



News-Feed

"Providing emergency food for people in crisis"



Demand for Emergency Food support continues..

...with an average of 350 – 400 emergency food parcels provided per week. This is significantly higher than in previous years of 170 per week. January 2024 is 8% higher than the same month last year.

As we look ahead to the next six months, there are several challenges that could result in an increase in the number of individuals needing emergency food support:

- The Government have recently confirmed that the last instalment of the [Cost of Living](#) Payments, of £299, will be going out in February. Our experience and that of other foodbanks across the UK is that when this payment is made, demand for foodbank support reduces.
- As we prepare this edition for publication there is doubt as to whether the Government will continue with the [Household Support Fund](#). The fund is administered by Wirral Council and has been a lifeline to many in our community.

To heat or eat. There are more than four million homes in the UK with a prepayment gas and/or electricity meter. During the winter, people who prepay for their energy typically pay more than direct debit customers, whose costs are evenly spread throughout the year. With the average energy bill currently around £2,000 a year, prepayment meter users are paying an extra £313 compared to those who pay by direct debit. [source: Fuel Bank Foundation](#)

Key facts

In the last 12 months:

- **16,036 emergency food parcels were given out, 5,514 for children.**
- **27% increase on the same period last year.**
- **232 tonnes of food distributed.**
- **156 tonnes of food donated.**
- **55 tonnes of food purchased.**
- **£100,000 spent on buying food.**
- **Top cause of Foodbank use is Cost-of-living crisis.**
- **38% attending are families.**
- **14% attending are in work.**

Areas of greatest need



Asda Food collection



Thank you to all who supported our recent Asda food collection at Bromborough and Liscard stores. We collected an incredible 921 kgs of food, equivalent to one Transit van.

A picture of our volunteer drivers, Jed, Paul, and Mike, with Warehouse Assistant Nathan and Foodbank Manager Richard.

News from Trussell Trust

Just as there is no 'typical' person who is forced to use a food bank, there is also no single or simple journey that leads them there. But, while there are many contributing factors, insufficient income is the fundamental driver for almost all people forced to use a food bank. The vast majority (86%) of people referred to food banks in the Trussell Trust network in mid-2022 have an income so low that they were experiencing destitution when they were supported by the food bank. These already low incomes are further destabilised by a lack of savings and having to cope with arrears and debt. [source: 2023 The Trussell Trust Hunger in the UK report](#)

Meet one of our volunteers

My name is Lisa and I have been a volunteer with Wirral Foodbank for about 5 years. I volunteer once a week in the Office which involves a variety of admin tasks, talking to clients, donors and agencies on the phone and helping to maintain the database. I really enjoy the variety of jobs I can do in the office.



I also volunteer in St Vincent's once a week with a team of volunteers providing bags of food directly to clients. We chat to clients about their needs and offer them the chance to get advice from agencies like Foodbank Plus. I enjoy being a small part of a team providing practical help to people in the local area.

I have met some great people through volunteering here and I really value the opportunity to support others in my community.

Warehouse

We are grateful for the generous support of all who donate to Wirral Foodbank. The cost-of-living is affecting us all, despite this, it is encouraging that stock donations for the last twelve months are consistent with this time last year. Unfortunately, donations are not keeping pace with demand – this has necessitated an increase in the amount of stock we are purchasing.

We deliver nearly 4 tonnes of food per week, equivalent to one full transit van per day.

Food or monetary donations are vital for the ongoing work of Wirral Foodbank. Please go to our donate page or QR code for information on how you can support Wirral Foodbank.



The pictures show some of our Warehouse volunteers sorting stock donations, by type and date, ready for distribution to our eleven centres across Wirral.

Support Wirral Foodbank

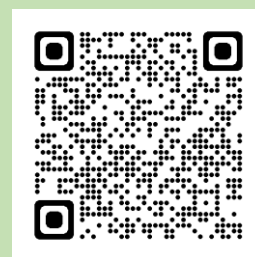
SHOPPING LIST

Items we are most in need of:

- Tinned Custard
- Pasta Sauce
- Tinned Potatoes
- Tinned Meat
- Tinned Fruit

Download [our Lent shopping list](#)

[Donate to Wirral Foodbank](#)



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