



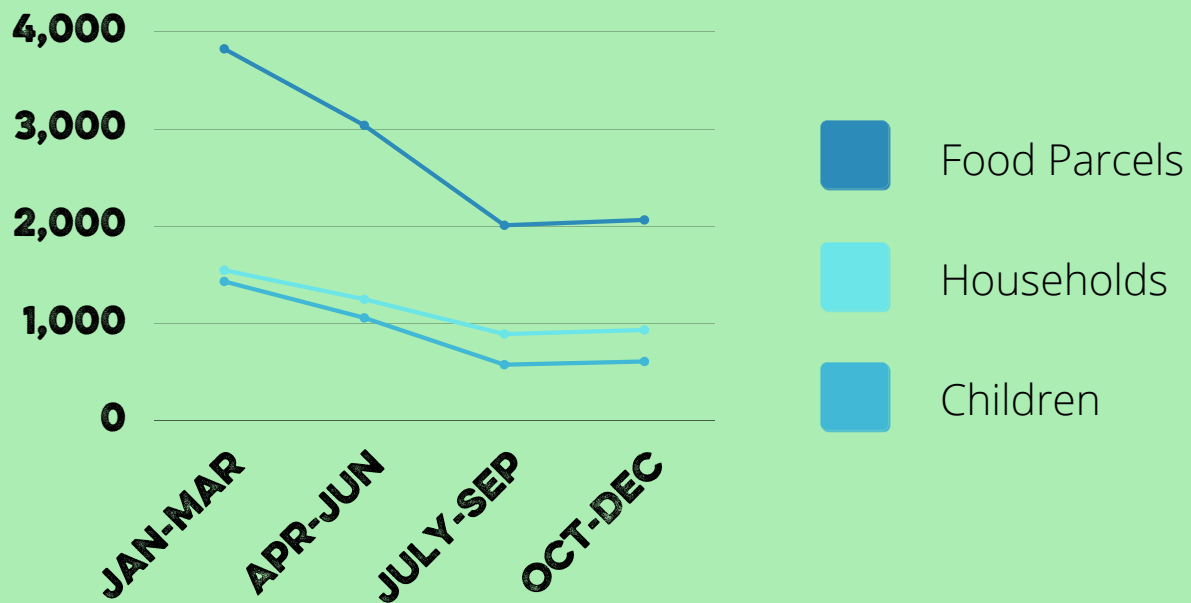
# The Whitehawk foodbank

## WHITEHAWK FOODBANK 2021 IMPACT REPORT

**1 YEAR**  
**2 LOCKDOWNS**  
**OVER 20,000 MEALS PROVIDED**  
**150 AMAZING VOLUNTEERS**  
**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE**  
**WHO HELPED US THIS YEAR**



# OUR IMPACT IN 2021



## TOTAL

**10,938**

**4,621**

**3,675**



The Foodbank has been really helpful for me, it's a place to turn to when people are struggling. The foodbank is a welcoming environment where people can help and you feel listened to.

**NAOMI\*, CAFE VOLUNTEER WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE OF FOODBANK USE**

\*Real name not used to protect confidentiality

# CHANGING COMMUNITIES

**THROUGH OUR CHANGING COMMUNITIES STRAND WE HAVE REOPENED VITAL ACCESS TO SUPPORT AND ADVICE SERVICES FOR PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY.**



"Reach those who are at risk of fuel poverty."  
"We hope to reduce clients' long-term financial outgoings"

**Dan Curtis,  
BHESCo**



"I am particularly impressed by the number of local volunteers."  
"We can see people immediately to make a significant difference in their circumstances."

**Nick Vaughan,  
Money Advice Plus**



"A safe place for the community to find support with their finances"

**Becky Atkins,  
Christians Against  
Poverty**

# CHANGING POLICY

**WE'VE BEGUN A JOURNEY OF EXPLORING WHAT OUR ROLE IS IN CHANGING POLICY TO BENEFIT THOSE EXPERIENCING CRISIS AND FINANCIAL HARDSHIP.**



Working with the foodbank: "I've been able to pick up a lot of individual and collective issues and tackle them. Ultimately, we need better pay for those who can work and better welfare benefits for those who can't."

**Nancy Platts, Labour Councillor,  
East Brighton Ward**

**KEEP THE  
LIFELINE  
CAMPAIGN**

## Food bank warning over benefit cut

By Olivia Marshall  
Reporter  
news@theargus.co.uk

A FOOD bank is warning more people will be left unable to afford essential supplies when Universal Credit is cut by £20 a week in October.

Joe Walker, manager at Whitehawk Foodbank in Brighton, said people using the service have told him they do not know how they will cope when they are already struggling to feed themselves.

He said: "We've had conversations with people who are really worried. People have said they're already struggling - it's anxiety-inducing

for people. This is on top of steady increases in need at the food bank for years."

The government is planning to phase out a £20 a week increase, introduced as a temporary measure during the coronavirus pandemic, from the end of September.

Politicians, charities and think tanks have warned this will hit the poorest families the hardest and have called for it to remain in place.

Whitehawk Foodbank, part of anti-poverty charity the Trussell Trust's network, gave out an average 60 food parcels a week before Covid-19 hit - but this rose to 130 a week during the start of the pandemic.

It is currently giving out up to 80 food parcels a week.

Mr Walker said: "We want to reduce the number of parcels we provide to people in crisis, because emergency food is not the answer."

"People should have enough money to get by but this cut is going to drive numbers up yet further."

"I am very concerned for all the community support services - the doctors, local finance and debt advisers, social services will all have to work flat out to make sure everyone can survive."

Mr Walker says people have "lost faith in the social security system", with many telling him they were scared to question their benefit entitlement in case they had money taken away from them. He said: "I spoke to

someone recently who had fled domestic violence into temporary accommodation with no access to money.

"They needed support as they had nothing and would have to wait five weeks for their first payment."

"Social security should be strong enough for all of us to rely on when we need a lifeline because, at the moment, it has shown us, life is full of things we can't plan for."

He is urging people to support the national Keep The Lifeline campaign and write to their MP calling for the cut to be reversed.

A government spokesman said the temporary increase was only brought in to support those with the lowest incomes during the pandemic.

In Autumn of 2021 we joined with foodbanks across the city and around the country to join the Keep the Lifeline campaign.

# CHANGING MINDS

**WE'VE BEEN CHANGING MINDS BY GROWING OUR MESSAGE, SUPPORT AND PLATFORM, AND LEARNING FROM PEOPLE WITH EXPERIENCE OF NEEDING EMERGENCY FOOD SUPPORT.**

HAPPY VOLUNTEERS WEEK!



The Whitehawk foodbank

**FOODBANK SEES 300% INCREASE FROM 2019**



Period	TOTAL FED	NO. HOUSEHOLDS	CHILDREN FED
Apr-Sep 19	~1,000	~500	~200
Apr-Sep 20	~5,500	~2,200	~2,200
Apr-Sep 21	~4,800	~2,000	~1,500

the trussell trust

**£20 IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PUTTING FOOD ON THE TABLE AND GOING HUNGRY**

**But we can change this.**  
Email your MP and ask them to #KeepTheLifeline

*Keep The Lifeline*



Across 2021 **we've focused our social media** on celebrating our volunteers, raising awareness of our work, gaining support for our campaigns, and of course thanking our incredible donors.

# WHAT'S NEXT?

## CHANGING COMMUNITIES



New Financial Inclusion project so every foodbank client can access high quality and timely financial advice

## CHANGING POLICY



This year we aim to work locally and campaign nationally to find policy solutions that mitigate the impacts of rising costs on people and families in our community.

## CHANGING MINDS



Grow our voice, support and awareness to achieve our aims in participation with different people with different backgrounds and experiences.



# THANK YOU

Thank you so much for taking the time to engage with our impact report for 2021. We are incredibly proud of what we have achieved and immensely grateful to all our supporters and team for making it happen.

We believe it is possible for a UK without the need for food banks, and we're excited about playing our part in that future over the coming years.



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