Company registration number: 08183618

Charity registration number: 1148782

Braintree Area Foodbank Ltd

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

Braintree Area Foodbank Ltd

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Braintree Area Foodbank Ltd

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	D J West M H Seward Z Holt J Hartwell C Y Gibson L J Hopkins N C Vosper
Secretary	Z Holt
Charity Registration Number	1148782
Company Registration Number	08183618
	The charity is incorporated in England.
Registered Office	Unit 6, Lakes Industrial Park Lower Chapel Hill Braintree Essex CM7 3RU
Independent Examiner	Mark Pearson BFP FCA Lambert Chapman LLP 3 Warners Mill Silks Way Braintree Essex CM7 3GB
Solicitors:	Holmes & Hills LLP Bocking End Braintree Essex CM7 9AJ
Bankers	CAF Bank 25 Kings Hill Avenue West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ

Braintree Area Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The objectives of the charity are the prevention or relief of poverty in the Braintree area, in particular but not exclusively, by providing emergency food supplies to individuals in need and/or charities or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.

Braintree Area Foodbank supports local people in need of food through our distribution centres in Braintree, Halstead, Great Notley, Witham, Sible Hedingham and Home Delivery Service. We currently partner with over 100 referral agencies who issue vouchers to those needing our help. Vouchers are exchanged for food and toiletries at our centres. In addition, our volunteers are able to signpost people to the agencies that may be able to help them address the underlying issues behind their crisis.

Our Community Outreach Officer is on hand providing holistic wraparound support to individuals in need, spending more time 1 to 1 with our clients. Through this, we are able to dive deeper into the root cause of a client's need to use the foodbank, with the aim to resolve some, or all, of these causes. This may be done in a variety of ways, sometimes supporting them ourselves, advocating on their behalf or linking them up with external agencies.

On top of this we now have our own in-house Citizens Advice Adviser, who has made a big impact in terms of creating solutions for our clients.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Braintree Area Foodbank Ltd

Trustees' Report

Achievements and performance

The cost of living continues to impact individuals and families across the Braintree area. During the year, the Foodbank provided a total of 9,425 parcels, which went to 5,993 adults and 3,432 children. This reflects a reduction of 20% in overall demand from the previous year, which is much higher than national reduction of 8%. We believe our increased reduction is due to the wraparound support we are now able to offer clients.

We distributed 84,382 kg of food and personal hygiene items to beneficiaries. This is significantly less than the 101,734 kg distributed last year, due to a reduction in demand that we have seen.

We now operate from seven distribution centres: Christ Church (Braintree), St Paul's (Braintree), Food and More (Braintree), Great Notley, Witham, Halstead, and Sible Hedingham. These centres continue to provide essential support in their local communities.

Our eighth service point, the home delivery service, continues to play a crucial role in reaching clients unable to attend centres in person. This year, it supported 1,445 individuals and is now firmly embedded as part of our service delivery model.

We remain committed to providing more than just food. Peabody continues to offer support at Christ Church. We fund and benefit from the expertise of our in-house Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) adviser, Kerry Noll, who regularly attends Halstead, Christ Church, and Food and More. Volunteer CAB advisers support clients at St Paul's and Witham, with Kerry providing cover and handling more complex cases referred to her.

Kerry has only been with us for over a year now and is making a big impact achieving, in this year, over £276,000 of expected financial gains for clients and over £60,000 of debt written off.

Our Community Outreach team continue to work closely with individuals to understand and address the root causes of food insecurity, whether through in-house support, advocacy, or referrals to relevant services, including our CAB adviser. Their work has contributed significantly to the reduction in higher-dependency clients, many of whom are now either using our service less frequently or no longer require support. The outreach team has worked with over 340 different clients, making over 250 direct referrals for additional support and having over 5,000 telephone conversations. We have seen a 19% reduction in repeat usage from clients that visited us in both 24/25 and 25/26. On top of this, 942 clients from 24/25 didn't need to use us again in 25/26, a 61% move on rate.

Food & More continues to be a thriving community hub, hosting a range of partner organisations offering holistic support to clients. These include:

- Chess Homeless (homelessness support)
- Phoenix Futures (criminal justice, mental health, and social isolation)
- Open Road (addiction support)
- Braintree Bridge (social isolation, form filling, general signposting)
- A range of short term or one-off events

Our partnership with Acts435, along with our hardship pot, has allowed us to provide £18,936 worth of essential household goods such as beds, fridges, washing machines, and other urgent needs.

Financial review

The charity achieved an overall surplus of income over expenditure for the year to enable it to continue to build up a reserve fund.

Policy on reserves

The Trustees have set an objective of maintaining cash reserves at the end of each financial year to provide financial resources sufficient to cover six months expenditure which is estimated to be £203,765 in 2026-27 accounting for all known expenditure and liabilities.

Our unrestricted reserve at the year ended 31 March 2026 is £367,417 and the available funds at the Balance Sheet date amount to £337,974.

Principal funding sources

The charity continued to actively seek donations and grant funding to ensure the sustainability of its services to those in need. Stock donations of food and essential household items are largely donated by individuals via collection points in supermarkets, schools, churches, and other community locations.

We are incredibly grateful that, despite ongoing economic pressures, our donors have continued to support us. However, the cost-of-living crisis has understandably impacted donation levels. This year, we collected 55,781kg of food and essential groceries, down from 61,648kg the previous year, with an estimated value of £146,270. To make up the shortfall, the remainder was purchased at a cost of £39,924 to ensure adequate stock levels.

While food donations form a vital part of our operations, our core costs continue to require significant financial support. These have been partially met through generous individual donations, online giving, and a range of grants from local authorities, businesses, and charitable foundations.

For the financial year 2025/26, we secured continued funding from Braintree District Council of £128,382 to maintain key services including Food & More, our delivery service, and our Community Outreach Officer. This funding also supported a new Community Outreach Assistant, the creation of a hardship fund, and helped with stock purchases to meet ongoing demand.

The Trustees remain deeply appreciative of the many individuals, community groups, and organisations who have made financial contributions or provided grant support, enabling the Foodbank to continue its vital work across the Braintree area.

Investment policy and objectives

The trustees aim to balance security, liquidity and return when managing the charity's cash reserves. Funds required for day-to-day operations are held in CAF Bank current accounts and other instant or easy-access deposit accounts to ensure that operational commitments can be met as they fall due.

Surplus funds are held in a range of notice and fixed-term deposit accounts with UK-regulated banks and building societies. Deposits are spread across a number of institutions and maturity profiles to reduce risk, maintain liquidity and generate a return on funds not required for immediate use.

The trustees keep the investment arrangements under regular review to ensure they remain appropriate to the charity's operational needs and reserves policy.

Plans for future periods

Aims and key objectives for future periods

In 2026-27 we plan to consolidate and fine tune our current work, especially in regards to outreach and working with clients on tailored support, as we can see the positive impact this has been having. The trustees note that reforms in government policy and the economic outlook could affect our services. To enable us to continue with all current services, and following a trial run in 2025, we aim to employ a fundraising manager to aid in securing additional income so we may continue all of our current work for years to come.

Trustees and officers

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:	D J West
	M H Seward
	Z Holt
	R Wakeman (resigned 15 November 2025)
	J Hartwell (appointed 15 November 2025)
	C Y Gibson (appointed 7 June 2025)
	L J Hopkins
	G M Wafula (resigned 15 November 2025)
	N C Vosper
Secretary:	Z Holt

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

The Company is limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The Directors of the charitable company are its Trustees for the purpose of charity law. They are elected by the charity's annual general meeting, according to the procedure set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association. Where there is a vacancy for the appointment of a new Trustee/Director, the board's recommendation is advised to all company members and any additional nominations are invited. An emphasis is put on attracting applications from individuals with appropriate skills and experience, to complement our existing trustees.

The Trustees meet on a regular basis and are responsible for the overall management and the direction of the Company. This year saw the departure of Rob Wakeman and George Wafula. In their place, Claire Gibson and John Hartwell joined the board. We are extremely grateful for all that the existing trustees have contributed over the years.

The Company maintains Directors and Officers insurance for the benefit of the Trustees/Directors.

Induction and training of trustees

The trustees receive a local induction along with training courses.

Trustees' Report

Relationships with related parties

Trussell Trust
The Company is affiliated to the Trussell Trust who provide support and advice for the establishment and running of foodbanks nationwide and who collect and disseminate statistics regarding the use of foodbanks. The Trussell Trust has prescribed procedures and processes which apply to all foodbanks which are affiliated to their network. Volunteer Managers are appointed to oversee various areas of the operation of the Foodbank including Transport and each Distribution Centre. Regular meetings are held which are attended by the various Managers, plus the Directors, at which day to day operational matters regarding the efficient running of the foodbank are discussed and agreed.

Disclosure of information to auditor
We, the Directors of the company who held office at the date of approval of these financial statements as set out above each confirm, so far as we are aware, that

- there is no relevant information of which the independent examiners are unaware; and
- we have taken all steps that we ought to have taken as Directors in order to make ourselves aware of any such relevant information and to establish that the Company's independent examiner is aware of that information.

We, the directors of the company approve the Trustees' Annual Report.

Small companies provision statement
This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 2 October 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
M H Seward
Trustee

.....
L J Hopkins
Trustee

Braintree Area Foodbank Ltd

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Braintree Area Foodbank Ltd for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". The report and accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 2 October 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
M H Seward
Trustee

.....
L J Hopkins
Trustee

Braintree Area Foodbank Ltd

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Braintree Area Foodbank Ltd ('the Company')

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Braintree Area Foodbank Ltd as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

.....
Mark Pearson BFP FCA
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

2 October 2026

Braintree Area Foodbank Ltd

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2026 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	303,610	180,828	484,438	403,096
Other trading activities	4	310	-	310	2,471
Investment income	5	9,824	-	9,824	15,405
Total income		313,744	180,828	494,572	420,972
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	(268,459)	(161,851)	(430,310)	(414,684)
Other expenditure	7	(6,531)	(3,235)	(9,766)	(9,281)
Total expenditure		(274,990)	(165,086)	(440,076)	(423,965)
Net income/(expenditure)		38,754	15,742	54,496	(2,993)
Net movement in funds		38,754	15,742	54,496	(2,993)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		355,276	73,216	428,492	431,485
Total funds carried forward	20	394,030	88,958	482,988	428,492

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2025 is shown in note 20.

Braintree Area Foodbank Ltd

(Registration number: 08183618)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2026

	Note	2026 £	2025 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	14	31,415	40,307
Current assets			
Stocks	15	12,518	8,479
Debtors	16	10,245	7,403
Investments	17	361,448	263,781
Cash at bank and in hand	18	70,128	118,218
		454,339	397,881
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	19	(2,766)	(9,696)
Net current assets		451,573	388,185
Net assets		482,988	428,492
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds	20	88,958	73,216
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		394,030	355,276
Total funds	20	482,988	428,492

For the financial year ending 31 March 2026 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Braintree Area Foodbank Ltd

(Registration number: 08183618)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2026

The financial statements on pages 9 to 23 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue.

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on2 October 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

.....
M H Seward
Trustee

.....
L J Hopkins
Trustee

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:
Unit 6, Lakes Industrial Park
Lower Chapel Hill
Braintree
Essex
CM7 3RU

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates
The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation
Braintree Area Foodbank Ltd meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern
The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement
The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Income and endowments
All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Donated services and facilities

The charity receives food donations for distribution to the beneficiaries of the Foodbank. It is impractical to assess the fair value of food donated for distribution at receipt as the cost of such valuation would outweigh the benefits. The value has therefore been assessed and the donation recognised as a component of donations when distributed and an equivalent amount recognised as charitable expenditure.

Other trading activities

Income from other trading activities includes income from fundraising events which is recognised upon receipt.

Investment income

Income from investments and bank deposits are recognised once receivable.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity’s compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets
Individual fixed assets costing £500.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation and amortisation
Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture and equipment	Straight line over 5 years
Motor vehicles	Straight line over 9 years

Current asset investments
Current asset investments are included at the lower of cost and net realisable value / market value.

Stock
Stock relates to gift cards held which are valued at cost.

Cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Trade creditors
Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Fund structure
Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Financial instruments

Classification

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.
Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

Recognition and measurement

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

Investments

Investments are measured at fair value through profit or loss. Where fair value cannot be measured reliably, investments are measured at cost less impairment.

Fair value measurement

The best evidence of fair value is a quoted price for an identical asset in an active market. When quoted prices are unavailable, the price of a recent transaction for an identical asset provides evidence of fair value as long as there has not been a significant change in economic circumstances or a significant lapse of time since the transaction took place. If the market is not active and recent transactions of an identical asset on their own are not a good estimate of fair value, the fair value is estimated by using a valuation technique.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Donations and legacies;				
Donations from companies, trusts and similar proceeds	148,143	180,828	328,971	253,173
Gift aid reclaimed	3,613	-	3,613	3,446
Food donations	146,271	-	146,271	139,193
Other donated goods and services	5,583	-	5,583	7,284
	303,610	180,828	484,438	403,096

4 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total 2025 £
Events income;				
Fund raising activities	310	-	310	2,471
	310	-	310	2,471

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Interest receivable and similar income;				
Interest on cash deposits	201	-	201	81
Investment Income	9,623	-	9,623	15,324
	9,824	-	9,824	15,405

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Purchased food & laundry items distributed		2,193	38,716	40,909	89,125
Community support costs		500	43,874	44,374	21,322
Van running costs		2,788	2,733	5,521	6,478
Warehouse costs		33,848	24,022	57,870	60,593
New distribution centre refurbishment		1,665	15,834	17,499	19,671
Hardship expenses		2,069	10,781	12,850	-
Delivery service costs		13,023	80	13,103	10,872
Donations		504	-	504	16,000
Donated food & laundry items distributed		146,270	-	146,270	139,193
Administrative and office costs		59,814	25,811	85,625	49,493
Advertising		1,762	-	1,762	-
Governance costs	8	4,023	-	4,023	1,937
		268,459	161,851	430,310	414,684

7 Other expenditure

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Depreciation, amortisation and other similar costs	6,531	3,235	9,766	9,281
	6,531	3,235	9,766	9,281

8 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Independent examiner fees				
Examination of the financial statements	3,942	-	3,942	1,902
Other governance costs	81	-	81	35
	4,023	-	4,023	1,937

9 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year include:

	2026 £	2025 £
Depreciation of fixed assets	9,766	9,281

10 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any other benefits from the charity during the year.

11 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2026 £	2025 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	102,966	73,734
Social security costs	1,656	1,559
Pension costs	2,277	1,666
	106,899	76,959

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

	2026 No	2025 No
Employees dealing with direct foodbank activities	5	4

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £42,122 (2025 - £33,801).

12 Independent examiner's remuneration

	2026 £	2025 £
Examination of the financial statements	3,942	1,902

13 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore potentially exempt from taxation on the basis that funds are retained within the charity to help fulfil its charitable objects.

14 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2025	41,981	47,695	89,676
Additions	874	-	874
At 31 March 2026	42,855	47,695	90,550
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2025	28,905	20,464	49,369
Charge for the year	4,467	5,299	9,766
At 31 March 2026	33,372	25,763	59,135
Net book value			
At 31 March 2026	9,483	21,932	31,415
At 31 March 2025	13,076	27,231	40,307

15 Stock

	2026	2025
	£	£
Stocks	12,518	8,479

16 Debtors

	2026	2025
	£	£
Prepayments	8,837	5,774
Other debtors	1,408	1,629
	10,245	7,403

17 Current asset investments

	2026	2025
	£	£
Unlisted other shares	361,448	263,781

18 Cash and cash equivalents

	2026	2025
	£	£
Cash on hand	28	56
Cash at bank	70,100	118,162
	70,128	118,218

19 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2026	2025
	£	£
Trade creditors	-	7,794
Accruals	2,766	1,902
	2,766	9,696

20 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2025 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2026 £
Unrestricted funds				
General				
General Funds	328,663	313,744	(274,990)	367,417
Designated				
Van replacement fund	26,613	-	-	26,613
Total unrestricted funds	355,276	313,744	(274,990)	394,030
Restricted funds				
Van Fund	3,945	-	(1,974)	1,971
Braintree District Council Cost of Living Fund - capital purchases	3,785	-	(1,262)	2,523
Braintree District Council Cost of Living Fund - refurbishment and delivery service	5,276	-	(5,276)	-
Food Purchases	6,687	-	-	6,687
BDC - Lived experience project, food and toiletries, tablets & mi-fi units	2,745	-	(2,745)	-
Cubico Sustainable Investments	8,000	-	(8,000)	-
EALC Food	2,500	-	(2,500)	-
EALC Warehouse	10,000	-	(10,000)	-
Braintree District Council - Project delivery	-	128,382	(83,863)	44,519
Trussell CAB	30,278	44,321	(43,466)	31,133
Groundwork	-	2,125	-	2,125
EALC Winter 2025	-	5,500	(5,500)	-
Councillors Community Grant	-	500	(500)	-
Total restricted funds	73,216	180,828	(165,086)	88,958
Total funds	428,492	494,572	(440,076)	482,988

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Unrestricted funds				
General				
General Funds	338,898	254,989	(265,224)	328,663
Designated				
Van replacement fund	26,613	-	-	26,613
Total unrestricted funds	365,511	254,989	(265,224)	355,276
Restricted				
Van Fund	5,917	-	(1,972)	3,945
Braintree District Council Cost of Living Fund - capital purchases	5,047	-	(1,262)	3,785
Braintree District Council Cost of Living Fund - refurbishment and delivery service	48,322	-	(43,046)	5,276
Food Purchases	6,687	-	-	6,687
BDC - Lived experience project, food and toiletries, tablets & mi-fi units	-	88,900	(86,155)	2,745
Cubico Sustainable Investments	-	8,000	-	8,000
EALC Food	-	2,500	-	2,500
EALC Warehouse	-	10,000	-	10,000
Trussell CAB	-	51,583	(21,305)	30,278
Total restricted funds	65,973	160,983	(153,740)	73,216
Total funds	431,484	415,972	(418,964)	428,492

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Designated income funds are those funds which have been set aside by the trustees for a particular purpose.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

21 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds at 31 March 2026
	General	Designated		
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	29,444	-	1,971	31,415
Current assets	340,739	26,613	86,987	454,339
Current liabilities	(2,766)	-	-	(2,766)
Total net assets	367,417	26,613	88,958	482,988

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds at 31 March 2025
	General	Designated		
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	32,578	-	7,729	40,307
Current assets	305,781	26,613	65,487	397,881
Current liabilities	(9,696)	-	-	(9,696)
Total net assets	328,663	26,613	73,216	428,492

22 Related party transactions

During the year the charity had the following related parties:

- three trustees have roles within Churches where this Foodbank operates distribution centres.

- one trustee is the parent of an employee.

The Trustees declare a conflict of interest when any related discussion takes place and step out of the meetings where any connected issues are considered.

At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from Trustees was £Nil (2025 - £Nil).