

Charitable Registration Number 1202316

NORTH SOLIHULL FOODBANK
ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

NORTH SOLIHULL FOODBANK

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NORTH SOLIHULL FOODBANK

Reference and Administrative Details

Chairman

Simon Hogan

Other Trustees

Elaine Jeffs (Treasurer)

Corinne James (Secretary)

Javed Sethi

Veronica Fulcher (resigned June 2023)

Reverend Mandy Harris (appointed 14th July 2023)

Registered Office

1258 Kingsbury Road,

Castle Vale,

Birmingham

B35 6AG

Charitable Registration Number

1202316

Bankers

HSBC

Independent Examiner

Andy Carswell

Chartered Banker

NORTH SOLIHULL FOODBANK

Trustees Report for the year 31st December 2023

1. Structure Governance Management

1.1. Governing Document

North Solihull Foodbank is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). The trustees adopted a constitution on the 3rd March 2023 in accordance with the foundation model published by the Charity Commission. The North Solihull Foodbank was established for charitable purposes for the public benefit and entered onto the Register of Charities on the 14th March 2023 with the registered charity number 1202316

1.2 Trustees and Management

North Solihull Foodbank is managed by a Board of Trustees . The duty of members of the Board is as follows:

- (a) To exercise his or her powers and to perform his or her functions as a trustee of the charity in the way he or she decides would most likely to further the purposes of the charity: and
- (b) To exercise, in the performance of those functions, such care and skill as is reasonable in the circumstances having regard in particular to;
 - (i) Any special knowledge and experience that he or she has or holds himself or herself as having: and
 - (ii) If he or she acts as a Trustee of the charity in the course of a business or profession, to any special knowledge or experience that it is reasonable to expect of a person acting in the course of that kind of business or profession.

The Trustees were appointed for a period of three years

The Trustees met on a further 8 occasions since 3rd March 2023 to review performance and monitor the organisation progress in meeting objectives and to propose and implement any appropriate policies

1.3 Related Organisations

North Solihull Foodbank is affiliated to the charity Trussell Trust which runs a national network of foodbanks giving emergency food and support to people in crisis across the UK.

NORTH SOLIHULL FOODBANK

Trustees Report for the year 31st December 2023

1.4 Management of Risk

Since its formation the Trustees have adopted a broad range of policies that are intended to manage and minimise risk. These include policies on Data Protection, equal opportunities, complaints, ethics, health and safety, lone volunteering, personal safety, privacy, safeguarding, IT and communications, Whistleblowing

As a condition of being affiliated to Trussell Trust, the charity is subject to regular quality assurance inspection to ensure that the charity complies with Trussell Trust policies, procedures and practices

2. Objectives and Activities

2.1 Charitable Objectives

"The relief of financial hardship amongst people in North Solihull, East Birmingham and the surrounding area in such ways as the trustees from time-to-time think fit, in particular, but not exclusively by:

- a) providing emergency food, essential toiletries, and household items to individuals and families in need and/or for distribution by charities or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.
- b) such other means, including (but not limited to) the provision of support or signposting to relevant information and other advisory services"

2.2 Activities

- Non-Perishable in date food is donated in supermarket collection boxes and through schools, libraries, churches, businesses and individuals
- Food is weighed, sorted logged and stored in our warehouse and at the location of our food banks
- Referral Agencies and partner agencies identify people in need (our service users) and issue a specific food voucher either electronically or in paper form. Anyone in need can be referred to us from our referral agency without discrimination
- Service users present their voucher to us at our distribution centre at Auckland Hall in Smith's Wood or the Welcome Change centre in Shard End
- Service Users receive a three day emergency food parcel to meet their needs and those of their dependants
- Service users may be sign posted to a care agency, advice centre or other support agency to help resolve their immediate and interim needs

2.3 Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers and duties.

3. Achievements and Performance

3.1. Summary and Achievements

The Foodbank has made good progress in establishing itself as a new foodbank and building on the work of the Kingfisher Foodbank and has met the challenges that it has faced. The Foodbank is in the heart of a socially deprived community with high rates of child poverty (i.e. the proportion of all children aged 0 to 15 living in income deprived families and working age poverty (the proportion of working-age adults who experience income deprivation) while the percentage of adults aged 16 - 70 with no academic, vocational or professional qualifications is high.

The foodbank continues to face a strong demand for its services as we seek to serve our community of North Solihull, East Birmingham and the surrounding area in and we operate out of two centres Auckland Hall, 25 Sunbeam Close, Smiths Wood, Birmingham, B36 9JR and Welcome Change Community Centre Ownall Road/Coneyford Road Shard End Birmingham B34 7AJ and have our warehouse at Castle Vale

We are grateful to the many loyal, willing and helpful volunteers that give up their own time to support the work of the foodbank and its smooth running and those who are in real need. Without the dedication of these hard working and selfless volunteers the foodbank function. A particular thanks goes to our Project Manager who after many years of faithful service who decided to step down and after a break to rejoin as a volunteer. We are glad that we will still enjoy her energy, faithfulness and good humour as well as her expertise and experience .

A big thanks must go to our generous donors, whether they be individuals or organisations or businesses who support us financially through regularly giving of both food and money. This has been particularly appreciated with the increase in demand.

3.2 Performance

Statistic for 14th March to 31st December 2023

Clients Fed	4388 in total
	1810 children
	2578 adults
Total Food Distributed	25410.17 Kg
Toal Vouchers fulfilled	1775

Common reasons given for visiting a Foodbank

Statistics for 4th April to 31st December 2023 (not including those who gave no answer, declined to answer or unable to ask or were not applicable

Financial Earnings Related	
Reason for Visit	% of total share
Change in in work Hours	88 (24.65%)
Unemployment following permanent work	100 (28.01%)
Unemployment following temporary work	41 (11.49 %)
Delay in or awaiting other income	128 (35.85%)
Total	357

Financial Benefit Related	% of total share
Benefit delay	273 (36.50%)
Benefit deduction due to overpayment or benefit advance	137 (18.32%)
Benefit reduction due to change in eligibility	65 (8.69%)
Benefit reduction due to sanction	176 (23.53%)
Awaiting first benefit payment for less than a month	47 (6.28%)
Awaiting first benefit payment for more than a month	50 (6.68%)
Total	748

Financial - debts, costs and expenses	% of total share
Priority debt	1039 (25.29%)
Non-priority debt	451 (10.98%)
Cost of dependents has increased	547 (13.31%)
Rising costs of essentials	1725 (41.98%)
Other unexpected expense	347 (8.44%)
Total	4109

Personal circumstances	% of total share
Insecurely housed	101 (19.69%)
No access to financial support due to immigration status	21 (4.09%)

Loss of support from friends or family	126 (24.56%)
Change in relationship status	76 (14.81%)
Domestic abuse	127 (24.76%)
Change in dependents	62 (12.09%)
Total	513

Health	% of total share
New physical or mental health condition	107 (13.31%)
Ongoing impact of physical or mental health condition	656 (81.59%)
Change in existing physical or mental health condition	41 (5.10%)
Total	804

Most frequent Referring Agent

Referral Agent	Total Vouchers Issued
Job Centre Plus	564
Universal Credit/Solihull Jago House Job Centre	92
Citizens Advice Solihull Borough	66
Family Support Services Solihull	53
Solihull Connect (Chelmsley Wood)	36
Age UK Solihull	22
Fir Cones Child Centre	20

3.3 Financial Performance

Although the foodbank has only operated for three quarters of the 2023 financial year it has proved to be a satisfactory one with the challenges that opening a new foodbank brings. It has not been without its difficulties but these have been met by the foodbank and which will hold us in good stead going forward.

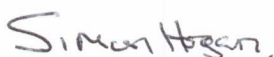
The success of the foodbank finances has been in large part due to the generosity of its donors (financial and in terms of food donations) and grant makers supporting the valued work we are doing and which give the foodbank confidence to look forward to the future and helping many more vulnerable people in their time of need.

4. Goals and Objectives for 2024

The main objectives for 2024 are to appoint a paid part time Project Manager for the first time and to look for volunteers who would be willing to get involved in particular aspects of the foodbank and to take responsibility for them, e.g. for our website, training, so as to make the foodbank more robust if key personnel retire or leave

We are mindful that the location of Auckland Hall is slightly out of the way and we are on the lookout for a distribution centre that could be combined with storage facilities

Approved by the Trustees on 29th November 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Simon Hogan

Chair of the Board of Trustees

North Solihull Foodbank

Statement of Trustees responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of the resources of the charity for that year in preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently :
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities 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: and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure the financial statements complies with the Charities Act [2011]. The applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities,



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

North Solihull Foodbank

No (if any)
1202316

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
14th March 2023

To

Period end date
31st December 2023

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					
Direct Regular Giving	4,530	-	-	4,530	-
Donations from Organisations	18,737	28917	-	47,654	-
Donations From Individuals	10,177	-	-	10,177	-
Compensation Payments	100	-	-	100	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	33,544	28917	-	62,461	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	33,544	28,917	-	62,461	-
A3 Payments					
Rent/ Hire of Rooms and landlord's cc	6063	2,017	-	8,080	-
Training ,Professional cost and fees ar	387	-	-	387	-
Telephone, internet and postage	76	-	-	76	-
Printing, , stationery and computer ar	41	-	-	41	-
Light and heating	340	-	-	340	-
Council Tax Water and Sewerage	525	-	-	525	-
Fixtures Fittings and Equipment	161	-	-	161	-
Stock		23,702		23,702	
Bank Interest and Charges	60			60	
Incidental	170	-	-	170	-
Rebate	5,010	-	-	5,010	-
Sub total	12,833	25,719	-	38,552	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	12,833	25,719	-	38,552	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	20,711	3,198	-	23,909	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	83,164	1,051	-	84,215	-
Cash funds this year end	103,875	4,249	-	108,124	-

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	Petty Cash	1,555	-	-
	Bank Account	102,320	4,249	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	103,875	4,249	-
	(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 £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
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
		S. M. Hogan	simon Hogan	29/11/2024



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
North Solihull Foodbank

On accounts for the
period ended

31st December 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1202316

Set out on pages

9 and 10

(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 period ended 31 / 12 / 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:

Andy Carswell

Date:

3/12/24

Name:

Andy Carswell

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

Chartered Banker

Address:

1 Glendon Way

Dorridge

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

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