



Summer update from Thornbury Foodbank July 2021

Dear Supporters

We hope you are all keeping safe and well

We remain so grateful to you and our wonderful community for your on-going support to us both financially and with your regular donations of food and essential items. It continues to be a difficult time for so many in our community and things don't look like changing very much for the better in the near future.

We are continuing to deliver food to those who are referred to us for help, having decided, for the time being, not to open our doors to clients coming in. The increase in the number of positive cases over past weeks has affirmed our decision. We are very grateful to drivers who come in each Friday to deliver parcels. Despite restrictions lifting from 19 July, we continue to follow our COVID procedures to keep everyone safe.

From Jan 2021 to 30 June 2021, we have fed 441 adults and 296 children, issuing 9.2 tonnes of food and essential items and received 9.5 tonnes of donations. Compared with the same period last year unusually numbers of adults fed are the same but the number of children fed is up by 42% which indicates we have fed more families. Your amazing financial donations enable us to buy fresh fruit and vegetables, eggs, bread, spread baby milk and nappies and items where our stocks are low.

Referrals to us have been lower this year which we believe is due to more grants available to those in food poverty. We applied for and were given some Tesco vouchers from the Government via South Glos Council to give to our most needy clients. Feedback from those who received these vouchers was very positive; in particular that they were able to shop for fresh items such as meat and fish. Our advice worker based at North Bristol Foodbank has also been able to obtain grants for the neediest individuals and families in our area. We were pleased to hear that some clients find themselves in a better position having returned to work.

We expect referrals to increase in September when the furlough scheme ends, the Universal Credit up lift is removed and fewer grants may be available



Tesco Thornbury continues to be very supportive and worked with Trussell Trust to set up a Collection Point in their store from Thursday to Saturday from 15th to 17th July which was manned by some of our volunteers. Our thanks go to Tesco, our volunteers and to all of you who made donations. A total of 620kgs of food and essentials from our monthly list of needs was donated.

We also have a permanent cart at Tesco which is emptied three times a week by our faithful drivers



As ever it is impossible to thank each individual personally so we would like to thank everyone who has donated to the Foodbank from individuals to local businesses in our locality for their generous donations of food, other essentials and money.

We are also most grateful for our team of dedicated volunteers who have freely given of their time during these difficult times and have also been kept well. We look forward to others' return as the current situation improves

So, on behalf of all of those benefitting from your kindness and concern we want to thank you again for making life a little easier than it would have been without your support.

Wishing you all continued health, peace and hope in the coming days.

Mair Vaughan

On Behalf of Thornbury Foodbank Management Team