

Charitable Registration Number 1202316

NORTH SOLIHULL FOODBANK
ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 December 2024

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

Reverend Mandy Harris

Andrew Mason-Williams (18th October 2024)

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 10 occasions during 2024 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. The board has delegated the day to day management responsibilities to its management committee

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

2024 was marked by the appointment of its first paid part time Project Manager in May (supported in large measure by the generous grants received) and by the help of a neighbouring foodbank which enabled the foodbank to put in place employment policies and register with HMRC. The Foodbank has continued to serve its socially deprived community with its 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 has again this year met the strong demand for its services in North Solihull, East Birmingham and the surrounding area in and it continues to operate from Auckland Hall, 25 Sunbeam Close, Smiths Wood, Birmingham, B36 9JR and Welcome Change Community Centre Ownall Road/Coneyford Road Shard End Birmingham B34 7AJ. These distribution centres and our warehouse have been wholly staffed by volunteers, to whom we are again grateful for their support. They generously and willingly give up their own time to support the work of the foodbank and meet the needs of those who are struggling and need a helping hand to get on their feet.. Without the dedication of these hard working and selfless volunteers the foodbank would cease to function.

A vote of thanks must go to our generous donors, whether they be individuals or organisations or businesses who support us financially through giving of both food and money, whether it is a one off or regular donation.. This has been particularly appreciated with the increase in demand.

The year 2024 has had its challenges especially when we lost our Project Manager and when during the rest of 2024 we were unable to recruit and find another one to fill the gap. We made good progress on applying for funding for the provision of a full time Financial Inclusion Officer to be provided by Citizens Advice and were successful in our bid. The Financial Inclusion Officer will start in early January 2025 and will be able to provide a generalist and income maximisation service for those of our community in need of emergency food aid and facing destitution. The adviser/caseworker to be co-located at our distribution centres and will attend our three weekly distribution sessions per week The Financial Inclusion Officer will be supported by volunteers from both the local Citizens Advice and North Solihull Foodbank.

3.2 Performance

Statistic for 1st January to 31st December 2024

Clients Fed	4645 in total
	1825 children
	2820 adults
Total Food Distributed	28,127 Kg
Total Vouchers fulfilled	1916
No of Food Parcels Distributed	4645

Common reasons given for visiting a Foodbank

Statistics for 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2024 (not including those who gave no answer, declined to answer or unable to ask or were not applicable

Financial Earnings Related	
Reason for Visit	4.88 % of total share
Change in in work Hours	100(1.24%)
Unemployment following permanent work	93(1.15%)
Unemployment following temporary work	42 (0.52 %)
delay in or awaiting other income	159. (1.97%)
Total	394

Financial Benefit Related	13.96 % of total share
Benefit delay	491(6.07 %)
Benefit deduction due to overpayment or benefit advance	145(1.79 %)
Benefit reduction due to change in eligibility	162 (2 %)
Benefit reduction due to sanction	191 (2.36 %)
Awaiting first benefit payment for less than a month	87(1.08 %)
Awaiting first benefit payment for more than a month	53 (0.66 %)
Total	1129

Financial - debts, costs and expenses	60.55 % of total share
Priority debt	1231(15.22%)
Non-priority debt	551(6.81 %)
Cost of dependents has increased	494 (6.11%)
Rising costs of essentials	1979 (24.47 %)
Other unexpected expense	642 (7.94 %)
Total	4897

Personal circumstances	7 % of total share
Insecurely housed	153 (1.89 %)

No access to financial support due to immigration status	37 (0.46%)
Loss of support from friends or family	138 (1.71%)
Change in relationship status	56 (0.69%)
Domestic abuse	135 (1.67 %)
Change in dependents	47 (0.58 %)
Total	566

Health	12.98 % of total share
New physical or mental health condition	71(0.88%)
Ongoing impact of physical or mental health condition	957 (11.84 %)
Change in existing physical or mental health condition	21(0.26 %)
Total	1049

None Applicable	0.63 % of total share
None Applicable	51 (0.63%)
Total	51

Most frequent Referring Agent

Referral Agent	Total Vouchers Issued
Citizens Advice Solihull Borough	106
Job Centre Plus	102
Age UK Solihull	60
Solihull Connect (Chelmsley Wood)	51
Safeguarding and family support team	35
SJMT Sir Josiah Mason Trust	34
Coleshill Community Hub	27
Entraide (Mutual Aid)	24
BCT Yardley Early Help Team	23

3.3 Financial Performance

Our first full year it has proved to be a satisfactory one with the challenges have been met by the foodbank.

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 being able to help many more vulnerable people in their time of need.

4. Goals and Objectives for 2025

The main objectives for 2025 are to appoint another paid part time Project Manager 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. training, so as to make the foodbank more robust if key personnel retire or leave and to appoint a Financial Inclusion Officer for the first time.

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 [20th June] 2025 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

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

North Solihull Foodbank

On accounts for the
period ended

31st December 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1202316

Set out on pages

(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/ 2024.

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:

AR Carwell

Date:

23/6/25

Name:

Andy Carswell

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

Chartered Banker

Address:

1 Glendon Way

Dorridge



Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 1st January 2024	To	Period end date 31-Dec-24
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Direct Regular Giving	3,430	-	-	3,430	4,530
Donations from Organisations	41,260	-	-	41,260	18,737
Donations from Individuals	969	-	-	969	10,177
Vouchers Compensation Payments & Rebates	3,001	-	-	3,001	100
Grants from Local authorities/government	-	24,000	-	24,000	21,700
Grants from other organisations	6,036	59,698	-	65,734	7,217
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	54,696	83,698	-	138,394	62,461
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	54,696	83,698	-	138,394	62,461
A3 Payments					
Rent/Hire of Rooms and Landlords costs	11,100	-	-	11,100	8,080
Training ,Professional cost and fees and other	2,340	7,605	-	9,945	387
Telephone Internet and postage	139	-	-	139	76
Printing stationery and computer and Office Supplies	1,328	-	-	1,328	41
Light and Heating	371	-	-	371	340
Council Tax and Sewerage	637	-	-	637	525
Insurance	649	-	-	649	-
Fixtures Fittings and Equipment	-	-	-	-	161
Stock (including £ 1737 voucher spend)	-	14,064	-	14,064	23,702
Bank Interest and Charges	134	-	-	134	60
Incidental	-	-	-	-	170
Rebate	-	-	-	-	5,010
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	16,698	21,669	-	38,367	38,552
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	16,698	21,669	-	38,367	38,552
Net of receipts/(payments)	37,998	62,029	-	100,027	23,909
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	103,875	4,249	-	108,124	84,215
Cash funds this year end	138,873	69,278	-	208,151	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	553	-	-
	Bank Account	138,320	68,015	-
	Uncashed Vouchers	-	1,263	-
	Total cash funds	138,873	69,278	-
	(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 £
	Stock held at Warehouse	7,957	-	-
			-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
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	20.6.2025