THE OSWESTRY & BORDERS FOODBANK

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2026

THE OSWESTRY & BORDERS FOODBANK

CHARITY INFORMATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2026

CHARITY'S NAME

The Oswestry & Borders Foodbank

REGISTRATION NUMBER

1143519

ADDRESS

56 Beatrice Street
Oswestry
Shropshire
SY11 1QW

TRUSTEES

Kathryn Eleanor Davies (Secretary)	resigned 26/06/2025
Malcolm William Harold Hubbell	
Michael Stewart Jackson (Treasurer)	
Andrea Irene Lee	resigned 14/04/2026
Carl Trevor Rogers	
Alison Baseley Utting (Interim Chair)	
Susan Ann Forgie	appointed 08/09/2025

THE OSWESTRY & BORDERS FOODBANK

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2026

The Foodbank's Constitution was adopted on 20th June 2011 and amended (in respect of membership) on 12th June 2019. The Charity's objectives are "the prevention or relief of poverty in Oswestry and Borders region by providing grants, items and services to individuals in need and/or charities or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty'. In pursuit of these objectives, the charity:

- provides food parcels to people referred to as being in need. To achieve this, the Foodbank has entered into relationships with local churches, shops and other organisations to collect food.

-hosts a number of organisations who provide help and guidance to clients, these include The Samaritans, Mental Health Service, Citizen's Advice and Adult Social Care.

- provides small grants to people at risk of, for example, eviction or suspension of power supplies.

- partners with other agencies providing cash vouchers; such as Fuel Bank Foundation, Marches Energy Agency, Community Resource Grant, Oswestry Town Council and Shropshire's Welfare & Support Fund.

The Foodbank's work is made possible through the efforts of its volunteers. There are approximately 35 volunteers who work across different teams in stock, front of house, operations and deliveries. The Foodbank operates from three premises in Oswestry. No. 56 Beatrice Street is the registered address for the charity and houses the main administrative office as well as being the main food distribution hub. The Foodbank also rents the next-door premises No. 58 Beatrice Street which is used to support its collaborations with external organisations (e.g. providing a pleasant space for clients to meet with Samaritans). In 2023, the Foodbank made a service level agreement with Citizens Advice for providing/ funding a financial inclusion worker for at least a period of three years, to support people with benefits, maximising income and other related issues in our work in ending the need for foodbanks. This was funded over the first three years with a grant from Trussell, this grant has now come to an end, The Foodbank has decided to continue the agreement with Citizens Advice and is grateful for a multi-year grant from Oswestry Town Council which will fund this work. Unit 9 Radfords Field Industrial Estate is used for the storage of food stocks.

The Foodbank continues to make deliveries to those households who are not mobile or are unable to collect their emergency food due to costs of transport. The Foodbank has four volunteers who work in pairs, delivering to the outlying households. Volunteer drivers are offered mileage costs. Volunteers are also given a free lunch in the form of bought sandwiches, if they are working over the lunch period.

Initially, the Foodbank was wholly operated by volunteers. Some years ago, the Trustees took the decision to employ a part-time Project Manager. Subsequently, an additional Deputy Project Manager was employed also on a part-time basis. This enabled the Project Manager to devote more time to making grant applications and working with partner organisations. In 2026/27 the Deputy Project Manager will attend a ten-month Leadership course entitled "Looking at Strategic and Operational Work Across Foodbanks" organised by Trussell. A grant from Trussell is making this possible.

The Foodbank currently works with 144 referral agencies, both statutory and other charities, to support households in need. Signposting and referring go both ways. These agencies include housing, children's services, GP surgeries, schools, the council, homeless, mental health and addiction services. Demands for help continue to be high and 6,153 food parcels were issued during the year, 2025/26. 64% of the households who received help were families with dependant children. 27% of these families had three or more children. 5% of the households contained individuals of pensionable age. Low income, physical and mental illness, as well as benefit delays and rising cost of essentials all contribute to the increasing need for the Foodbank.

The Trustees are once more pleased to report that the use of 58 Beatrice St which has been primarily rented to support collaboration with Citizen's Advice is generating measurable benefits for its clients. Citizen's Advice report that income gains for clients using their service at the Foodbank were £90,608 in 2025/26. As a result of these 29 households no longer require food from the Foodbank. Citizen's Advice have aslo been able to assist Foodbank clients to manage debts totalling £16,992.

Thanks go to New Life Church for the use of their upstairs rooms to pack Christmas hampers this year using 1500kg of food,toiletries and gifts. The hampers were distributed to 180 households where 700 people (including children) benefited from them.

In 2024/25 the Foodbank reported an income of £82,222. In this finacial year (2025/26) income has risen to £156,476 leading to a small deficit for the year of £4,736 (compared with £92,971 in the previous year). The rise in income was due to increases in both General Donations and Grants, however, the rise in grant income was the most significant factor. The Foodbank is becoming increasingly reliant on grant income and in recognition of this the Trustees took steps to seek a new Trustee with considerable experience of successful grant bids. The Truestees are pleased to report that a well-qualified individual has volunteered and been appointed. As noted previously in this report, the Trustees are grateful to Oswestry Town Council for a grant which has been made to the Foodbank in the financial year 2026/27 and will be repeated in subsequent years.

Food expenditure this year was a little higher than it was in 2024/25 but still below the amount spent in 2023/24.The Foodbank accepts donations of non-perishable food from several locations in the Oswestry and Borders area. These are supplemented by fresh food (e.g. bread, vegetables and milk) in the parcels handed out to clients. In 2025/26 approximately 51% of the food issued to clients was donated with 49% purchased from local supermarkets. During the year, the Foodbank was also able to provide digital cash and food vouchers, white goods and a much needed bed via an online platform called Huggg. This activity was funded by Shropshire Council as part of the household support fund.

The trustees confidently believe that they have complied fully with the legal duty of having regard to public benefit, as set out in Charity Commission guidance.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees on 22/07/2026

Alison Baseley Utting (Interim Chair)

Michael Stewart Jackson

THE OSWESTRY & BORDERS FOODBANK

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2026

		2026		2025
INCOME	£	£	£	£
Grants (Note 1)		70,894		17,228
General Donations (Note 2)		85,582		68,994
		156,476		86,222
LESS EXPENSES				
Rent (Note 3)	18,662		23,775	
Utilities	5,044		6,774	
Insurances	1,500		1,308	
Salaries (Note 4)	42,339		41,079	
Food Stocks	52,600		45,065	
Christmas Hampers	13,376		11,830	
Client Welfare Payments	3,307		687	
Winter Fuel Payments	346		2,580	
I.C.O. Membership	47		47	
Citizens' Advice	13,525		29,434	
HR-inform	2,232		-	
Office Supplies (Note 5)	2,548		3,274	
Volunteer Expenses (Note 6)	1,815		1,220	
Health & Safety Expenses (Note 7)	240		167	
Training	159		414	
Trustee Expenses (Note 8)	2,010		363	
Employee Expenses	804		1,076	
Accountancy fees	648		690	
HUGGG Fees	10		-	
Grants	-		9,410	
		161,212		179,193
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE		(4,736)		(92,971)
Bank reconciliation				
Opening balance		151,551		244,522
Income less Expenditure		(4,736)		(92,971)
Closing balance		146,815		151,551
Funds Balance				
Restricted Funds		13,060		8,503
Unrestricted Funds		133,755		143,048
		146,815		151,551

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS	2026	2025
1. GRANTS		
	£	£
Trussell Trust	35,732	7,200
Oswestry Town Council return Winter Fuel Payment	(1,920)	-
Shropshire Council	13,000	-
Marches Energy	-	500
Powys CC	982	4,298
Oswestry Town Council	-	5,000
The Neighbourly Foundation	-	230
National Lottery	18,350	-
Community Resource Fund	4,750	-
	70,894	17,228

2. GENERAL DONATIONS

The 2024/25 report noted that general donations were less than those received in 2023/24. The Trustees are pleased to report that in 2025/26 this trend has reversed and that the amount donated this year was greater than the amount donated in 2023/24. There was, however, a slight drop in the amount received through regular giving via standing orders and a significant increase in one-off donations.

The Foodbank Trustees are grateful to all donors for their generosity.

3. RENT

The rental figures shown do not reflect the cost of Unit 9. Rent for these premises is paid in a lump sum covering 24 months rent. The next rental payment will be due in September 2026.

4. SALARIES

	£	£
Gross Salary Project Manager	24,907	23,766
Employer's Pension Contributions	560	526
Adjustment re PAYE creditor	(121)	(58)
	25,346	24,234

	£	£
Gross Salary Deputy Project Managers	16,703	16,319
Employer's Pension Contributions	314	302
Adjustment re PAYE creditor	(24)	(239)
	16,993	16,382

	£	£
Gross Salary Campaigns Manager	-	-
Employer's Pension Contributions	-	-
Adjustment re PAYE creditor	-	463
	-	463

5. OFFICE/CONTAINER EXPENSES

Printing, Stationery & Postage	938	887
Repairs, Maintenance & Consumables	251	388
Shredding	33	29
Kitchen Equipment	34	9
Room Rental	-	54
Broadband & Computer Costs	263	789
Furniture & Blinds	-	326
Supported Giving set-up costs	360	360
Signage	669	-
Capital expenditure - printer	-	432
	2,548	3,274

6. VOLUNTEER EXPENSES

Gifts	47	253
T shirts	1,002	-
Counselling Services	-	-
Travelling Expenses	104	236
Volunteers' Meals & Expenses	662	731
	1,815	1,220

7. HEALTH & SAFETY EXPENSES

Training	240	-
Fire Extinguishers & Services	-	167
	240	167

8. TRUSTEE EXPENSES

Trussell Event-Westminster Lobby	556	-
AGM Expenses	314	-
Trustee Gifts	50	363
The Wynnstay Hotel	1,003	-
Pens	87	-
	2,010	363

These accounts were approved by the Trustees on 22/07/2026

and were signed on its behalf by :

Alison Baseley Utting (Interim Chair)

Michael Stewart Jackson

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE OSWESTRY & BORDERS FOODBANK

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31st March 2026.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner
The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act

It is my responsibility to:

(i) examine the financial statements under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
(ii) to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity
(iii) to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report
My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity

Independent examiner's statement
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  (i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
  (ii) to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act;
have not been met or

(b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Cadwallader & Co. LLP

Simon Rivara BSc (Hons) FCCA CTA
Cadwallader & Co LLP
Chartered Certified Accountants

Eagle House
25 Severn Street
Welshpool
Powys
SY21 7AD

16 Sept. 2026

THE OSWESTRY & BORDERS FOODBANK

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT 31ST MARCH 2026

	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Endowment Funds
CASH FUNDS	£	£	£
Current Account	13,060	133,755	-

INVESTMENT ASSETS	Unrestricted assets	Cost or value
Food Supplies		13,435
Furniture and Equipment		
Second-hand freezer		200
Trestle tables		400
Shelving		3,500
Weighing scales		400
Kitchen equipment		800
Plastic boxes and crates		300
Anti-slip mats		1,000
Sofa, footstool, coffee table & 4 chairs		1,600
Second-hand stacking chairs		200
As-new large privacy sofa		5,000
Second-hand kitchen table		80
Table and chairs		350
Pictures		100
Sundries		50
20 shelving units		3,500
Trolleys		200
Paper bags		800
Christmas items		1,500
Office Equipment		
Printer 58		329
Printer 56		300
Computers		2,500
Wi-Fi network disks		100
Second-hand filing cabinets 58		150
Filing cabinets 56		400
Desk top stand-up desk		85

Signed on behalf of the Trustees on 22/07/2026

Alison Baseley Utting (Interim Chair)

Michael Stewart Jackson