2025/26 REVIEW

Wirral Foodbank
Together with Trussell

Wirral people helping Wirral people

15 Years of Wirral Foodbank



Paul Franklin
Chair of Wirral Foodbank

When Wirral Foodbank was first established 15 years ago, no one could have imagined that there would still be such a need for our services today.

While the fact a foodbank is still needed is certainly not something to celebrate, this important anniversary does give us an opportunity to pause and recognise the incredible people who have supported us over the years.

To our supporters, donors, volunteers, staff and Trustees — thank you. Your generosity, time and commitment have helped us continue to support people and families across our community when they need it most.

As our financial year comes to an end, we have an opportunity to reflect on the past twelve months — the people we have supported, the difference our community has made, and the challenges we have faced. But it is also a time to look ahead.

The need for our services remains, and there will undoubtedly be challenges in the year ahead. Yet we know that, with the continued support of our amazing community, we can meet those challenges together.

REVIEW OF 2025/2026

- **14,006 emergency food parcels.**
- **7,108 households supported.**
- **32% of emergency food parcels were for children.**
- **On average, each household received just under two emergency food parcels.**
- **205 tonnes of food distributed.**
- **114 tonnes of food donations received.**
- **57 tonnes of food purchased.**

Did you know? 📊

Ø Referrals to Wirral Foodbank come only from trusted sources, such as Wirral Council, Citizens Advice Wirral & other organisations, including schools & specialist support agencies

Ø Food help is for a strictly limited time. We issue food parcels to last four days.

Ø All food is canned, in jars, or dry goods. We cannot supply fresh food.

Ø Rising food prices mean that demand is now outstripping our resources.

Keep up-to-date:

THIS YEAR AT THE FOODBANK...

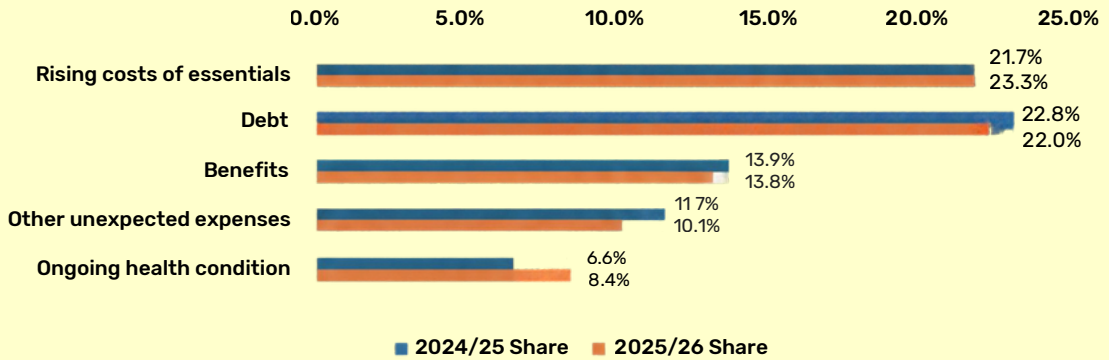
2025/26 REVIEW

***"There is no single reason why people turn to Wirral Foodbank for support. For many people, rising costs of essential items and increasing levels of debt continue to make it difficult to make ends meet."* - Richard Roberts**

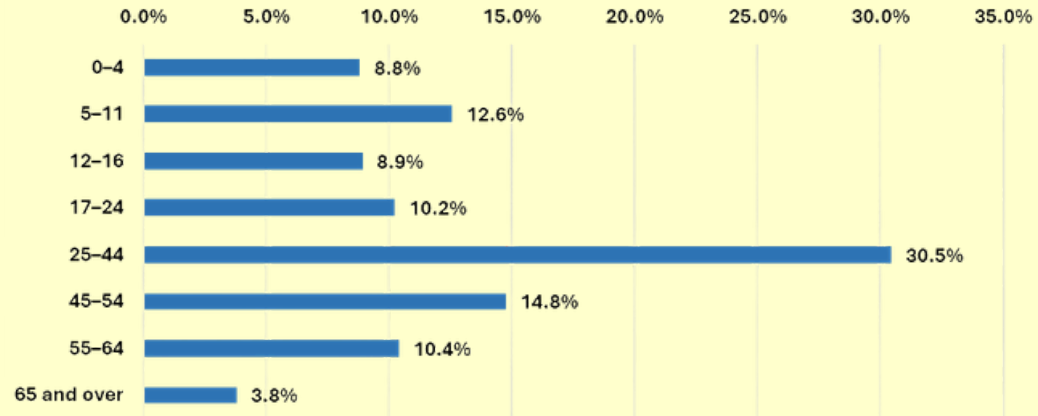
Behind every referral is a person or family facing their own unique circumstances. Our support helps people through difficult times, providing not only essential food but also a welcoming and compassionate place to turn when they need it most.



Top 5 reasons for needing emergency food support



2025/26 share of people supported by age group





Last year, we spent on average **£8,000 per month buying food.** Your support is needed more than ever to help us provide emergency food and practical advice to local people facing financial hardship. Find out how you can support Wirral Foodbank by visiting our website.

Thank you for helping us be there for people, when they need us most.

Keep up-to-date:

SEPTEMBER 2026

FOODBANK PLUS+

DELIVERED BY CITIZENS ADVICE



Over the past 12 months alone, Foodbank Plus has supported 2,254 individuals, helping unlock more than £345,000 in financial gains through new or increased social security payments, debt write-offs, grants and essential white goods. Since 2020, Foodbank Plus has made a lasting difference to 15,816 people — helping to ease financial hardship, create greater stability and open the door to opportunities that can change lives. In total, its support has delivered nearly £2.4 million in financial gains.

"At the centre of all we do is a person. A family or a child who, due to an unexpected crisis, needs emergency food."

WHAT PEOPLE HAVE TO SAY

THANK YOU, I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D DONE WITHOUT YOUR HELP.



I am so glad that I came in today to speak with you today.

It's took a weight off my shoulder. I can buy myself proper things. Proper food. I can't thank you enough.



I CANNOT FAULT YOU GUYS. ABSOLUTELY FANTASTIC.



Thanks for your help and take care mate.



Wirral Foodbank
Wirral People Helping Wirral People



Richard Roberts
GENERAL MANAGER



Liz Appleby
OFFICE MANAGER & VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR



Beth Saunders
COMMUNITY ORGANISER & CAMPAIGN MANAGER,



Michael Gavin
WAREHOUSE MANAGER



Daniel Perry
WAREHOUSE ASSISTANT

Trustees

Our Trustees provide invaluable leadership and strategic oversight for Wirral Foodbank, and we are grateful for their continued commitment. Last year, we thanked Mike Cleave and Sue Chadwick as they stepped down after many years of dedicated service.

We also welcomed Professor Michael Brown, Gill Peters, Cheryl Sharp, Paula Simpson, Rachel Cubbin, and Laura Braddock to the Board. Their wealth of expertise and fresh perspectives will further strengthen our Board and support Wirral Foodbank's work in the years ahead.

Staff

We welcomed Daniel Perry to the team last year as our new Warehouse Assistant, with Michael Gavin moving into the role of Warehouse Manager following Andrew Lawrence's retirement.
We thank Andrew for his dedicated service and wish him all the very best for his retirement.

Volunteers

We welcomed 48 new volunteers last year, bringing our dedicated volunteer team to more than 200 people
"The very varied range of backgrounds of our volunteers and their fantastic ongoing commitment to the foodbank enables us to provide an excellent service to our clients."
Liz Appleby — Office Manager and Volunteer Coordinator

Campaigning

Our campaigning team is hearing directly from individuals and charities about the growing financial pressures facing people in our communities, in particular:

- Changes to the Council Tax Reduction (CTR) scheme mean people on low incomes are now expected to contribute **50% of their Council Tax**, up from 17.5% previously. For a two-person household, that can mean **around £60 more each month** — a significant extra cost for households already struggling to make ends meet. We will continue listening to those affected and raising their experiences through our campaigning work.
- At just **£98 a week for a single adult,** the basic rate of Universal Credit falls short of what people need to cover essentials like food, household bills and travel. At Wirral foodbank, we hear this time and time again from people across the borough: **social security payments aren't enough to make ends meet.** We are joining Trussell and foodbanks across the UK to campaign for a social security system that provides enough for people to afford the essentials.

Please Support Us:



DONATE FOOD

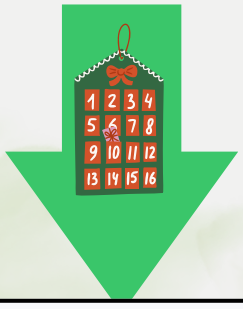
Please visit our website to find out the various ways you can donate food

- TINNED CUSTARD
- TINNED FRUIT
- TINNED POTATOES
- CEREAL
- TOOTHPASTE

HIGH DEMAND

ADVENT CALENDAR

Add one item a day - to help spread the christmas spirit!



DONATE MONEY

Alternatively click here for ways to financially support Wirral Foodbank



Wirral Foodbank | Registered Charity Number: 116 7967
Unit 14 Dock Road, Birkenhead, CH41 1JW
www.wirral.foodbank.org.uk | enquiries@wirralfoodbank.org.uk | 0151 638 7090
To unsubscribe, email manager@wirralfoodbank.org.uk with "*unsubscribe*" in the subject line.

Keep up-to-date:

Make someone's Christmas a happy one

Reverse Advent Calendar 2026

Wirral Foodbank
Together with Trussell



HOW TO USE THIS CALENDAR

Find a sturdy container large enough to hold the 30 items as listed below.

Each day of November, check the date square on the calendar and place the named item into your box.

Drop your filled container off at our warehouse (address below) before 3 December.

We are open **Mon – Thur from 10am to 1.30pm.**

We close for Christmas at 12pm on Wednesday 23 December.

You can also donate money if you wish by visiting our Give As You Live Page (see link at bottom of sheet)

24 Tinned Custard

9 Toothpaste/ Toothbrush

13 Coffee

23 Sugar

20 Washing Up Liquid

7 Tinned Meat

18 Washing Powder Tablets

25 Pasta Sauce

12 Jam

2 Tinned Vegetables

17 Tinned Spaghetti

4 Tinned Fish

21 Deodorant

22 Shampoo

26 Biscuits

11 Rice

27 Soap

10 Milk

19 Tinned Soup

14 Dried Lentils

5 Cereal

3 Tinned Tomatoes

8 Shower Gel

30 Tinned Potatoes

6 Chocolate Bars

16 Packet Soup

1 Rice Pudding

29 Squash

15 Tinned Fruit

28 UHT Milk

Warehouse Address

Unit 14, Wirral Business Centre, Dock Road, Birkenhead CH411JW

https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/christmas-2026