## Uckfield Foodbank

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2026

| | |
|---|---|
| **Trustees** | P Roe, Chair |
| | R K Burt |
| | P Garland |
| | A D Johnson |
| | K J Williams |
| **Charity registered Number** | **1153505** |
| **Principal Office** | 15 Horsted Square |
| | Bellbrook Industrial Estate |
| | Uckfield |
| | East Sussex |
| | TN22 1QG |
| **Contacts** | Telephone 01825 745489 |
| | Email: admin@uckfield.foodbank.org.uk |
| | Website: www.uckfield.foodbank.org.uk |
| | Facebook: facebook.com/uckfieldfoodbank |

# TRUSTEES' REPORT

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2026

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the year to 31st March 2026.

## Objectives and Activities

### a. Policies and Objectives

The prevention or relief of poverty in Uckfield and surrounding areas, with the support of the Churches in Uckfield, in particular but not exclusively by:

a) providing emergency food boxes containing three day's supply of balanced and nutritional foodstuffs to individuals in need and/or for distribution by charities or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty;
b) the provision of fresh fruit and vegetables with each food parcel;
c) the provision of or signposting to relevant information and other advisory services

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

## Achievements and Performance

### a. Review of Activities during the year to carry out those purposes (for the public benefit)

We have a team of 68 volunteers, excluding our Trustees, who are all very supportive of our charity and respond positively to the challenges of the day.

During the 2025-2026 year we saw very similar numbers of clients needing support when compared to 2024-2025 when adjustments have been made for Easter. Our financial giving continued to be very generous and we are very thankful to those individuals and organisations who make regular or one-off donations.

We received a total of **20735** kgs of food donated during the year. This was a decrease of approximately 20% and a decrease for the third year. This decrease had led to us having to bulk purchase more of our stock to keep up with demand for our services. We purchased 6587 kgs of stock, not including the fresh fruit and veg which is bought for each session. The Trustees are extremely grateful for all donated food, which is invaluable to its beneficiaries. Donated food is not valued in the accounts as it would not have a commercial market value.

Harvest giving totalled 1196 kgs from local schools and churches. This was in line with the previous year and really helped to supplement our stock.

This financial year we fulfilled 1619 vouchers, feeding a total of 4356 people, 1702 of whom were children. The main reasons people used the foodbank were due to problems with low income, delays in receiving benefit payments or changes to their benefits and several different ill health concerns, including mental health issues. The cost of living has continued to have a huge impact, with many more people unable to meet the costs of everyday necessities. In partnership with Citizens Advice, we now have a Financial Adviser in each session and this gives clients the opportunity to discuss their situations and seek ways to move forward from their current position. Trussell have provided a grant to cover the cost of this until October 2027.

## Financial Review

### a. Reserves Policy

At the end of the reporting period, the net funds held totalled £53,898. This consisted of bank and cash (£54,871) plus debtors (£556) less creditors (£1,529). In 2023 we designated a donation by Uckfield NFU Mutual to assign and track fuel voucher spend, the balance remaining is £853 and a nominal £10000 is held in a contingency reserve. There is one restricted fund of £14,189 held at the balance sheet date, consisting of a grant from Trussell allocated to making a Financial Adviser available to our clients. With the reserves policy and with strong cash holdings and generous ongoing voluntary donations, there is little concern about the charity's ability as a going concern.

## Structure, Governance and Management

### a. Constitution

Uckfield Foodbank commenced operation in September 2013 and was established as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in August 2013. It is registered with the Charity Commission as Charity number 1153505.

### b. Methods of appointment of election of Trustees

The management of the Charity is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the CIO governing document.

## Plans for Future Periods

With the continuing receipt of food donations and the support of volunteers we aim to continue operating the foodbank for as long as there are people in the town and surrounding areas that need our assistance. We seek to build strong relationships with our agencies in order that we can sign-post clients to get the best support. We anticipate that the 2026-2027 year we may possibly see a slight drop in the number of clients needing support, particularly with the appointment of a Financial Adviser, but much depends on how things develop over the Autumn and Winter seasons.

Our distribution centre has been operating all year and many clients appreciate the opportunity to share their concerns over a cup of tea or coffee. We also offer delivery to housebound clients and to those living in outlying villages.

## Declaration

We declare that we rent warehouse and office space from Ashdown AV, of which one of the Directors is a Trustee of Uckfield Foodbank. We also declare that we rent the distribution centre from Uckfield Baptist Church, of which two of their members are Trustees of Uckfield Foodbank. One is a Trustee at Uckfield District Housing Association.

On behalf of the board of Trustees

Pete J.S. Roe

**Mr Peter Roe**
Chairman
Dated: 7th July 2026

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

# Independent examiner's report on the accounts

## Section A Independent Examiner's Report

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Report to the trustees/ members of** | Uckfield Foodbank | | |
| **On accounts for the year ended** | 31 March 2026 | **Charity no** | 1153505 |
| **Set out on pages** | 1 to 5 (including this report) (One to Five) | | |

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 March 2026.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Signed:** | Darren Warren | **Date:** | 17/07/2026 |
| **Name:** | Darren Warren – Paxton Independent Examiners | | |
| **Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):** | FMAAT | | |
| **Address:** | 61a High Street South<br>Rushden<br>Northants, NN10 ORA | | |

| Section B | Disclosure |
| --- | --- |
| | Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners). |
| **Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose**. | |

**Charity no. 1153505**
**Uckfield Foodbank**

| | Unrestricted funds | Restricted Income funds | Endowment funds | Total funds | Prior year funds |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| **Income and endowments from:** | | | | | |
| Donations and legacies | 29,775 | 0 | 0 | 29,775 | 42,000 |
| Charitable activites | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other trading activities | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Investments | 6 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 8 |
| Separate material item of income | 30,000 | 0 | 0 | 30,000 | 0 |
| Other | 2,554 | 39,285 | 0 | 41,839 | 14,553 |
| **Total** | **62,334** | **39,285** | **0** | **101,620** | **56,561** |
| **Expenditure on:** | | | | | |
| Raising funds | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 467 |
| Charitable activities | 57,973 | 13,750 | 0 | 71,723 | 60,582 |
| Separate material item of expense | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | 675 | 11,346 | 0 | 12,022 | 500 |
| **Total** | **58,648** | **25,096** | **0** | **83,744** | **61,549** |
| **Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)** | **3,687** | **14,189** | **0** | **17,875** | **-4,988** |
| Net gains/(losses) on investments | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Net income/(expenditure)** | **3,687** | **14,189** | **0** | **17,875** | **-4,988** |
| **Extraordinary items** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Transfers between funds** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Net Movement in Funds** | **3,687** | **14,189** | **0** | **17,875** | **-4,988** |
| **Reconciliation of Funds** | | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | 36,022 | 0 | 0 | 36,022 | |
| **Total funds carried forward** | **39,709** | **14,189** | **0** | **53,898** | |

**Charity no. 1153505**
**Uckfield Foodbank**

March 2026

| | Unrestricted | Restricted | Endowment | Year Total | Last Year |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S01 Donations and legacies | | | | | |
| Donations received | 24,000 | 0 | 0 | 24,000 | 35,759 |
| Partner Income | 3,795 | 0 | 0 | 3,795 | 3,999 |
| Gift aid tax claimed | 954 | 0 | 0 | 954 | 1,064 |
| Gift aid tax received | 1,026 | 0 | 0 | 1,026 | 1,178 |
| | 29,775 | 0 | 0 | 29,775 | 42,000 |
| S04 Investments | | | | | |
| Interest received | 6 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 8 |
| Rental income | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 6 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 8 |
| S05 Separate material item of income | | | | | |
| Miscellaneous Income | 30,000 | 0 | 0 | 30,000 | 0 |
| | 30,000 | 0 | 0 | 30,000 | 0 |
| S06 Other (inc.) | | | | | |
| Grants received | 2,554 | 39,285 | 0 | 41,839 | 14,553 |
| Bequests and legacies | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 2,554 | 39,285 | 0 | 41,839 | 14,553 |
| S08 Raising funds | | | | | |
| Donor administration costs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fundraising costs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Goods for resale | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fees for services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 107 |
| Trussell Trust | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 360 |
| | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 467 |
| S09 Charitable activities | | | | | |
| Salaries and wages | 20,046 | 0 | 0 | 20,046 | 19,169 |
| Pension contributions | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Staff training costs | 90 | 0 | 0 | 90 | 48 |
| Conference costs | 46 | 0 | 0 | 46 | 44 |
| Petrol expenses | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Client Food Costs | 31,923 | 13,000 | 0 | 44,924 | 33,867 |
| Client Fuel Vouchers | 1,026 | 0 | 0 | 1,026 | 1,140 |
| Volunteer expenses | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Miscellaneous Expenses | 67 | 0 | 0 | 67 | 29 |
| Volunteer Events | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 213 |
| Heat & Light | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Office Rent | 250 | 0 | 0 | 250 | 250 |
| Distribution Centre Rent | 2,310 | 750 | 0 | 3,060 | 3,054 |
| Rates | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Insurances | 699 | 0 | 0 | 699 | 624 |

**Charity no. 1153505**
**Uckfield Foodbank**

March 2026

| | Unrestricted | Restricted | Endowment | Year Total | Last Year |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Caretaking | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Repairs & maintenance | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Printing/photocopying | 94 | 0 | 0 | 94 | 0 |
| Postage | 50 | 0 | 0 | 50 | 34 |
| Stationery | 881 | 0 | 0 | 881 | 199 |
| Telephone/fax/email | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| Subscriptions | 87 | 0 | 0 | 87 | 255 |
| Website | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Publicity costs | 94 | 0 | 0 | 94 | 45 |
| IT costs | 22 | 0 | 0 | 22 | 639 |
| Equipment purchases | 43 | 0 | 0 | 43 | 223 |
| Equipment repairs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Materials costs | 245 | 0 | 0 | 245 | 739 |
| Purchase discounts taken | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 57,973 | 13,750 | 0 | 71,724 | 60,582 |
| S11 Other (exp.) | | | | | |
| Fees for Services | 65 | 11,346 | 0 | 11,412 | 0 |
| Trussell | 360 | 0 | 0 | 360 | 0 |
| Audit & accountancy costs | 250 | 0 | 0 | 250 | 500 |
| Trustees meeting expenses | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Bank charges | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Interest paid | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fees paid | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 675 | 11,346 | 0 | 12,022 | 500 |