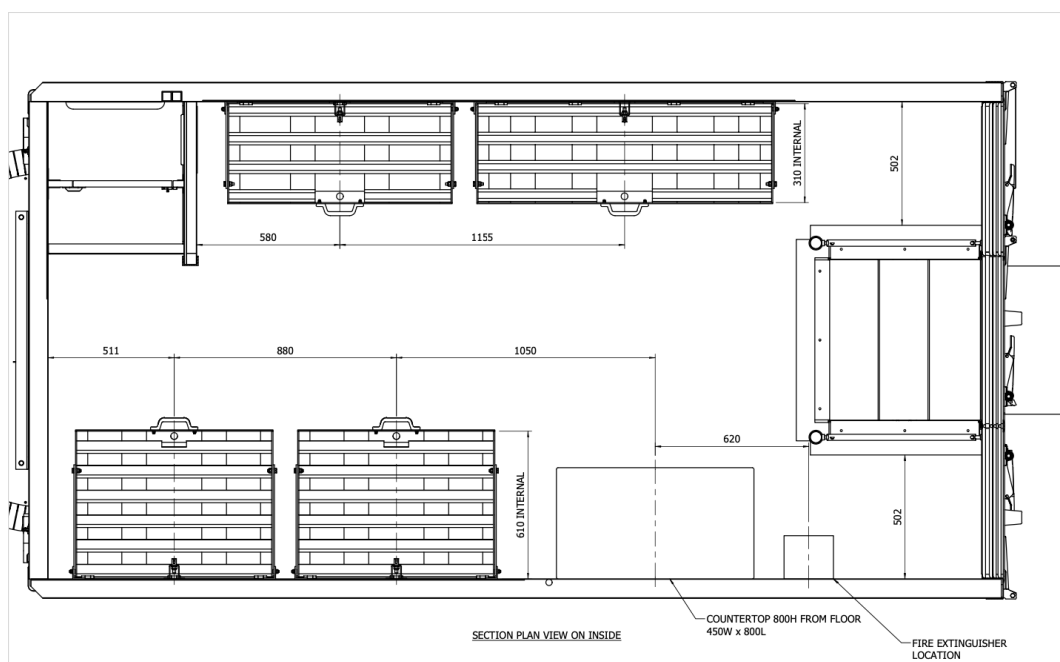
Another outcome was highlighted in a kind message from one of our partners:

"Huge thanks to the foodbank for the contribution they make to our communities and for being part of the solution for many who find themselves in food poverty. For many, I am certain, it prevents them being taken advantage of by loan sharks at their lowest financial point. As a family support worker working in this area I am grateful for the huge amount of work that goes into offering such a wonderful service to our community. And you are all volunteers! "

The Mobile Pantry Project

The first objective of the Mobile Food Pantry will be to roll out the successful static pantry pilot model in Watchet, to communities where public transport is not available and who have difficulty accessing the current pantry, by means of an electric vehicle customised for the work.

Before we could begin to address this challenge, we needed to ensure that the interior of the box body was designed in a way which would enable us to replicate the current pantry, using less than half the amount of space!

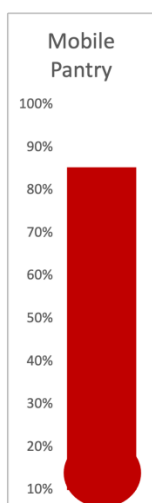


The Project Team has been kept busy working out the best measurements to deliver maximum useable shelf space using existing crates, designing a counter which would still allow customer space, and with everything folding down to maintain flexibility of the vehicle for future use. This was achieved by using the height of the interior and the shelves shown on the plan are three deep, giving us approximately the same length in total as the current pantry, although less width.

Many other considerations were still in progress when good news arrived that the electric chassis had been delivered to Kingston upon Hull, where it is now in a queue of vehicles awaiting customisation.

Fundraising

By the end of March 2023 we had the funds to pay for the chassis and the customised box body, thanks to our amazing supporters who have worked tirelessly to achieve this result.



Individual donations; Concerts; Busking; Produce sales; Prayer breakfasts; Coffee mornings; Open gardens; Book sales; Harvest festivals; Christmas carols and much more, contributed to keeping each and every one of our projects going strong and the shelves stocked to provide a generous pantry every Thursday.

Our donors provided everything from the very healthy.....

to the incredibly tempting!

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR OVERWHELMING GENEROSITY



Volunteers

Volunteering is a different way of giving, and we have survived another extremely busy year because of the commitment and loyalty shown by our trustees and volunteers. Without their consistency and sheer hard work, we would have been unable to function.



Another group of volunteers we are indebted to is the Stogursey Community Network who enable the families in their area to benefit from the Pantry by collecting and delivering particularly during the holidays and festive seasons.

Families struggling with the massive impact of continuing energy and food price increases on already strained budgets have cause to be thankful to them all.

Awards

The Charity received three awards, plus invitations to take part in various Somerset events and services marking special occasions in the life of the County, the Diocese of Bath & Wells and the local Church and Community. Some of these were:

The Millington Shield for the Foodbank's beneficial impact in Watchet

An invitation to present the oil for healing at the licensing of the new Vicar

A Heart of the Community Award and grant for the new Electric Vehicle

The Somerset County Chairman's Award for service to the community

An invitation to meet and welcome the new Bishop during his installation

An invitation to a Christmas High Tea for Volunteers at Williton Pavilion.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

The Quantock Foodbank	1189991
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Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 01/04/2022	To	Period end date 31/03/2023
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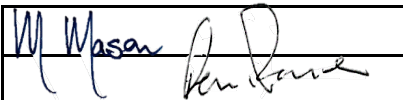
Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
General	4,298		-	4,298	6,030
Children's Activities		10	-	10	100
Cookery and Recipe Project			-	-	-
Mobile Pantry Project		33,441	-	33,441	17,914
Eat Well to Keep Well / Pantry Pilot		6,098	-	6,098	7,250
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	4,298	39,549	-	43,847	31,294
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	4,298	39,549	-	43,847	31,294
A3 Payments					
Fixtures and Fittings			-	-	
Equipment	154	521	-	675	718
Health and Safety	38		-	38	222
Cleaning Materials			-	-	53
Bags		71	-	71	148
Food	43	6,913	-	6,956	5,524
Household and Toiletries		88	-	88	42
Honoraria / Other Operational		22	-	22	399
Insurance, Premises & Room Hire	599	884	-	1,483	1,211
Office and Administration	260	50	-	310	233
Car Parking and Pantry Pilot Transport	235	18	-	253	235
Sub total	1,329	8,567	-	9,896	8,785
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Ford E - Transit Chassis Deposit	-	5,096	-	5,096	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	5,096	-	5,096	-
Total payments	1,329	13,663	-	14,992	8,785
Net of receipts/(payments)	2,969	25,886	-	28,855	22,509
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	13,593	58,645	-	72,238	49,729
Cash funds this year end	16,562	84,531	-	101,093	72,238

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in line with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (FRSSE) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank	16,418	84,481	-
	Cash	144	50	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	16,562	84,531	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Gift Aid Reclaim	215	790	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	Ford E-Transit Chassis balance payable	Mobile Pantry	45,923	
	Insulated Box Body and Fittings	Mobile Pantry	22,397	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		Marlene Mason	07/06/2023
		Peter Payne	07/06/2023

The outstanding Gift Aid reclaim noted above for donations received during the 2021/22 and 2022/23 tax years has been excluded from the accounts

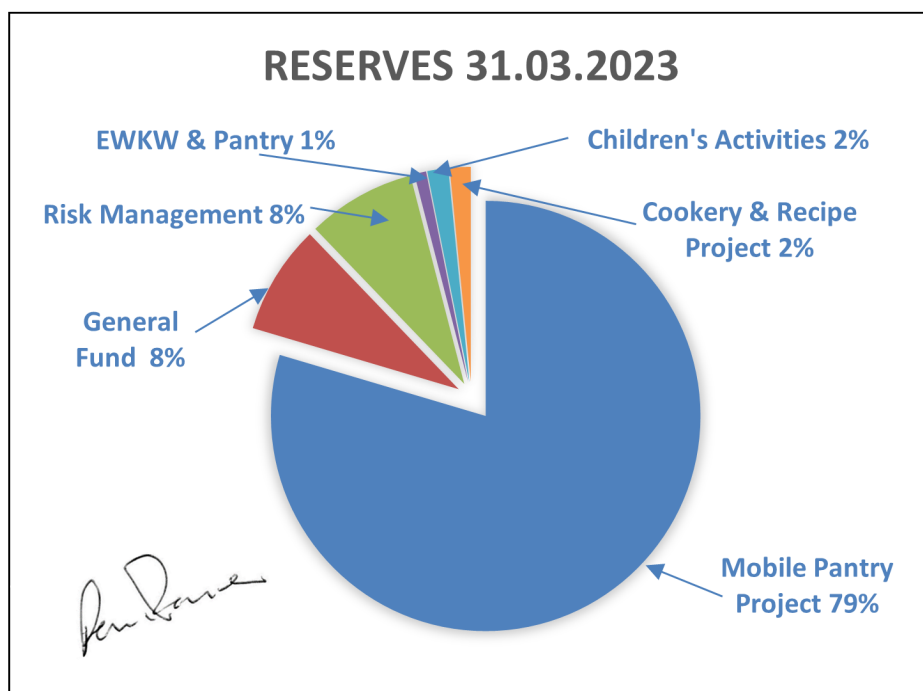
Financial Governance and Reserves Policy

The Quantock Foodbank has a Financial Governance Team of three Trustees whose responsibilities are: Banking Officer; Treasurer and Company Secretary; and Internal Auditor. This ensures good financial control and a separation of powers, particularly as the Treasurer is also the Operational Manager of the Foodbank.

Accounts are prepared each quarter and internally audited before presentation to the Trustees.

Invoices for the Mobile Pantry Electric Vehicle and Box Body have not been included in the accounts but have been shown under liabilities.

A statutory audit is not required for these accounts since the income of the Quantock Foodbank is under the threshold set by the Charity Commission, however an independent examination of the accounts has been completed.



This report and accounts has been approved by the Trustees after scrutiny by the Independent Examiner, whose certificate is appended

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees

Mr Clive Wooldridge, Chair

Dated 4 October 2023



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
The Quantock Foodbank CIO

On accounts for the year
ended

31st March 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1189991

Set out on pages

1

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2023

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Sarah Watling.

Date:

23/8/2023

Name:

SARAH WATLING.

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

AAT.

Address:

THE OLD SCHOOLHOUSE, MONKSILVER
TAUNTON, SOMERSET TA4 4HY.



**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO
NOMINATED US FOR AWARDS AND
INCLUDED US IN YOUR ACTIVITIES**

Registered address: 35 Brook Road, Williton, Taunton TA4 4TE
Registered Charity No. 1189991
Tel: 07483 815122 email: quantockfoodbank@gmail.com



**HPC
Community
Fund**

somerset
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



**Somerset West
and Taunton**

Accounts



**We could not
have done all
this**

**Without
you**



THANK YOU SUPPORTERS

Quantock Foodbank

**Trustees
Annual Report
April 2020 - March 2021**

Registered address: 35 Brook Road, Williton, Taunton TA4 4TE
Registered Charity No. 1189991
Tel: 07483 815122 email: quantockfoodbank@gmail.com



HPC
Community
Fund

somerset
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



**Somerset West
and Taunton**

**From the Chair
Mr Clive Wooldridge**

The first year of the Quantock Foodbank as a charitable incorporated organisation has certainly been an eventful one, and also for me as I have taken over the role of Chair from Revd Kathryn Flenley. Kathryn and her husband Ben have retired from their respective ministries in the area as Associate Vicar of the Benefice of Watchet and Williton and Area Dean of the Quantock Deanery. We have been unable to say goodbye to Kathryn in the way that we would have wished, Zoom is no substitute for a leaving party, however we wish them both well in their new home in West Sussex.

Thank you to Kathryn for her enormous enthusiasm, energy and practical support to Trustees and Volunteers alike, sharing the huge workload that engulfed the Foodbank as Covid-19 suspended all normal life. We shall certainly miss her.

I would also like to pay tribute to Cllr John Irven, who took on the role of acting chair until the formal process had been completed for nomination and election of a new chair. During this time he successfully steered the Foodbank through a protracted and turbulent dispute with NatWest Bank over several issues, the main one being their insistence that, as we had changed our legal status when we became a CIO, we were required to open a new account and close our existing one. This would have caused unacceptable disruption and distress to the Foodbank, particularly its donors. Thanks to John's tenacity through an extremely arduous process, challenging their operating systems and governance; he not only secured our legal right to continue using our existing account alongside the new one, but also obtained a full and unreserved apology and compensation from the bank.

We were honoured, as representatives of the Quantock Foodbank CIO, to be invited by Somerset Community Foundation to meet

Financial Governance and Reserves Policy

The Quantock Foodbank has a Financial Governance Team of three Trustees whose responsibilities are: Banking Officer; Treasurer and Company Secretary; and Internal Auditor. This ensures good financial control and a separation of powers, particularly as the Treasurer is also the Operational Manager of the Foodbank.

Accounts are prepared each quarter and internally audited before presentation to the Trustees.

The Covid-19 crisis has created a wave of generosity to the Foodbank and our finances are now in considerable surplus. This exceeds the Trustees policy of retaining a reserve to fund at least twelve months of normal operations in the event that financial donations fail to meet cash flow projections.

The foregoing report shows that a major new project was introduced in the Autumn of last year with donations made specifically for this purpose. If it is to be of real benefit to those in poverty Eat Well to Keep Well should continue, particularly whilst Covid-19 and its variants are causing havoc with health and economic wellbeing.

A statutory audit is not required for these accounts since the income of the Quantock Foodbank is under the threshold set by the Charity Commission, however an independent examination of the accounts is required.

Analysis of Reserves:	£
GENERAL FUNDS	
Eighteen months operational costs	8,000
Storage and Equipment	2,500
RESTRICTED FUNDS	
Covid-19 Programmes including EWKW	35,500
Cookery and Recipe Project	1,600
Holiday Activities	1,900

This report has been approved in principal by the Trustees subject to scrutiny by an Independent Examiner.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees



Mr Clive Wooldridge, Chair

Dated 27 May 2021

HRH The Earl of Wessex at the Royal Bath and West showground on Monday 17 May. Three hundred and sixty nine grant awards had been made from the Somerset Coronavirus Response and Recovery Fund, and six groups from across the County were chosen to be presented when the Earl and Countess were visiting the area.



I look forward to the future as Chair of the Foodbank encouraging fulfilment of its objectives, particularly its excellent work supporting people in our communities until they can return to a more normal way of life post Covid, and the projects which assist families and individuals to look after their health and support their immune systems to withstand the inevitable waves of this new virus.

We are not people of fear:
we are people of courage.

We are not people who protect our own safety:
we are people who protect our neighbours' safety.

We are not people of greed:
we are people of generosity.

We are your people God,
giving and loving,
wherever we are,
whatever it costs

For as long as it takes
wherever you call us.

Barbara Glasson President of the Methodist Conference



TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2020 TO 31 MARCH 2021

The Coronavirus crisis was the biggest call to action since WW2 and what came first for us as a nation was the needs of people in our communities not cherished systems. Those who showed ingenuity, flexibility and a selfless desire to serve before all else, many of them acting out their faith and putting their beliefs into practice, inevitably overcame the challenges presented in fighting a very different war. Too many, sadly, made the ultimate sacrifice and to them we owe a debt that can never be repaid. Yet it was a catalyst for positive change both as individuals and as a society and it brought out the best in us.

Flexibility enabled the Quantock Foodbank to be versatile and responsive to rapidly changing situations and the needs of our communities. At the start of the first lockdown Trustees and many new volunteers gave their time and transport as we moved from collection to delivery of parcels to prevent the spread of the virus, and the Methodist Church, which hosts the Foodbank, made their large schoolroom available to us as we scaled up to meet the increased demand. In the autumn of 2020 during the second lockdown the Methodist church had a masonry fall preventing use of our normal access. Thanks to their members' determination to keep the Foodbank operational we were able to continue without interruption, using the lift to access all levels of the building.

During the year covered by this report, the Trustees applied to the Charity Commission for charitable status and The Quantock Foodbank CIO was entered on the Register of Charities on 18 June 2020 with the following details:

The Quantock Foodbank CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

Charity Number: 1189991.

Registered address: 35 Brook Road, Williton, Taunton, Somerset TA4 4TE

Email address: quantockfoodbank@gmail.com Telephone: 07483 815122

Operating address: The Annexe, Harbour Road, Watchet, Somerset TA23 0AQ

Five meetings were held during this period and the Charity Trustees were as follows:

	Office Held	Representing
Mr Clive Wooldridge	Chair from 25 March 2021	
CLlr John Irvén	Acting Chair, Banking Officer and Financial Governance Team	Watchet Town Council
Mrs Marlene Mason	Company Secretary , Treasurer and Financial Governance Team	
CLlr Peter Payne	Financial Governance Team	Williton Parish Council
Mrs Sue Rose		Methodist Trustees
Mrs Joy Rownes	Bank Signatory	
Miss Sam Searle	Bank Signatory	
Mrs Izzy Silvester		Referring Agencies
Revd Kathryn Flenley	Chair until 13 January 2021	
Mrs Pauline Carpenter	from 27 May 2021 Secretary	
Mrs Catherine Benham	from 27 May 2021	
Mrs Julie Pelling	from 27 May 2021	

In addition to the Trustees named above, the Foodbank was dependent on other principal post holders:

Mrs Marlene Mason Operational Manager

Mrs Daphne Milton Leader of the Volunteer Team

The Foodbank had 30 Volunteers in total including those working in the Foodbank and those delivering.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity's governing document, a Constitution of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation whose only voting members are its charity trustees ('Foundation' model constitution), was adopted on 15 May 2019 and subsequently revised on 25 March 2021.

Trustees may be appointed by one of the established churches in Watchet or Williton and/or by Watchet Town Council or Williton Parish Council ("the appointing bodies"), who must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO. The churches concerned include, but are not limited to, Saint Peter's Church of England, Saint Decuman's Church of England, Watchet Methodist Church, Williton Methodist Church, Watchet Baptist Church, Watchet Salvation Army Corps and Watchet Roman Catholic Church.

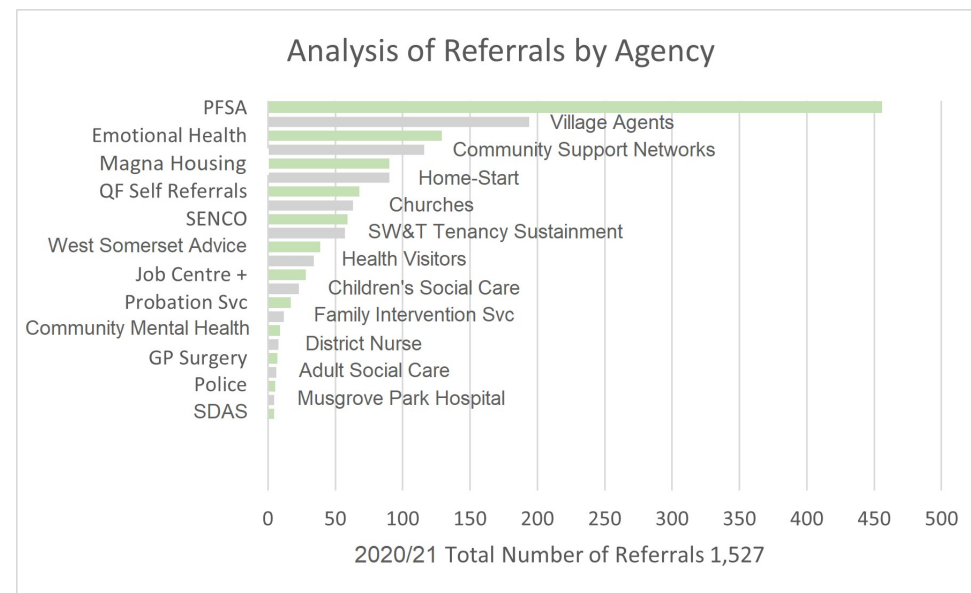
All Trustees give their time and skills voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.

Objectives and Activities

The purposes of the charity can be summarised as: The prevention or relief of poverty in Watchet, Williton and surrounding area by the provision of food, essential toiletries, and household items to people in need; working with professional partners to restore dignity, maintain health and support efforts to regain independence and stability, and providing support to access or signposting to relevant agencies, advisory or information services.

The main activity undertaken by the Foodbank is the distribution of ambient temperature food products, toiletries and other essential household items collected and/or donated by local shops and village stores, churches, individuals, schools and other community groups. The majority of clients are assessed and referred to the Foodbank by front-line professionals, however the Foodbank does act on emergency calls and messages before referring them on to an appropriate agency for ongoing support.

The Foodbank has maintained a network of partners in the voluntary, public and private sector, remaining in constant communication and collaboration with them and contributing to wrap-around service delivery.

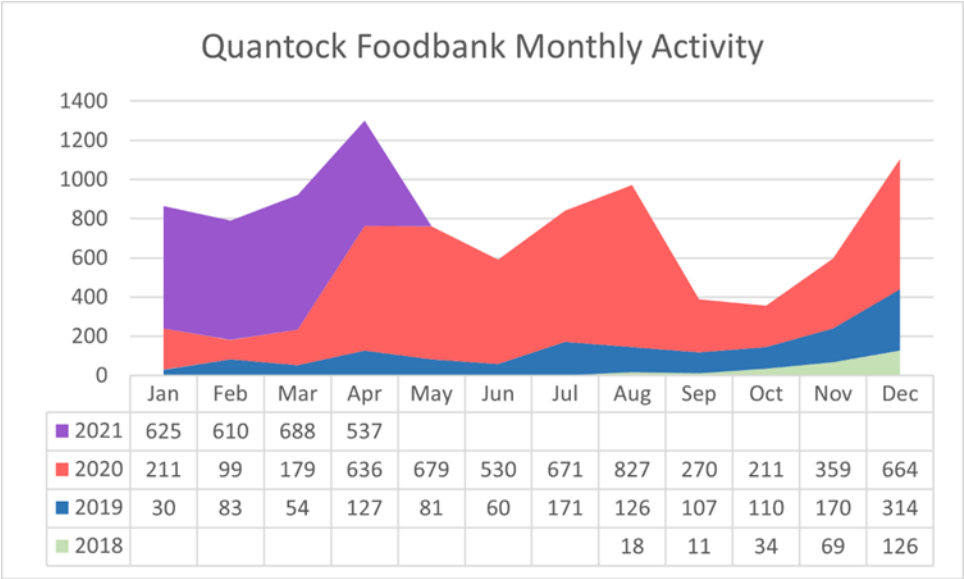


This pivot table showing the range of agencies referring clients during the year, confirms that the majority of referrals were for families with children. Just under one third of total referrals were from the schools Parent and Families Support Advisor.

The operation of the Foodbank is entirely dependent on volunteers and donations, and the Trustees wish to express their deepest appreciation for the overwhelming level of support given by people and communities throughout the Quantock area.

Achievements and Performance

The Quantock Foodbank is in its third year of operation and growth has been steadily increasing. However the start of this reporting year saw the country go into lockdown and the result was a four fold increase in demand. From April 2020 to March 2021 the Foodbank provided food, toiletries and essential household items to 6,770 people and of these 3,757 were babies and children. The stacked area chart highlights the sharp increase from previous years in the number of people accessing the foodbank



The year began with panic buying and foodbanks throughout the country facing acute shortages, as supermarkets restricted quantities purchased of any one item. The Community Council for Somerset set us up with wholesaler accounts and these helped us survive although they usually dealt with catering sizes. The stores in our surrounding villages also came to the rescue, as they ordered extra from their wholesalers to keep us in the stock we required, and teams of shoppers scoured the shelves of whichever supermarket they were visiting. The Foodbank opened five days per week to cope with the volume of food coming in and the demand for parcels to be delivered.

Throughout the late spring and summer we also became a hub every Wednesday for the reception and packing of FareShare surplus food, which the schools' PFSA and Emotional Health Worker then delivered to families in need. During July and August we ran a recipe project alongside this, adding extra items and matching simple recipes to the contents of the parcels

In the early Autumn there was concern at the lack of nutrient dense fresh food for clients dependent on the foodbank, especially as the country had been in lockdown for so long and was facing yet another one. The NHS was recommending Vitamin D supplements but those in poverty were unlikely to purchase them. Therefore, in the Autumn half term we introduced a new project 'Eat Well to Keep Well', using a local greengrocer to supply us with fresh fruit, vegetables and eggs which went out in an additional bag with every delivery. These were gratefully received and have become a standard part of the Foodbank's parcel.

Realizing that it was going to be a long dreary winter for children, we asked local churches if they would like to contribute donations towards Fairtrade Chocolate Advent Calendars instead of the usual harvest fare. The idea took hold with congregations, and the response was so great that every child in Watchet and Williton's first schools and nurseries were delighted to take home an Advent Calendar and Christmas story activity booklet.

Special Festive bags were added to the parcels at Christmas and again at Easter when activity peaked, and bags of toiletries and essential household items were sent out at regular intervals or when requested.

The Trustees gave their unqualified support to all of the aforementioned projects, having considered their duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance.

A special thank you must go to all our foodbank volunteers and volunteer drivers most of whom, with the exception of four days at Christmas and Easter, have worked, at risk and without a break, since the first lockdown in March 2020. In February, within the wider social care cohort, six foodbank volunteers were able to receive the Astra Zeneca vaccine at Taunton Racecourse and at the time of writing this report have had their second vaccination, giving them full protection.

Quarterly newsletters have been sent out to all our supporters, and other regular news shared in Village, Town, Church and Deanery publications, websites and Facebook.

In order to balance the amount of stock held on individual items and ensure sufficient supplies for distribution, posters have targeted the top items required. These have been most successful and we are incredibly grateful to all our supporters who have used them when shopping.





Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
01/04/2020

To

Period end date
31/03/2021

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
General	4,980		-	4,980	5,302
Holiday Activities		1,500	-	1,500	750
Cookery and Recipe Project		1,500	-	1,500	550
Covid-19		41,338	-	41,338	3,007
Eat Well to Keep Well		7,200	-	7,200	
NatWest Unresolved Complaint	500		-	500	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	5,480	51,538	-	57,018	9,609
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	5,480	51,538	-	57,018	9,609
A3 Payments					
Fixtures and Fittings	-		-	-	
Equipment	37	31		68	109
Health and Safety		310	-	310	63
Cleaning Materials		57	-	57	173
Bags	40	480	-	520	278
Food	39	12,431	-	12,470	3,924
Household and Toiletries	19	273	-	292	331
Other Operational		114		114	28
Insurance and Premises	599		-	599	599
Office and Administration	236	146	-	382	430
Car Parking	235		-	235	195
Sub total	1,205	13,842	-	15,047	6,129
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	1,205	13,842	-	15,047	6,129
Net of receipts/(payments)	4,275	37,696	-	41,971	3,480
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	6,311	1,447	-	7,758	4,278
Cash funds this year end	10,586	39,143	-	49,729	7,758

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank	9,806	39,143	-
	Cash	780	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	10,586	39,143	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	Gift Aid Reclaim	85	373	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	Veggie Patch Invoice 611 30 March	Eat Well Keep Well	412	04 April 2021
	Volunteer Honorarium 2020/21	General	392	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Marlene Mason	05/05/2021	
		Peter Payne	05/05/2021	



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the
trustees/members of

Charity Name

QUANTOCK FOODBANK

On accounts for the year
ended

31 MARCH 2021

Charity no
(if any)

1189991

Set out on pages

1

remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above
charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31.03.2021

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation
of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act
2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out
under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have
followed 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 (~~other than that disclosed below*~~) in connection with
the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material
respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of
the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection
with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a
proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Sarah Waring

Date:

8/9/2021

Name:

SARAH WARING

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

AAT

Address:

THE OLD SCHOOLHOUSE, MONKSILVER,
TAUNTON, SOMERSET TA4 4HY

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: sections and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.