

## **REPORT TO THE PCC BY WALTON & HERSHAM FOODBANK**

**Steering Group Members** Geoff Rhodes, Martin Warne, Andrea Watson, Diana Hazell, Des Humphrey (Chair)

**Foodbank Manager** Nina Malyon

**Frequency of Meetings** Quarterly

### **Overview**

- The total number of food parcels given out in 2018 was 938, an increase of 47% on 2017 (640 parcels). The total number of vouchers redeemed (640) represented 1,386 adults and 1,004 children.
- The most common causes of food crisis were low income (301 vouchers), benefit delays (273 vouchers) and benefit changes (136 vouchers), together covering over 75% of the total. The next highest number of vouchers referred to homeless (67 vouchers, representing 93 people) and child holiday meals (29 vouchers, representing 73 adults and 62 children).
- The total weight of food donated was 19,673 Kgs (12,952 Kgs in 2017). Collecting points at Waitrose, Hersham yielded 6,197 Kgs and Sanisbury's, Walton 1,759 Kgs. The collection day at Tesco's, Hurst Park yielded a tin of beans short of 900 Kgs. Donations from schools, churches and local businesses contributed significantly as well as the many regular givers in our community. Without the generosity of our community, in cash as well as in kind, there would be no foodbank.
- Significant cash donations were received from Light Touch Clinic, St. Mary's Walton, Hersham Churches Together, Ashley School and Field Place residents, and many other cheques in excess of £100.
- Christmas hampers were issued to Bell Farm School, Families Matter, Walton Charity and Home Support Elmbridge. Christmas food was donated to Transform, Citizens Advice Bureau, Burhill Children's Centre, Rentstart, Green Centre, Shepperton (for Christmas Day lunches) and to other local support groups.
- The foodbank wouldn't be able to operate without the volunteers. They form an important part of the operation, serving those in need who come to St. John's and St. Peter's four days a week throughout the year. We should be proud of them.

### **Looking ahead.**

- Over the past year we have held meetings with neighbouring foodbanks, also with representatives from Job Centres to keep abreast of developments with Universal Credit.
- Nina will continue to keep close to local agencies and explore opportunities for building on our engagement with the community.

Des Humphrey  
19 January 2019