

Hello,

It seems to make sense to let you know how everything is going as we are at the end of the month. We are becoming bamboozled with statistics at present - and Trussell Trust are keen to collect figures at the end of the month. Our basic figures are:

	April 2020	April 2019	%increase
Total number of people provided with food:	458	181	153%
Number of children provided with food:	158	81	95%
Number of adults provided with food:	300	100	200%
Food donated to DSFB:	4750kg	899kg	428%
Food provided to people in crisis by DSFB:	4702kg	1645kg	186%

The Centre remains open on Tuesdays and Fridays with clients waiting outside to collect their food. We are only offering a skeleton service, with no signposting and no drinks for clients. New and temporary volunteers are filling in for those over 70 and those unable to volunteer for health or other reasons - all seems to be going well. We are grateful to all volunteers, new and more experienced for their efforts in keeping the show on the road in these challenging times. Social distancing means that fewer volunteers can be on duty for sessions.

The Foodbank Warehouse continues to operate but is also now the hub for home deliveries. There can be over 30 home deliveries a week to people self-isolating and unable to go to the Foodbank Centre. Debbie has rearranged the site so that social distancing measures are easier. There is more space in the new picking area. If Wychavon DC had not made the additional space available it is doubtful whether our Foodbank would be able to operate.

We have hired a van from Enterprise, Worcester and it is proving to be invaluable. We have agreed to extend the rental for three months. It has been particularly useful for picking up weekly donations from Morrisons - usually one pallet of food - part of their current national donations to foodbanks. Tesco's are also donating significant amounts of food weekly, again part of the national scheme - that food is delivered to our warehouse by British Gas - and British Gas have also offered to help with home deliveries if numbers of people needing that service increase. Our three delivery teams, each from single households, continue to do valiant service delivering food to clients' homes.

Many thanks also to volunteers updating our website and Facebook page.

The Foodbank phone remains with Mary - her major role at present is taking calls. There can be up to 20 a day from people needing help, as well people donating food or money. Between us Mary and I collate all the details and pass them on to our Treasurer and to Debbie, as a lot relate to home deliveries.

The executive team still 'meet' once week to review the work of our Foodbank - and to take note of weekly advice from Trussell Trust. We are ensuring that although operating methods may change, we remain true to our constitution by providing food for people in Droitwich Spa and the surrounding area.

The work therefore continues - the need increases - and so far we are coping. The need is likely to increase and we pray that the tremendous local support will also continue and enable our Foodbank to continue helping people in need. Many thanks to everybody for all you are doing.

David Stanbury
Chair of Trustees DSFB

