

# News-Feed



Providing emergency food for local people in crisis

Issue 10 April - August 2020

## Wirral Foodbank's response to the Covid Crisis

*In four months, 71 tonnes of food distributed, 6,500 people supported - 51% increase on the same period last year.*

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> March Wirral Foodbank became part of the Wirral Food Hub; working with Wirral Council and other local charities we combined forces to deliver a unified response to the pandemic. Our volunteers and staff rose to the challenge.

Mark Camborne, Wirral Council's lead for the humanitarian response to the COVID-19 crisis in Wirral, commented during the period of lockdown:

*"The Foodbank is one of our key partners in the excellent work being done by the Emergency Food Hub. We simply wouldn't be providing such an exceptional level of support to our most vulnerable residents without their help; though the scale of this situation is unprecedented for us all, feeding people during a crisis is what they do, it's what they've done for years."*

*"Having Wirral Foodbank and other community food providers and charities, and the social supermarkets, so embedded in this operation from the very early days of the pandemic has been central to what we've been able to achieve and is the reason why so many other local authorities have been using our model as the one to follow."*

The people of Wirral and local businesses responded to the crisis. Thank you to all who gave so generously, in food and financial donations. We received support from Wirral expats throughout the UK and across the world! "Wirral Foodbank, supported by the people of Wirral for the people of Wirral."

We never take for granted the support we receive; thank you for your continued support. For information on how to support us please visit [www.wirral.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.wirral.foodbank.org.uk).



Pictured above are some of our incredible volunteers at the Emergency Food Hub, ensuring those in need during the Covid crisis received emergency food support.

Below is Katy, one of our volunteers. Although unable to attend the Warehouse in person during lockdown she collected and sorted donations from family and friends in her back garden. Thank you Katy.

## Overwhelming response to the pandemic

*April - July, 73 tonnes of food donated - 74% increase on the same period last year.*

Wirral Business Centre, Unit 14 Dock Road, Birkenhead, CH41 1JW [www.wirral.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.wirral.foodbank.org.uk)  
Email: [enquiries@wirralfoodbank.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@wirralfoodbank.org.uk) Tel: 0151 638 7090  
Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered in England charity number 1167967

## Six emergency food parcels every minute

expected to be provided by food banks in the Trussell Trust network this winter.



Trussell Trust research, carried out with Heriot Watt University, estimates 846,000 parcels will need to be provided by our network to people in crisis during October to December 2020 - a 61% increase on last year. And an additional 670,000 people will be destitute by the end of the year, meaning they cannot afford essentials like housing, energy, and food. Select the following link for more information:

<https://www.trusselltrust.org/heriot-watt-research-2020/>

## Celebrating National Volunteers' Week 2020



Angela Eagle, MP, thanks volunteers and staff of Wirral Foodbank, visit our website to find out more:

<https://wirral.foodbank.org.uk/2020/08/27/angela-eagle-mp-visits-the-foodbank/>

## Wirral Foodbank prepares for Winter

As we go to press the "R" rate is increasing across Wirral. There are challenges ahead that will affect many in our community, including:

- the ending of holiday meal vouchers for schools
- the furlough scheme ending in October
- moratorium now lifted on eviction for rent arrears
- the reintroduction of deductions from benefits

It is likely that we will see an increase in demand for our services over the coming weeks and months.

Distribution Centres are open in Birkenhead, Wallasey and Eastham.

With your help, Wirral Foodbank will continue to support those in need across Wirral.

The Covid crisis has highlighted the work undertaken by volunteers across the country. In June we celebrated the contribution of our volunteers. We would like to thank "The Real Dairy Ice Cream Co" who kindly visited and donated Ice Cream to our Warehouse volunteers.

Revd Colin Hart, Chair of Trustees, sent the following message:

*"On behalf of all the people in need on the Wirral who have turned to the Foodbank in their hour of need during the past year, the Trustees express heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers at Distribution centres, warehouses and office who have made this response possible.*

*We are especially grateful to those who have responded to the current crisis by offering their services in the Council Food Hub and our own warehouse. You are doing a great job.*

*For those who are unable to volunteer at present, because of the pandemic, thanks for all you have done during the year and we look forward to welcoming you back when circumstances allow. Meanwhile, John Milton's words are true, "They also serve who only stand and wait."*

Rev Colin Hart, Chair of Trustees, Wirral Foodbank

Visit [www.wirral.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.wirral.foodbank.org.uk) for latest information

We are grateful for the support of the following organisations:



Stop press – Wirral Foodbank AGM, Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021, 7pm (venue to be confirmed)

Wirral Foodbank is committed to protecting your privacy and will process your personal data in accordance with current Data Protection legislation. Wirral Foodbank collects information to keep in touch with you and supply you with information relating to our work. A full data privacy statement is available from the foodbank on request. If you do not wish to receive further information from Wirral Foodbank, please email [manager@wirralfoodbank.org.uk](mailto:manager@wirralfoodbank.org.uk) with the word