

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 13299257 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1194314

Report of the Trustees and Audited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

for

Food Bank Aid
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

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Food Bank Aid

Reference and Administrative Details
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

TRUSTEES

Naomi Russell – Co Chair
Chris Goodgame – Co-Chair and Treasurer
Rochelle Trup
Martin Smith
Ola Ogunmoyela (Resigned 1 May 2025)
Ishraq Bhatti
Jonathan Dimson
Kalbir Sohi
Charlotte Souter
Gideon Chain (appointed 10 September 2024)
Tania Platt (appointed 10 September 2024)

REGISTERED OFFICE

Unit 2b Chaplain Square
Great North Leisure Park
London
N12 0GL

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER

13299257 (England and Wales)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER

1194314

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

Calders (1883) LLP
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors
30 Orange Street
London
WC2H 7HF

BANKERS

HSBC UK Bank plc

Food Bank Aid

Chair's Report

for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

This year marks a significant milestone for Food Bank Aid. We are now four years old as a registered charity—and five years since I began, in my garage, with a few donated tins and a desire to help local food banks experiencing a surge of people caught up in loss of earnings due to Covid-19. They were rabbits in the headlights, some of their numbers surging ten-fold.

From that modest beginning, with no intention of setting up a charity, Food Bank Aid has grown into a registered charity supporting 33 food banks across North London and Hertfordshire including some clinics and schools. This year alone, we distributed over £2 million worth of food, toiletries and household essentials.

What sets Food Bank Aid apart from other food charities is our demand-led model. We don't distribute surplus—we deliver exactly what food banks ask for and need. While some items are donated, over 80% are purchased directly using funds we raise. This ensures that essential gaps are filled—particularly for items that are rarely available through donations or surplus channels. Every single item is used. Nothing goes to waste.

That scale of delivery brings great responsibility. As we continue to grow, it is now more important than ever that we professionalise. We must build robust systems, strengthen our team, and operate with the kind of governance and rigour that a charity of our size requires.

We are deeply conscious of the trust placed in us by our donors and partners, and we hold that trust with great care. Transparency and accountability are at the heart of everything we do—and will continue to guide every decision we make.

A cloud does hang over us, however, as we await planning confirmation for the redevelopment of the Great North Leisure Park. Unfortunately, there will be no space to accommodate Food Bank Aid in the new scheme, and we will need to find new premises suitable for the size and scale of our current operation—a considerable challenge, particularly given the geography we serve. We are enormously grateful to Land Securities followed by Regal London for their generosity in allowing us to occupy our current hub rent- and rates-free; their support has been fundamental to our growth. While the future remains uncertain, we know our strategic planning must now include provision for future rent, rates, and significant relocation costs.

This has been a year of transition. In November 2024, we were delighted to welcome Alyson Walsh as our new CEO. Alyson brings eight years of sector leadership, and her clarity, decisiveness and deep understanding of food poverty have already made a significant impact.

Like many charities, we are facing structural pressures. Recruitment has become increasingly challenging, with salary expectations now often mirroring those in the commercial sector—levels that are difficult for small charities to sustain. In our early years, running lean was not just appropriate, it was essential. But with the organisation now delivering over £2 million of goods annually, we must invest in the right staff to maintain the scale, quality and reliability of what we do. There is a natural limit to how far goodwill, stamina and adaptability can stretch. I remain deeply moved by the unwavering dedication of our team—who consistently go above and beyond, never losing sight of why this work matters.

During my break from being Chair I was extremely grateful to our trustees, Rochelle Trup and Chris Goodgame, who stepped up at short notice, as co-chairs. Chris continues as my co-chair and remains in his role as Treasurer—a vital and often unseen position that he fulfils with tireless dedication and unfailing reliability. Personally, he has been an incredible support to me providing professional guidance and patience. We have also welcomed two new trustees to our board, and I am truly grateful to every trustee for their time, wisdom and deep commitment to our mission.

The external context we're working in remains extremely challenging. One in five schools in England now runs a food bank on site (Sutton Trust, 2024). Increasingly, those accessing food support are in work—including full-time employment—but still unable to afford essentials. In London, over one in three children live in poverty (End Child Poverty Coalition, 2024).

At the same time, the cost-of-living crisis and has made fundraising considerably tougher. Many Funds have closed and significant amounts of donations have been redirected to foreign need. Nearly 20% of UK donors have paused or reduced giving in the past year (Charities Aid Foundation, 2024).

Despite this, our Help Us Give More matched campaign raised £1.6 million of vital funds that will support our distribution and 100% of these funds will be used for the purchase of goods.

It's hard to put into words the strength, kindness and generosity of the community who turn up every day. Volunteers, donors, food partners and staff come together to keep the food banks fed. Our hub is not only a centre of operations—it's a non-political, inclusive and welcoming space where people of all backgrounds work side-by-side. Many have found new friendships and a renewed sense of purpose here. Outside our walls, coffee meet-ups, walks, card games and friends' WhatsApp groups have grown—proof of the new and valuable connections that this community continually creates.

That care is not just about food—it's about dignity, stability, and hope. It says: you matter. Food insecurity is deeply linked to mental health. According to the Greater London Authority, adults experiencing food insecurity are more than twice as likely to report symptoms of anxiety or depression. For parents, the daily stress of not knowing how to feed their children is relentless. Having enough food on the table lifts an enormous psychological burden, allowing families to focus on other areas of life - work, school, health.

Children who are well-fed are better able to learn, socialise, and simply be children. They can take part in sport, feel confident at school, and engage fully with their peers—just as we would want for our own children. Because when the pressure of hunger lifts, it creates space not just for survival—but for dignity, connection, and the possibility of a better tomorrow.

Looking ahead, we are focused on strengthening our operational capacity, deepening relationships with food suppliers and funders, and investing in better systems to track and report our impact. We are also working on new ways to centre the experiences of those using food banks in how we learn, adapt, and advocate.

We remain committed to best practice in safeguarding, governance and financial management. Our policies are regularly reviewed and updated, and we are actively working to maintain reserves. We also recognise the importance of equity and inclusion—not just as a value, but as a practice—and continue to build a culture that reflects the diversity of the communities we serve.

We are proud to work alongside 33 food banks, each doing essential, frontline work. We also thank our corporate partners, suppliers, and friends in the wider sector whose collaboration and generosity enable us to do what we do.

Food Bank Aid was born from crisis—but it has grown into a mission powered by generosity, compassion and grit. I am proud of how far we've come even though I wish we were not needed at all. Since preparing the Chair's Report earlier this year, I have decided to step down as Co-Chair and Trustee. It has been an incredible journey. I leave the charity in capable hands and will continue to watch its progress with pride. While I will no longer be involved in day-to-day operations, I remain committed to supporting the Trustees whenever needed and staying engaged with the charity's on-going development.

With much gratitude

Naomi Russell

Naomi Russell

Founder and Co-Chair of Trustees

Food Bank Aid

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

The Trustees are pleased to present their Trustees' Annual Report and the Charity's financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for purposes of the Companies Act. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019). The Trustees of the Company are its Directors for the purpose of company law and throughout this report they are collectively referred to as the Trustees.

INCORPORATION

The charitable company was incorporated on 29 March 2021 and commenced trading on the same date.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

At inception, Food Bank Aid was an informal collection point, sourcing donations from the local community in Highgate and driven by the need to support the short-term needs of the food banks operating during covid-19 in the wider North London community. Since then, the activities of the organisation have been formalised, and other annual giving is set to exceed £1.5m as its reach and reputation continue to grow, and the efforts to continue to contribute to the alleviation of food poverty continues. The ongoing cost of living crisis has motivated the funders, volunteers, staff and trustees, to continue to transform the way that goods are sourced and distributed.

Food Bank Aid was registered as a charity in March 2021 and supports food banks in north London and in the local authorities. It continues to operate a system which delivers goods based precisely on the needs of the food banks it supports. This prevents waste of food, space and time. Recognising it must be easy to give to Food Bank Aid, we have over 50 drop-off points across North London where donations can be left 24/7. Volunteers collect, sort and deliver the goods to the food banks throughout the week allowing us to maximise donated funds by spending significantly on the provision of food items for food banks.

The objects of the Charity are for the public benefit and specifically restricted to the relief of poverty, especially food poverty, by means including the collection, sorting and distribution of food and other supplies to food banks that serve the needs of persons who are, or in danger of suffering food poverty.

Significant activities

There are several features of FBA which make us unique. Our aim is to be the most responsive, efficient and cost-effective charity supporting foodbanks.

- Working with food banks we pride ourselves on the strong relationships we have with each food bank. These strong relationships have enabled us to develop connections between the various foodbanks, leading to greater sharing of excess products, knowledge, and therefore increased efficiencies.
- We support food banks by providing exactly what they need through a weekly shopping list. By relying on us for a significant portion of their requirements, there is a reduced pressure on an already over-stretched service.
- We are passionate about families having food resources to cook, enjoying food to suit their dietary, cultural, or ethnic needs. We provide variety, fresh fruit and vegetables, raw products to enable the cooking, and even limited treats for children ensure a balanced diet with the occasional indulgence!
- We are a volunteer run organisation. We engage over 350 volunteers in a range of roles at Food Bank Aid. These include professional roles, roles in the hub, drivers, and shoppers. We have only five paid staff which keep our overheads to a minimum.
- Our volunteers primarily live in the community. This means the community itself supports the people in the community in need.
- Our work is supported through cash and Gift in Kind donations. Gift in Kind donations allow a much greater number of people to contribute. We facilitate this extensively by having 50+ neighbourhood drop-off points across North London, regular collections, supermarket delivery options and a centralised hub open 6-days a week to take donations.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Public benefit

Our objectives focus on poverty, particularly food poverty and supporting donations to foodbanks. The purpose of Food Bank Aid is to build strong relationships with each of the food banks we support in North London, working with them to develop efficient processes to ensure that each food bank gets exactly what it needs each week, rather than a random selection of food that is difficult to distribute. This helps to prevent waste and families can cook and eat food to suit their dietary, cultural or ethnic needs.

The Board of Trustees has referred to the guidance provided by the Charity Commission in ensuring that Food Bank Aid's aims, objectives and activities are for the public benefit.

Volunteers

Volunteers play a very significant role in Food Bank Aid. We engage over 350 volunteers in a range of roles at Food Bank Aid. Our volunteers primarily live in the community. This means the community itself supports the people in the community, who are in need. In addition to the contribution of the Trustees who all give their time freely, volunteers help out with the day-to-day running of the charity in the following ways:

Volunteer Management Committee: This comprises of a small selection of volunteers with a variety of relevant professional experience. Each Committee member is responsible for a particular activity, from fundraising, volunteer management and compliance. This group meets formally with at least two Trustees every month to review the charity's activity and future plans. Committee members work closely with the Trustees and each other outside formal meetings.

Volunteer Hub Workers: These include sorters, co-ordinators, drivers, and shoppers.

Drop-Off Points: Our work is supported through cash and Gift in Kind donations. Gift in Kind donations allow a much greater number of people to contribute. We facilitate this extensively by having 50+ neighbourhood drop-off points across North London, regular collections, supermarket delivery options and a centralised hub open 6-days a week to take donations.

It is estimated that the volunteer contribution represents about 15 full time equivalent employees.

A key feature of our activities is to plant the seeds of charitable giving in young people. Our work in schools informs young people about food poverty and encourages children to help others.

We created a community at Food Bank Aid by providing a welcoming, no judgemental space where people from all backgrounds and ethnicities can come together with a common aim to help others.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Achievement and performance

Overview

Food Bank Aid is still in its early years, continuing to operate with a focus on the alleviation of food poverty in North London. Our regional focus has allowed us to create a model which could be replicated anywhere where similar challenges exist. As uncertainty relating to the cost-of-living crisis continues, we remain confident that we can maintain our activities and ensure our sustainability and impact.

Performance monitoring

Food Bank Aid monitors its achievements using the following main indicators:

- Beneficiary Numbers - the total number of families benefiting from the activities of each food bank we support during the year;
- Order Rate of Food Banks - the frequency of orders from food banks is a good indicator of our effectiveness in meeting their unique needs particularly ethnic and religiously influenced requests;
- Gifts-in-Kind - the volume of donated items compared with the volume of shopping required to meet the needs of the food banks is a useful indicator of our community engagement;
- Progress toward the strategic objectives and the funding plan;
- Financial performance.

Achievements

During the year ended 31 March 2025, highlights of Food Bank Aid during the year 2024/25, Food Bank Aid highlights the following achievements:

- Continuing to support over 30 foodbanks
- Increasing our average monthly donations to over £150,000
- Passing £7m of donations since Food Bank Aid was created
- Raising over £1.25m for a second year running in our annual campaign, providing certainty for the following financial year

Our Fundraising Practices

Food Bank Aid benefits greatly from the support of local people. We gain new supporters mainly through networking, word of mouth and recommendations that lead to unsolicited donations. When we carry out fundraising, we strive to give the best experience to our supporters.

The majority of our fundraising activities are carried out by volunteers including trustees. We do not use professional fundraisers or involve commercial participators.

Our regular fundraising activities include:

- fundraising events such as our "School's Out, Food's Out" Summer Campaign;
- subscribing to giving websites such as JustGiving; and
- raising funds via other sources such as charitable trusts, foundations or companies.

Food Bank Aid volunteers and trustees also help to co-ordinate and publicise events organised for our benefit by our supporters in wider community.

We occasionally make appeals for donations towards specific projects by writing to existing supporters (direct marketing), advertising in the Food Bank Aid newsletter, local media and posting appeals on our website and social media. All direct marketing is co-ordinated by volunteers and Trustees to ensure that it is not unreasonably intrusive or persistent and meets data protection requirements. When contact is made through direct marketing, the material contains clear instructions on how a person can be removed from mailing lists. There have been no complaints about fundraising activity this year.

Food Bank Aid

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Financial review

The financial position for the year 2024/25 is a deficit of £403,361.

2024/25 Summary Position

	£
Income	2,185,735
Expenditure	(2,589,096)
Surplus / (Deficit)	(403,361)

Total expenditure was £2,589,096 of which spend on goods for foodbanks was £2,034,410, representing over 78% of total expenditure. The remainder of expenditure was for salaries and operating costs of the Hub. Many gifts in-kind donations are made to Food Bank Aid. We were fortunate to receive food and other products for distribution to the foodbanks. In 2024/25 we received over £327,478 worth of goods. In addition, we received professional services from a number of law firms. Our lease and rates at the Hub are free of charge and the value of this is over £80,000.

Reserves policy

Reserves are intended to assist with the management of cashflow, provide resources for restructuring if income falls and the need arises, or to cover the costs of closure in a worst-case scenario. Food Bank Aid has Restricted Funds and Unrestricted Funds. The General Reserves are part of the Unrestricted funds.

Reserves

As at 31 March 2025

	£
Restricted Funds	18,631
Unrestricted Funds	1,615,210
Total reserves	1,633,841

As at 31 March 2025, reserves, amounted to £1,633,841. Trustees have reviewed the reserves policy and concluded that the unrestricted reserves are sufficient to cover for unplanned events and to cover for all expenditure for six months, which is c£100k per month, so that support to food banks is maintained.

Trustees consider that Food Bank Aid is a going concern for the foreseeable future.

Investment Policy and Performance

The Trustees consider that the day to day needs of the Charity are such that it is inappropriate to invest funds for the medium to long-term and hence invests its reserves in fixed interest deposits. The Trustees accept that the interest rates achieved during the year were in line with market rates but will keep this under continuous review.

Plans for future periods

The Trustees have set a budget for the period to 31 March 2025 aiming for a small surplus. Fundraising targets have been identified which can be reasonably relied upon and should be sufficient to cover the running costs for the year. The provision of any additional services will be dependent on further fundraising. The budget will be reviewed regularly throughout the year.

Trustees will continue to review the financial performance of Food Bank Aid throughout the year and take action if necessary. The reserves policy and level of reserves will be reviewed during the year to ensure they meet the ongoing needs of the charity.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The governing body of Food Bank Aid is the Board of Trustees. The Board leads the organisation in line with its objectives whilst ensuring compliance with legal and statutory requirements of a UK charity and registered company.

Governing document

Food Bank Aid is a registered Charity (no. 1194314) governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 29 March 2021 and is constituted as a company limited by guarantee. Its objectives and powers and other constitutional matters are set out in its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It is governed by a Board of Trustees which is responsible for setting the strategic direction of the organisation and for establishing policy. The Trustees meet regularly to oversee its affairs. The day-to-day operation is delegated to the full-time staff.

Appointment of trustees

New Trustees join the Board at the invitation of the Board and are chosen with a view to ensuring an appropriate balance of skills and experience relevant to the operations of the Charity through a formal recruitment process. Trustees' appointments are confirmed at the next Annual General Meeting. Trustees serve for 3 years and there is a minimum 3 Trustees at any given time, with a maximum 12 Trustees who are all unrelated parties.

Trustee induction and training

There is a formal induction process. Each new trustee is given an introductory pack covering the responsibilities of Charity Trustees and comprehensive details about the organisation.

Organisation

The Board of Trustees administers the Charity. It meets at least quarterly and there are working groups that meet more often. An Interim Chief Executive has been appointed by the Board to manage the day-to-day operations of the Charity. To facilitate effective operations, the Interim Chief Executive has delegated authority, within terms of delegation approved by the Trustees, for operational matters including finance, employment and providing service-related activity. The Board currently meets monthly to review the organisation's objectives and supports the Management Committee at monthly management meetings.

Related parties

No trustees received remuneration or other benefit from their work with the charity.

There are no contracts with Food Bank Aid in which any of the Trustees, close family members of the Trustees or companies related to Trustees have, or have had, an interest, either during or at the end of the financial year. A Trustee Register of Interests is maintained to ensure that related party transactions can be identified.

Pay Policy for Senior Staff and Trustees

The Trustees and the Chief Executive are the key personnel in charge of directing, running and operating the charity. The Trustees give their time freely and no Trustee received any remuneration in respect of their services as a Trustee during the year ended 31 March 2025.

Risk Management

The Trustees have conducted a review of the major risks to which the Charity is exposed. A risk register has been established and is updated and discussed on a regular basis. Where appropriate, internal controls, policies and procedures have been developed to mitigate these risks.

Particular attention has focussed on financial risks arising from fundraising.

Fraud

The Charity manages the risk of fraud through a system of internal controls and policies which set out clearly our approach to the reporting, investigation and management of any suspected irregularities.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Food Bank Aid for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland"

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

AUDITORS

The auditors, Calders (1883) LLP, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Report of the trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 30th September 2025 and signed on the board's behalf by:

Naomi Russell

.....
Naomi Russell - Trustee

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of
Food Bank Aid

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Food Bank Aid (the 'charitable company') for the period ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the period then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of Food Bank Aid (continued)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we considered and undertook the following audit procedures in response:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the company and determined that the most significant are those that relate to the reporting frameworks (United Kingdom accounting standards and Companies Act 2006);
- We obtained an understanding of the nature of the industry and sector, control environment and business performance;
- The outcome of discussions with management and those charged with governance and any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the company's documentation of their policies and procedures related to:
 - Identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance or any actual or potential litigation or claims;
 - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
 - The internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- The matters discussed during the audit engagement team briefing regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud. All engagement team members were advised to remain alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit;
- Reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described as having a direct effect on the financial statements;
- Performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- Reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance and reviewing correspondence with HMRC and inspection of relevant legal correspondence;

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of Food Bank Aid (continued)

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements (cont.)

- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments by testing manual journal entries, in particular journal entries relating to management estimates and entries determined to be large or relating to unusual transactions;
- Assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business;
- Assessment of the appropriateness of the collective competence and capabilities of the engagement team included consideration of the engagement team's:
 - understanding of, and practical experience with audit engagements of a similar nature and complexity through appropriate training and participation;
 - knowledge of the industry in which the client operates;
 - understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements specific to the company including
 - the provisions of the applicable legislation
 - the applicable statutory provisions;

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the company for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud in the areas in which management is required to exercise significant judgement. We are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the company operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of the material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.

Those laws and regulations considered to have a direct effect on the financial statements include UK financial reporting standards, Company Law, Tax and Pensions legislation and Charity Law.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the company's ability to operate and avoid a material penalty. These included data protection, employment and health and safety regulations, competition and anti-bribery laws, environment regulations.

With regards to laws and regulations relating to the operating aspects of the company, these were discussed with management and were not considered fundamental to the operating of the business therefore should not have a material impact on the financial statements.

No instances of material non-compliance were identified. However, the likelihood of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is limited by the inherent difficulty in detecting irregularities, the effectiveness of the entity's controls, and the nature, timing and extent of the audit procedures performed. Irregularities that result from fraud might be inherently more difficult to detect than irregularities that result from error. As explained above, there is an unavoidable risk that material misstatements may not be detected, even though the audit has been planned and performed in accordance with ISAs (UK).

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditors' report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Philip Ewen (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Calders (1883) LLP
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors
30 Orange Street
London
WC2H 7HF

Calders(1883)LLP

Date: 30th September 2025

Food Bank Aid

Statement of Financial Activities (Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account) for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
INCOME FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	2,135,200	18,631	2,153,831	2,554,322
Investment income	3	47,015	-	47,015	45,119
Total		2,182,215	18,631	2,200,846	2,599,441
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising Funds	4	224,742	-	224,742	140,183
Charitable Activities	5	2,348,176	31,289	2,379,465	2,405,188
Total		2,572,918	31,289	2,604,207	2,545,371
NET INCOME		(390,703)	(12,658)	(403,361)	54,070
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD		2,005,913	31,289	2,037,202	1,983,132
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		1,615,210	18,631	1,633,841	2,037,202

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements

Food Bank Aid

Statement of Financial Position

31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed Assets		3,385	4,513
Tangible Assets	10		
Current Assets			
Stocks	11	105,542	47,369
Debtors	12	174,552	169,561
Cash at Bank		1,467,559	1,828,862
		1,747,653	2,045,792
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year		(117,196)	(13,103)
Net Current Assets		1,630,457	2,032,689
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities		1,633,841	2,037,202
Net Assets		1,633,841	2,037,202
Funds			
Restricted		18,631	31,289
Unrestricted		1,615,210	2,005,913
Reserves			
Total Funds		1,633,841	2,037,202

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 30th September 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

Naomi Russell

.....
Naomi Russell - Trustee

Chris Goodgame

.....
Chris Goodgame - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Food Bank Aid

Statement of Cash Flows
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	(408,318)	(46,692)
Net cash provided by operating activities		(408,318)	(46,692)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		47,015	45,119
Property, plant and equipment		-	-
Net cash provided by investing activities		47,015	45,119
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(361,303)	(1,573)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		1,828,862	1,830,435
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		1,467,559	1,828,862

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Statement of Cash Flows
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(403,361)	54,070
Adjustments for:		
Interest received	(47,015)	(45,119)
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	1,128	1,504
(Increase) in stocks	(58,173)	(12,464)
(Increase) in debtors	(4,991)	(53,559)
Increase in creditors	104,094	8,876
Net cash provided by operations	(408,318)	(46,692)

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 31.3.24	Cash flow	At 31.3.25
	£	£	£
Net cash			
Cash at bank	_____	_____	_____
	<u>1,828,862</u>	<u>(361,303)</u>	<u>1,467,559</u>
Total	<u>1,828,862</u>	<u>(361,303)</u>	<u>1,456,559</u>

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Going concern

The accounts are prepared on a going concern basis after consideration by the trustees that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. Such consideration includes a review of committed income and expenditures, cash flows and reserves. The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

Debtors

Accrued income is recognised where funds in respect of the financial period being reported have been received or invoiced after the Balance Sheet date. Prepayments are recognised where payments, in respect of future financial periods have been made prior to the Balance Sheet date.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a maturity of six months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised at their invoiced amount including VAT. Accruals are based on agreed costs (including VAT) for services received prior to the Balance Sheet date but not invoiced before that date; where an expense has not been agreed and estimate of the final settlement amount (including VAT) is made.

Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Support and governance costs are incurred to further the work of the charity. These costs, which are analysed in the notes to the financial statements, are allocated between the cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities based on the types of expenditure and the average amount of time and use of resources incurred by the charity as a whole on those activities.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

Employees are "auto enrolled" into a defined contribution pension scheme from which they may opt out. The charity's only liability is the monthly contribution calculated as a proportion of the employee's qualifying earnings during the period of employment at the charity. The cost of such contributions is recognised as a staff cost and charged directly or allocated to the cost of raising funds or expenditure on charitable activities in line with the policies described.

Donated goods and gifts in kind

Food Bank Aid receives donated goods from individuals, schools and organisations. These are accounted for as Gifts in Kind and their value is calculated at the point of distribution to food banks. The basis for the valuation is the basic price of each item and using a multiplier to recognise the higher price of donated goods compared to the price paid by Food Bank Aid when similar purchases are made. The value of services provided by volunteers is not included.

We are fortunate to receive rent and rate free premises from Land Securities. The value of the rent has been ascertained by comparing market rents.

In addition, we received some donated goods such as furniture and fittings and these have been valued as used goods.

	2025	2024
	£	£
Gifts in Kind		
Goods for Food Banks	327,478	549,363
Rent and Rates	88,444	88,395
Legal Fees	25,620	23,580
	<u>441,542</u>	<u>661,338</u>

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Gifts in kind	441,542	661,338
Donations	1,569,101	1,737,789
Gift Aid recoveries	141,172	123,907
Grants	2,016	31,289
	<u>2,153,831</u>	<u>2,554,322</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES - continued

The restricted funds in the year were from grants received for local food banks as set out in Note 15.

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deposit account interest	47,015	45,119

4. COST OF RAISING FUNDS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Advertising and Marketing	9,879	20,439
Staff costs	127,410	25,906
Fees and charges	84,378	72,180
Printing and postage	1,275	3,182
Support & Governance costs (see note 6)	1,800	18,476
	224,742	140,183

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Goods supplied to food banks	2,034,410	2,063,992
Staff costs	155,769	125,094
Rent	73,333	73,333
Utilities and rates	27,993	15,062
Van costs	4,167	6,146
Support & Governance costs (see note 6)	83,793	121,562
	2,379,465	2,405,188

6. SUPPORT & GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Support Costs		
Office and General Admin	17,238	12,753
Other Professional fees	59,356	101,213
Staff costs	-	22,083
Governance costs		
Audit fees	9,000	3,988
	85,593	140,037

	£	£	£	£
	Charitable Activities	Raising Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
Audit fees	7,200	1,800	9,000	3,988
Other professional fees	59,356	-	59,356	101,213
Office and General Admin	17,238	-	17,238	12,753
Staff costs	-	-	-	22,083
	83,793	1,800	85,593	140,037

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

7. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

	2025	2024
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Auditors' remuneration	9,000	3,988

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the period ended 31 March 2025.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the period ended 31 March 2025.

9. STAFF COSTS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	234,585	152,540
Social security costs	20,164	10,088
Pension contributions	4,270	1,999
	259,019	164,627
	6	5

The average monthly number of employees during the period was as follows:

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

The total salary costs have been split between the charity's activities as follows:

	Note	£	£	£
		Payroll costs	Other costs	Total
2025				
Costs of raising funds	4	115,330	12,080	127,410
Charitable activities	5	143,689	12,080	155,769
Staff costs		259,019	24,160	283,179
2024				
Costs of raising funds		25,906	-	25,906
Charitable activities		116,968	8,126	125,094
Support and Governance costs		21,753	330	22,083
Staff costs		164,627	8,456	173,083

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Van £	Total £
Cost or revaluation		
Cost b/fwd	7,221	7,221
Additions	-	-
Cost c/fwd at 31.3.25	<u>7,221</u>	<u>7,221</u>
Depreciation and Impairment		
Depreciation b/fwd	2,708	2,708
Charge for the year	1,128	1,128
Depreciation c/fwd	3,836	3,836
Net Book Values		
At 31 March 2025	3,385	3,385
At 31 March 2024	4,513	4,513

11. STOCKS - GOODS FOR FOOD BANKS

	2025 £	2024 £
Goods for Food Banks	105,542	47,369

12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Other debtors	145,690	166,781
Trade debtors	28,861	2,780
Total	174,552	169,561

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Deferred income and accruals	83,657	11,924
Trade creditors	33,540	1,179
Total	117,196	13,103

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

14. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	3,385		3,385
Net Current Assets	1,611,825	18,631	1,630,456
Total	1,615,210	18,631	1,633,841

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.04.24	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31.3.25
	£		£	£
Unrestricted Funds				
General fund	2,005,913	2,182,215	(2,572,918)	1,615,210
Restricted Funds				
Individual Food Bank Restricted Donations	31,289	18,631	(31,289)	18,631
Total funds	2,037,202	2,200,846	(2,604,207)	1,633,841

The restricted funds in the year were from:

Copenhagen Street £3,649

Bounds Green Food Bank £4,265

Castlehaven Food Bank £1,580

Hornsey Food Bank £4,250

Southgate Mosque Food Bank £2,580

WD6 Food Bank £1,082

The Hive £1,165

One Vision £60

16. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the period ended 31 March 2025.