# Taff-Ely Foodbank Monthly Newsletter



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A message from our CEO, Andrew Butcher



Dear Friends,

As we move into the heart of summer, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible resilience and generosity of our community here in Taff Ely.

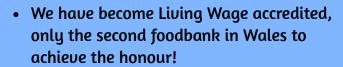
Over the past month, we've seen both challenges and triumphs. The cost of living continues to impact many households across Taff Ely with almost 250 people provided with emergency food parcels, alarmingly, almost 100 of these were children, but thanks to your ongoing support—whether through donations, volunteering, or simply spreading the word—we've been able to stand alongside those who need us most.

June has brought a renewed sense of togetherness. From school collections to local fundraising events, we've witnessed first-hand what can happen when people come together with compassion and purpose. It's in these moments that the true spirit of our community shines through.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to not only providing emergency food but also supporting people on the journey out of crisis. We will continue to expand our partnerships and working more closely with local organisations to offer wraparound support—because we know food is just one part of the picture.

Thank you for being part of this mission. Your kindness continues to change lives.

#### News





- Our Baby Bank Fundraiser brought in an in incredible £14,000 to support babies in Taff-Ely!
- We were featured in <u>WalesOnline</u> and <u>Nation.Cymru</u>, where our Support Manager Charmaine shared what she was seeing in our centres!
- We visited London with Trussell to meet our MPs in Parliament to discuss pursuing an Essentials Guarantee!
- We are <u>recruiting</u> a volunteer van driver.
   Check out our social media to learn more!



#### **Monthly Spotlight**

- Aviva, who match funded our babybank fundraiser and helped raise an amazing £13,138.
- The Blister Sisters, a local mums group who walked and ran to raise over <u>£600</u> for our foodbank, and donated an amazing 91 kg of food to help people in crisis.
- To mark Volunteers Week 2025, all of our volunteers! To all of the people who give their time in our warehouse, distribution centres, and fundraising work, we couldn't do it without you.

  Thank you!!

### Keep in touch with us on social media:

f Facebook: Taff-Ely Foodbank

X / Twitter: @TaffElyFoodbank

Instagram: @taffely.foodbank

LinkedIn: Taff Ely Foodbank

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## Fundraising Update by Laura Edwards

This month has been a busy one for fundraising at Taff Ely Foodbank, with a continued focus on growing support for our vital services. We submitted three funding applications totalling approximately £82,250 to support our core projects and expand our impact.



Our Aviva Crowdfunder came to a close on June 17th, after running for 42 days. Thanks to the generosity of over 300 supporters, we raised an incredible £13,138, surpassing our original target of £10,000. This will enable us to spend over £1,000 per month on essential Baby Bank stock.

We also hosted our Baby Bank Fundraising Event at Talbot Green Community Centre. While attendance was lower than we'd hoped, the event brought some real positives: we strengthened relationships with local businesses, connected with new supporters, and increased awareness of our work in the community.

Thank you to everyone who continues to champion our cause, we're building strong foundations for the months ahead!

#### Campaigning Update by Matthew Stevens

June was an incredible month for Taff-Ely
Foodbank's campaigning work. RCT County
Borough Council, having met with the foodbank
and our campaign team, has voted to support the campaign to
Guarantee our Essentials! Our thanks to the council for their
supppot!

We have also begun following up on our Community Conversations events in May - it is clear we should all work more closely to provide a clearer picture of hardship in RCT and ensure we are doing our best to help people in hardship, and that's what we intend to do!

If you're interested in campaigning with us get in touch with me at Matthew@taffely.foodbank.org.uk!

#### **Key Date(s) for your Diary**

- 09/08 Our next food collection at Tesco (Talbot Green)
- · More dates to come!

## <u>Urgently Needed Items</u>



Chocolate/Sweets
Pot Noodles
UHT Milk

Soup
Biscuits

### <u>The Picture Nationwide - Annual Stats and Lobby Day</u>

This month, Trussell released their annual stats, showing <u>171,673</u> food parcels were distributed across Wales and over 2.9m across the UK in 2024/25. To read the full report, check out the Trussell Website <u>here</u>. You can also check how many parcels were given out by postcode <u>here</u>.

On June 18<sup>th</sup> Taff-Ely joined foodbanks from across the UK at a Lobby Day in Westminster, where we spoke to our Members of Parliament about the Guarantee our Essentials campaign. It was an inspiring day and we cant wait to see what happens next!