

Our Food Bank and Community Food Shop are doing great work. We keep simple, but robust, data recording the number of people receiving food for a week as “total fed”. These numbers are rising. Total numbers of people fed in 2024 were: Food Bank 2637 and Community Food Shop 7078.

The Food Bank addresses emergency need while the Food Shop involves membership which is conditional on accepting support to address underlying issues (usually debt or insufficient income). (To find out more about our work view the PowerPoint presentation [here](#).)

At present we have adequate financial reserves and are managing. But as, sadly, demand increases we worry that these reserves will not last long. Donations of food have reduced significantly. We depend heavily on longstanding donors who have set up regular donations of money and we greatly appreciate this reliable support.

We carefully used reserves to meet additional needs in 2023 and 2024. Now we have resumed our earlier practice of approaching major local charities seeking grant aid. We now await response to some six applications.

I post a Newsletter on our website every two months informing donors, and interested readers, about our work and progress and keep reminding them how much we value their continuing support.

- If you are not already a donor, please follow the link to Newsletters on this website
- If you wish to donate, ideally through regular donations, please go to our Donate page and complete and return the donation form.

Thanks.

John Hull, Chair of Trustees S2 Food Poverty Network

19<sup>th</sup> February 2025