



CATCH Ystalyfera Foodbank

Gurnos Chapel Gurnos Road, Ystalyfera SA9 2JA

Trustees report 2023-24

In October 2021 CATCH was awarded registered charity status. This report covers the year of operation from November 1st 2023 - October 31st 2024. CATCH is registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registration number 1196127.

Charity objectives

The objects of the CIO, which are for the public benefit and to be carried out in the Upper Swansea Valley (Cwmtawe) and the surrounding area, are:

- 1) The prevention or relief poverty through the operation of a foodbank offering food, baby items, pet food and essential items together with linked support, services and advice to individuals and families in financial need.
- 2) To provide or assist in the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life.

Activities, achievements and performance

CATCH's main activity is the operation of a Foodbank from Gurnos Chapel, Ystalyfera (open Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings) and Ystradgynlais Community Centre (open Tuesday and Thursday mornings).

During the 2023-24 year the Foodbank has issued 959 parcels to 193 separate households, helping 509 individuals – 322 adults and 187 children. Many of these have been helped on more than one occasion (the table below counts an individual each time they are helped). The average food parcel contains 28 items of food. 88 of the households came to us for help for the first time this year.

During the year 654 parcels were issued from our Ystalyfera base and 305 from Ystradgynlais.

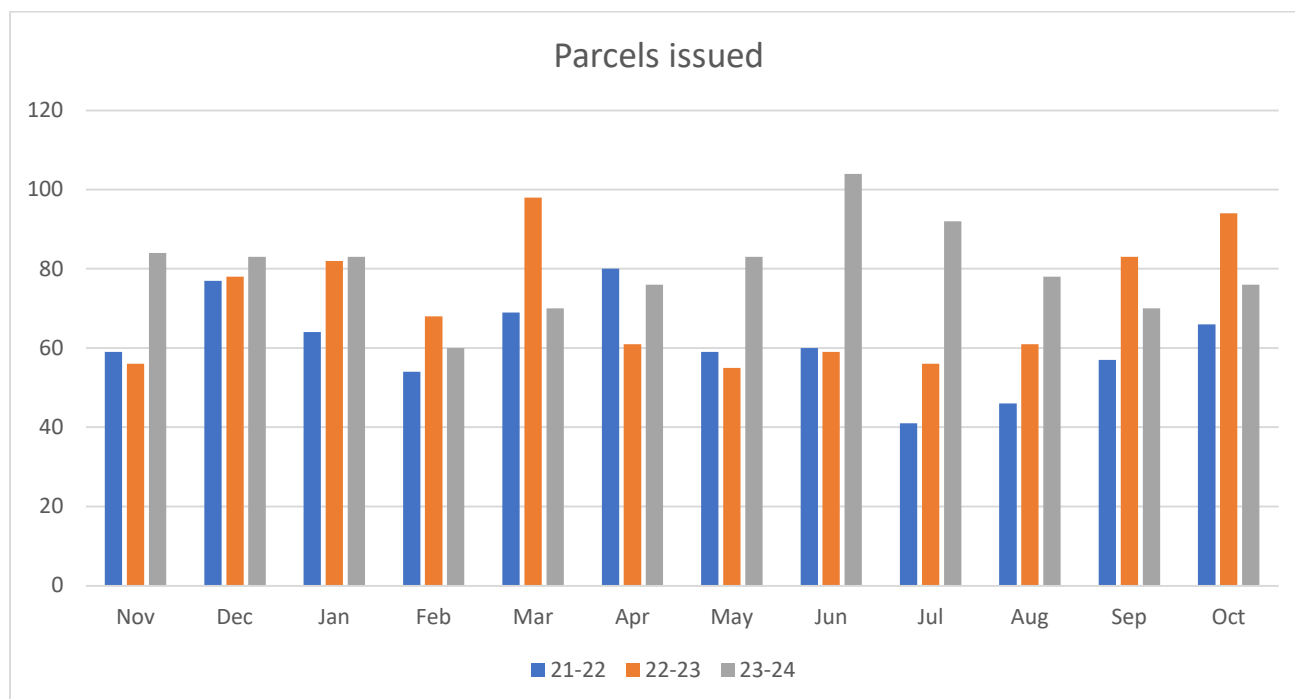
The number of parcels issued and people helped is an increase of 13% on the 22-23 year.

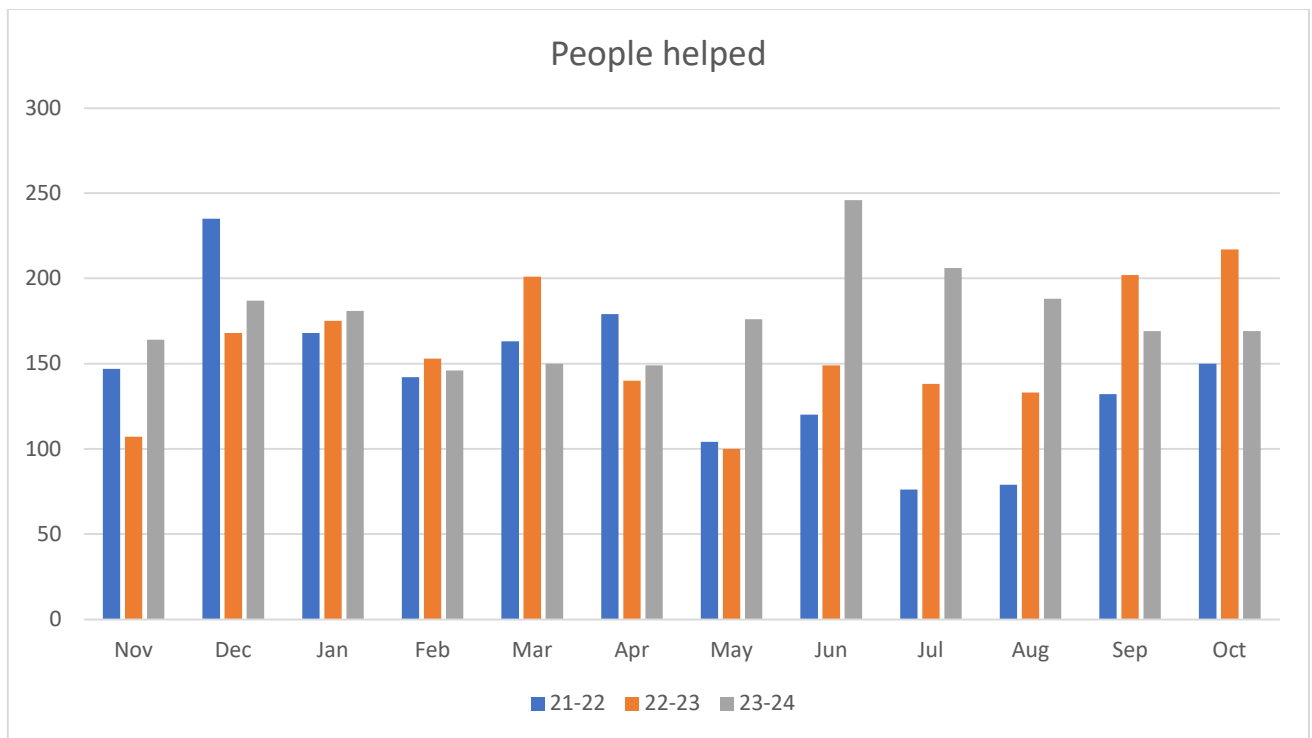
Summary by month

	Nov 23	Dec 23	Jan 24	Feb 24	Mar 24	Apr 24	May 24	June 24	July 24	Aug 24	Sep 24	Oct 24	Total
Total people	164	187	181	146	150	149	176	246	206	188	169	169	2131
Adults	119	127	127	101	109	110	131	173	153	128	121	122	1521
Children	45	60	54	45	41	39	45	73	53	60	48	47	610
Total parcels	84	83	83	60	70	76	83	104	92	78	70	76	959
Total items	2300	1647	2533	2113	2209	2248	2576	2949	2571	2307	1838	1988	27279

During the week before Christmas we also distributed 50 Christmas dinner and treat hampers to the multi-person households we helped during October-December. These are not included in the December or annual totals.

June was our busiest month for parcels issued (104) and people helped (246).





Reason for crisis

Where a reason for their current financial crisis is given, in 47% of cases general low income and the cost of living are cited. A further 12% of cases are caused by benefit sanctions, and 11% by benefit delays. Other reasons include low income due to ill health or disability (9%), homelessness (5%), debt (1%), sudden expenditure (7%), and job loss / cut in hours (5%).

Analysis by household

Household make-up

Of the households helped, 47% have children and 59% have pets. The average number of individuals in the household is 2.6. The household composition is detailed below:

Single adult	32%
Two adults only	18%
Three or more adults only	4%
One adult with children	15%
Two adults with children	26%
Three or more adults with children	6%

Location

33% of the households helped are within Neath Port Talbot (25% in the Ystalyfera / Godre'rgraig ward). A further 61% are in Powys and 6% in other neighbouring counties.

Frequency of help

42% of the households helped have only received one parcel. 26% have received 2 or 3 parcels, 13% have had 4-6 parcels, 7% have had 7-10 parcels, and 11% have been helped 11 times or more.

Analysis of parcels

Household make-up

33% of the parcels issued have gone to households with children.

Single adult	45%
Two adults only	18%
Three or more adults only	4%
One adult with children	7%
Two adults with children	22%
Three or more adults with children	4%

Location

40% of the parcels have gone to households within Neath Port Talbot (33% in the Ystalyfera / Godre'rgraig ward). A further 54% went to Powys and 6% to other neighbouring counties.

Frequency of help

8% of parcels went to households who were only helped once. 13% went to households who needed help 2 or 3 times, 13% to those needing help 4-6 times, 12% to those needing help 7-10 times and 54% to those who needed assistance 11 times or more.

Financial review

During the year we have received grants, funding and donations from a range of organisations, including Neath Port Talbot CBC, Powys County Council, Tesco, Asda and Home Bargains. Local businesses and other charities and groups have also been very generous with their support, as have the many individuals in our community who have donated items, money and their time. Without their help none of our work would be possible.

Total income for the year was **£6,256.34**. The main income sources were:

Donations: £3000

Powys CC Food Poverty Grant: £3142

Total expenditure for the year was **£18,726.79** The main elements of expenditure were:

Purchase of food & other essential items for foodbank: £13,958.14

Utilities and waste disposal: £4160.24

The total deficit for the year was **£12,472.33**. However, in July 2023 we received a grant from the National Lottery Community Fund to cover the period to July 2024, so a significant amount of that funding was carried forward into our 2023-2024 financial year.

It is worth noting that the food & essential items purchase costs showed an increase of 62% on the 2022-23 financial year. This is due partly to increased demand and a fall in food donations, but is mainly accounted for by inflation in food prices.

Structure, governance and management

CATCH, also known as Cwmtawe Action to Combat Hardship, is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, governed by a constitution dated October 12th 2021.

Appointment of charity trustees

(1) Apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

(2) In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the charity trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

The following were trustees of CATCH for some or all of the 2023/24 reporting year:

Jackie Hankins

Cathie Hastie

Cathy James

Ieuan James

Jean Liles

Beverley Stokes

7th January 2025

2023/2024 CATCH Financial Statement - draft
01.11.23 to 31.10.24

The closing balances as at 31.10.23 brought forward for the 2023/24 financial year were:

Lloyds Bank	£21,440.41
Monmouthshire Building Society	£15,717.41
Cash in hand	£906.00

Total opening balance	£38,063.82
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Income

Donations	£3,000.00
Grants	£3,142.00
Food refund	£14.34
Investment income	£100.00

Total income	£6,256.34
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Expenditure

Food	£13,958.14
Insurance	£566.48
Utilities & waste	£4,160.24
Misc expenses	£41.93

Total expenditure	£18,726.79
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Surplus for 2023/24	-£12,470.45	Note: We received National Lottery funding for the year to August 2024 so carried forward a significant portion of that from the 22/23 financial year
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Closing balance for the 2023/24 financial year:

Lloyds Bank Treasurer's account	£9,775.96
Lloyds Bank savings account	£100.00
Monmouthshire Building Society	£15,717.41

Note: Up to date balance to be confirmed

Total closing balance	£25,593.37
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