

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

		Period start date			Period end date		
		Day 01	Month Jan	Year 2024	To	Day 31	Month Dec

Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity name **BLAENAU GWENT COMMUNITY AID**

Other names charity is known by **BLAENAU GWENT FOOD BANKS / FOUNDATIONS
SUPPORT SERVICE**

Registered charity number (if any) **1191264**

Charity's principal address **Church on the Rise**

54 Beaufort Rise

Beaufort Ebbw Vale

Postcode

NP23 5JQ

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	LYNDON HOLDING	CHAIR		CHARITY TRUSTEES
2	R. WAYNE EVANS	TREASURER		CHARITY TRUSTEES
3	JENNIFER MORGAN	TRUSTEE		CHARITY TRUSTEES
4	TOMMY SMITH	TRUSTEE		CHARITY TRUSTEES
5	ADELE JONES	TRUSTEE	20 th March 2024	CHARITY TRUSTEES
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17				
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19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
NOT APPLICABLE	

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
ACCOUNTANT	STEVE DRAKE	24 JAMES STREET EBBW VALE B. GWENT NP23 6JG

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

R. WAYNE EVANS

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Trust Deed
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Trust - CIO
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by Existing Trustees

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

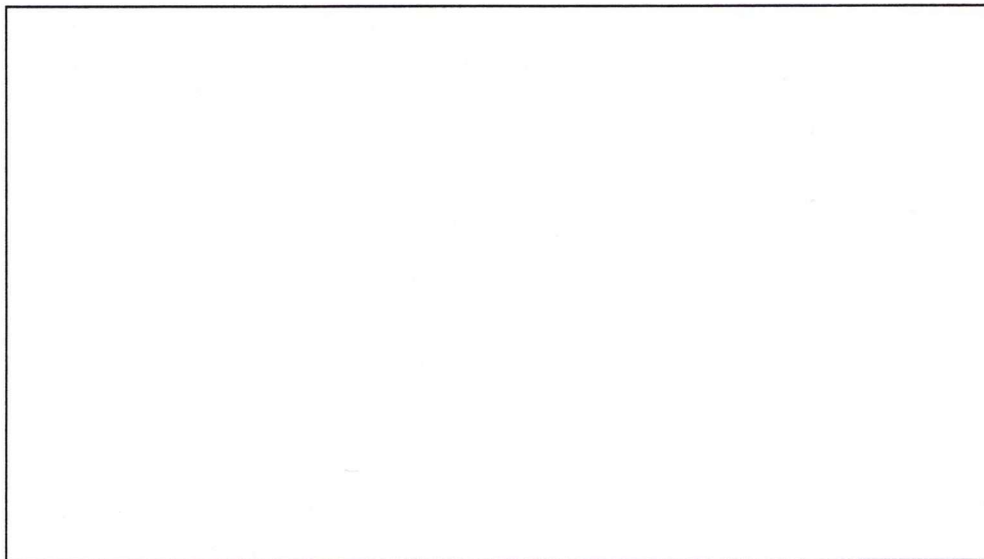
- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Completion of skills Audit to determine contribution of Trustee and follow guidance on training of trustees by Trussell

The work of the Foodbank is set up under a partnership with Trussell and we follow their guidelines under their Partnership agreement.

**Partnership agreement with Trussell
Supported by churches in Blaenau Gwent**

Regular reviews of the systems and procedures to manage any major risks



Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The Charity purposes and objectives is the relief of financial hardship and poverty and the resulting issues people face in Blaenau Gwent and the surrounding area.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

We operate a Foodbank k/a Blaenau Gwent Foodbank operating from 3 Food Distribution Centres in the Blaenau Gwent area namely Aberbeeg in the South of the County and Beaufort and Brynmawr in the North of the County. This due to previous Covid restrictions was a home delivery service only and therefore our centres were closed to the public for collection of food and we delivered to the whole of the County of Blaenau Gwent. However as we came out of Covid we decided to reopen our centres to the public by introducing a new centre based in the South namely Aberbeeg and from Monday the 8th January 2024 we were fully open to the public and continued a delivery service for those who needed it most and then on Friday the 26th April 2024 we ceased the delivery Service which was costing us a considerable amount for fuel in our delivery van.

We issue food, toiletries and household items. Also we have the facility to offer Gas/Electric vouchers for families in need through a partnership with the Fuelbank Foundation which presently is not operating until we have volunteering staff available to train up to reoffer this specialised support. For those clients that are struggling to top-up their Mobile phones we are able to offer a SIM card free of charge for a 6mth period through our partnership via Trussell Trust with Tesco Mobile.

Our clients are referred to us via relative agencies that work with them as they must have a Foodbank voucher presented.

Additionally we have seen people who are in financial hardship who have become homeless and also those who are struggling with alcohol/drug issues affecting their hardship and we are able to signpost for more help locally and nationally through rehab centres and other agencies support. This is arranged through our operation k/a Foundations Support Service based in our main centre at Church on the Rise Beaufort.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

The Trustees confirm they have had due regard to the commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant. It is a clear case of the Foodbank and Foundations Support Service helping the general public who are in crisis

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

NOT APPLICABLE

NOT APPLICABLE

Everyone working at the Blaenau Gwent Foodbank and Foundations Support Service are volunteers to include the Foodbank Project Manager and 2 Foodbank Distribution Centre Managers and approximately 14 other volunteers. At the end of the last financial year (2023) we appointed a Foodbank Operations Manager which was the first paid position role to run the day to day operations of the Foodbank. We appreciate the contribution all volunteers make in helping us to serve local families and individuals who are in their crises. They are very committed and wish to help and support people in our community

Section D

Achievements and performance

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Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

BLAENAU GWENT FOODBANK

During 2024 we have achieved the following:

We have helped 1136 families with food

This comprises 1735 Adults and 946 children fed. Total 2681 people fed. This is an approximate total of 24,129 meals placed on families tables

Our Total stock of food/toiletries and other items collected as donations total approximately 24 tons of which 20 tons of food have come through the Supermarkets – Asda, Tesco (2 Stores) and Waitrose.

The Monetary donations we receive, help us to purchase food that we are short of and this year it amounted to purchase 2.4 tons of food

The amount of food we distributed to the various families in crisis in Blaenau Gwent amounted to 30.5 tons

This has enabled families to have food on the table to eat whilst been short of money to purchase or are waiting for benefits to be applied.

FOUNDATIONS SUPPORT SERVICE

186 referrals made to other agencies for help such as Floating support, Housing, Women's Aid

31 Welfare checks requested by the Police

200 people received Advocacy Support such as for mental health assessments, housing issues, GP appointments, probation appointments, social services support and Police interviews,

87 Dignity packs issued such as personal items – deodorant, shower gel, shampoo, liquid soap, toothpaste mouthwash, razors, shaving gel, hand sanitizers, lip balm, underwear garments, socks, gloves thermal hats flasks, energy bars, chocolate sweets etc

30 Clothing vouchers issued totalling value £700

19 Mobiles issued with SIM cards Top up vouchers totalling £120

21 Sleeping Bags Issued

12 Tents issued

7 Starter Tenancy packs – comprising items such as kettle, toaster, sandwich maker, air fryer, cutlery, crockery, vacuum cleaner, towels, hand towels, bath towels, Tesco vouchers.

19 Travel vouchers totalling £272. 85 to assist people to access emergency accommodation, temporary accommodation or supported accommodation outside of our area, appointments with supporting agencies etc.

163 Hot Meals provided for homeless and 440 B'fasts in local Wetherspoons/Presso's Café & Base Drop in Hope Hub

150 Recovery Sessions attended (one to One and Group sessions)

208 attended Well-being sessions held

62 Prisoners call to help in preparation for them to engage back in society

154 planned Follow up Help sessions

344 attended Drop in Hope Hub sessions – Safe Space

35 Referrals made to Rehab Centre and Women's Facilities

35 Local agencies separately used our Hope Hub facilities to meet their clients

97 Visitors to our Hope Hub to discuss facilities and services etc

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Working on a Reserve of approx.. £15K just to ensure we keep going through this Cost of Living period where donations have dipped considerably. We will review this on a regular basis as conditions change.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Not Applicable

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Main sources of funding come from individual donations both regular and one-off. We do get funds via Tesco stores that top up in hard cash any food collected through them by 20% and also we have funding via Asda on a similar way, however this is restricted funding for operational costs only. We do also have some Corporate funding too

Expenditure tends to be purchase of food and items which benefit our clients which are at the source of our objectives. Operational costs are kept to bare minimum but required to operate day to day

NOT APPLICABLE

Section F

Other optional information

The continued Cost of Living period is affecting our Donations both in Food and monetary terms and affects both of our operations that we run. It is subject to regular Review by the Board of Trustees as we continue forward. The position of Operational Manager will be discussed in 2025 when the 2 year Fixed Contract is up in Dec 2025 with the hope that we can find further funding to extend this important role within our Charity.

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	LYNDON TREFOR HOLDING.	RODERICK WAYNE EVANS
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	CHAIR	TREASURER

Date 25th October 2025

BLAENAU GWENT COMMUNITY AID

CHARITY NUMBER 1191264

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Blaenau Gwent Community Aid

I report to the trustees of Blaenau Gwent Community Aid on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees 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 all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in any material aspect:-

- (1) the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- (2) the accounts did not accord with the accounting records or
- (3) the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair" view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Steve Drake

Steve Drake
Chartered Certified Accountant (F.C.C.A.)
24 James Street, Ebbw Vale, Blaenau Gwent, NP23 6JG

30th October 2025

BLAENAU GWENT COMMUNITY AID - CHARITY NUMBER 1191264
ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2024
SECTION A - STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>funds</u>	<u>Designated</u> <u>funds</u>	<u>Restricted</u> <u>funds</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>this period</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>last period</u>
	£	£	£	£	
<u>INCOMING RESOURCES</u>					
<u>Donations and legacies</u>					
Donations	14,652.34	15.00	400.00	15,067.34	21,039.55
Hope Hub Donations	-	895.00	-	895.00	80.00
<u>Income from charitable activities</u>					
Supermarket Top-Up	-	-	3,525.07	3,525.07	5,528.75
Christmas meal	147.60	-	-	147.60	-
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	14,799.94	910.00	3,925.07	19,635.01	26,648.30

RESOURCES EXPENDED

Expenditure on charitable activities

Food Purchased	7,673.98	-	-	7,673.98	10,351.30
Data Protection Fee	-	-	40.00	40.00	40.00
Foodbank Travel Expenses	-	196.15	193.86	390.01	2,935.51
Contents and Public Liability Insurance	-	833.54	-	833.54	322.01
Foodbank mobile contract	-	143.92	299.35	443.27	348.03
Commercial van - diesel	-	605.04	1,007.68	1,612.72	1,819.70
Staff salary	-	-	18,847.66	18,847.66	1,308.96
Hope Hub Mission/Outreach	-	142.06	-	142.06	398.46
Hope Hub Meals/Drinks	-	406.70	-	406.70	9.83
Hope Hub Top up phones	-	20.00	-	20.00	20.00
HMRC Payments Tax/NIC	711.60	-	2,766.02	3,477.62	-
Total expenditure on charitable activities	8,385.58	2,347.41	23,154.57	33,887.56	17,553.80

Other Expenditure

Computer Software	-	-	79.99	79.99	-
Consumables	-	-	97.33	97.33	-
Hope Hub Expenditure	307.49	-	-	307.49	-
Vehicle Insurance	-	-	1,726.82	1,726.82	1,335.50
Vehicle Tax	-	-	335.00	335.00	320.00
Car Vehicle Repairs	-	-	-	-	450.00
Printing and Stationery	-	-	-	-	330.58
Pension Contributions	95.55	-	668.85	764.40	-
Equipment	-	-	440.62	440.62	2,763.70
Commercial van maintenance	-	-	2,092.46	2,092.46	642.00
Advertising	-	-	-	-	180.00
Computer Security Premium	-	-	-	-	54.99
Accountancy	-	-	516.00	516.00	300.00
Staff Gratuities	-	-	210.48	210.48	120.00
Van Hire	-	-	-	-	59.98
Waste Recycling Management	-	186.96	-	186.96	224.64
Annual Memberships	-	-	145.00	145.00	-
Training Courses	-	-	138.60	138.60	-
Foodbank staff entertainment	108.24	-	163.43	271.67	-
Other Expenditure totals	511.28	186.96	6,614.58	7,312.82	6,781.39

TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

8,896.86	2,534.37	29,769.15	41,200.38	24,335.19
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BLAENAU GWENT COMMUNITY AID
SECTION B - BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2024

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£
Opening Balance on Bank Accounts	90,680.46	88,367.35
ADD Total Incoming Resources	<u>19,635.01</u>	<u>26,648.30</u>
	110,315.47	115,015.65
LESS Total Resources Expended	<u>41,200.38</u>	<u>24,335.19</u>
	<u>69,115.09</u>	<u>90,680.46</u>
Closing Balance on Bank Accounts (See below)	<u>69,115.09</u>	<u>90,680.46</u>
<u>Various bank accounts</u>		
Treasurers Account (4768)	403.64	2,104.89
Community Account	100.46	81.71
Treasurers Account (8360)	<u>68,610.99</u>	<u>88,493.86</u>
	<u>69,115.09</u>	<u>90,680.46</u>
Represented by funds		
Unrestricted	11,401.33	5,438.25
Designated	37,953.38	39,637.75
Restricted	19,760.38	45,604.46
	<u>69,115.09</u>	<u>90,680.46</u>

Signed by the following two trustees
on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of Approval