



# ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2021

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# INTRODUCTION

## WHO, WHAT, HOW

Foyle Foodbank Ltd was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee (NI 638387) on 11th May 2016. It is a not-for-profit company and was registered as a charity with the Northern Ireland Charities Commission (107714) on 17th May 2020.

Foyle Foodbank is a cross-community organisation managed by a voluntary board of directors which oversees the running of the organisation. The Foodbank employs a full-time manager who leads a team of over 30 volunteers tasked with the collection, sorting and distribution of non-perishable food largely donated by the public.

### Denis McGowan

Chair of Foyle Foodbank





# PART OF TRUSSELL TRUST NETWORK OF FOOD BANKS

## TRUSSELL TRUST

Foyle Foodbank is affiliated to the Trussell Trust, a UK wide charity which supports an extensive network of food banks. Its operational manual sets out best practice and standards, to which all affiliated food banks must adhere. The Trussell Trust's relationship with major supermarket chains nationally has enabled Foyle Foodbank to have permanent food drop-off points in the Sainsbury's and Tesco stores located along Strand Road, Derry~Londonderry; Rath Mór Shopping Centre in

Creggan; and Maxol Service Station, Eglinton. Much of the food we distribute comes from these drop-off points. [\(see Appendix C\).](#)

## FUNDING

Foyle Foodbank does not normally receive any public funding and instead relies on donations and our fundraising activities. However, during 2021 the Foodbank played a key role in the government's 'Access to Food' scheme for which some financial assistance was made available to cover costs.



# OUR VISION AND STRATEGY

## OUR VISION

To end hunger and food poverty in the Foyle area.

## OUR MISSION

Bringing communities together to end hunger and food poverty in the Foyle area, by providing emergency food supplies and hygiene products directly to individuals in need, and by raising awareness with other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.

## OUR VALUES

Our values guide how we carry out our mission:

- providing help without creating dependency
- treating people with compassion, dignity and respect while maintaining confidentiality
- maintaining a welcoming environment, a listening ear and a signposting service

## OUR STRATEGY

Our strategy is to respond to hunger in the Foyle area by acting as a conduit between those in need and the generous people of Foyle who donate non-perishable food

and hygiene products. Almost all of the food/products we distribute have been donated by the general public and local businesses. We are indebted to their generosity.

We use financial donations to purchase fresh food items to ensure those in need receive nutritionally balanced food parcels.



# WHAT WE ACHIEVED IN 2021

## INCREASING NEED

The Annual Report indicates that food was provided to 15,606 people in 2021, up almost 129% from 2020. The extra demand was due to the increased cost of living and the ongoing effect of the pandemic.

**15,606**  
people received  
food help

**6,805**  
people received  
food help



**2020**



**2021**

Two factors were vital in ensuring that the Foodbank met the increasing need; the extraordinary commitment of our volunteer workforce and the incredible generosity of the general public.

## OUR VOLUNTEERS

Our volunteers' commitment and hard work enable the Foodbank to operate at maximum capacity to support all those in need. We are



hugely indebted to them. In 2021, our team of **30 volunteers** worked a total of **7,820 volunteer hours**.

## FOYLE COMMUNITY

Despite being one of the most economically deprived areas in Britain and Ireland, the Foyle community is undoubtedly one of the most generous.

Throughout 2021, the general public and businesses in Foyle continued to donate considerable quantities of food and financial support, much of it anonymously.

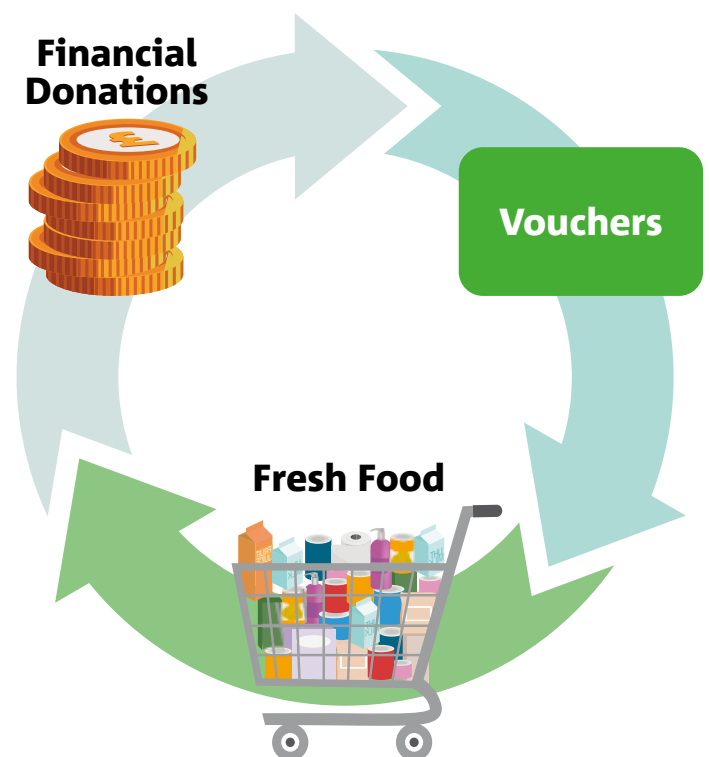
In 2021, the public donated **57,200 kgs of food and hygiene products** using our drop-off points at: Tesco, Strand Road; Sainsbury's, Strand Road; Rath Mór Shopping Centre; and Maxol Service Station, Eglinton.



**Direct financial donations** to the Foodbank were used to purchase 24,393 kgs of food at the cost of £81,595 - an increase of 43%.



Financial donations (as recorded in the annual Financial Statement) allowed for the inclusion of 'fresh food vouchers' in our food parcels to the value of £10, £20 or £30; depending on family size. These vouchers were redeemable in local shops for fresh meat, fruit and vegetables.



Most of the public's donations were anonymous; however, we have acknowledged all known donors in **Appendix C**.



# INSPIRATIONAL STORIES



## VOLUNTEER VIEW

JOSEPHINE

VOLUNTEER 1 YEAR

Having recently retired, I wanted to help people in my local community. Volunteering at the food bank gives me a sense of purpose, providing practical care and support to people.

Volunteers give a few hours of their time each week to support people in need. Our duties include packing, sorting and delivering food.

As management strives to develop the service, volunteers provide vital feedback from service users along with our own thoughts and ideas.

At a time when there is a major focus on international issues and people in need worldwide, it is still important to take care of our own people in our local community.

## A MESSAGE FROM THOSE YOU HELPED...

*"Thank you ever so much. You don't understand how much of a big help you have been. I really do appreciate everything you've done for me and my family. Being able to feed my kids because of youse is a lifeline and I'd be lost without you."*



# ABOUT OUR SERVICE

## LOCATION

Foyle Foodbank operates from the Apex Living Centre in Springtown Industrial Estate, Derry~Londonderry where it has access to facilities provided free-of-charge by Apex Housing Association. These include secure warehousing, a welcoming room, a café area, demonstration kitchen and a supermarket space to allow users select their preferred food items.

## OPENING TIMES FOR 2022

### Foodbank

Open Monday, Thursday & Friday  
11am - 2pm

### Office

Open Monday - Friday  
9am - 5pm

Booking slots are available throughout the week for individuals to meet with foodbank staff and volunteers for support and food.

.....

## REFERRALS

Individuals and families in need normally access our service through external referral agencies who issue food bank vouchers. These include community and social housing

organisations, care professionals, doctors, health visitors, social workers and other front-line agencies. Where users come to the food bank without a voucher (emergency walk-ins) we will assess their circumstances and assist them appropriately.

## VOLUNTEERS

We rely almost entirely on the help of over **30 volunteers** who come from a range of community and ethnic backgrounds. Many of them work regular shifts each week and during the year a total of **7,820 volunteer hours** were recorded. Foyle Foodbank could not operate without our fantastic volunteers, and we are indebted to them for their commitment, loyalty and dedication over the many years.

We are also greatly indebted to a number of local firms who, in seeking to foster corporate social responsibility, allowed their staff to help out at the food bank from time to time during normal working hours. To show our appreciation to these firms we have listed them in **Appendix A**.

# CHAIR'S VIEW

An overview of the year by Denis McGowan - Chair of Foyle Foodbank

**As the Covid-19 pandemic appears to be subsiding after two years, we now look forward with the sincere hope that life will, finally, regain some semblance of normality.**

In response, we expanded our volunteer team and appointed a new team leader. The larger team enabled us to increase our opening times during 2021 - from three days a week, to five days a week. We also launched a home delivery service during 2021.



## FIRST SOME PEOPLE TO THANK

The Board of Directors wishes to thank the entire team at Foyle Foodbank for their outstanding work and dedicated service. Thanks to them, our food bank remained open throughout the

pandemic, meeting the needs of those in food crises. Due to our manager's personal dedication and commitment - James and his team of volunteers, provided 98 tonnes of food to 15,606 beneficiaries in 2021. This compares with supplying 15,407 beneficiaries throughout our first four years.

Of course, Foyle Foodbank could not deliver such a vital service without another essential group of people: our donors. They, including local businesses, schools, community and church groups, have consistently and generously donated food and money for the relief of hunger. Many have given quietly and privately, requiring no recognition other than a simple 'Thank You'.

The Board would also like to express our sincere thanks to Apex Housing Association. Apex has been our supporting patron since the launch of the food bank in 2016. Apex provides us with rent-free space, heat and power at the Apex Living Centre in Springtown Industrial Estate. They even provided us with our food bank van. The facility includes office space; a

## CHAIR'S VIEW CONTINUED

secure and clean storage area that can hold over 30 tonnes of food; a shopping experience where people can privately select their food items; and a café area where people can have a confidential chat with a volunteer who will help to address their concerns.

### OVERCOMING THE STIGMA ATTACHED TO FOOD BANKS...

There is undoubtedly a stigma attached to the words 'food bank'. However, our volunteers understand that anyone can be swept into poverty and hunger with no other choice but to come to a food bank.

The location of the Foyle Foodbank, in a quiet area surrounded by a tall hedgerow, allows a high degree of privacy. Maintaining your dignity and your privacy is very important to us.

It is not unusual for our volunteers to meet people in a highly emotional state who talk about how difficult it was for them to come to a food bank. Many feel it is a low point in their life. They feel a sense of personal failure at not being able to provide food for their family.



The drivers of poverty and hunger include low-paid jobs, high unemployment, economic factors, and ill-health. A sudden drop in household income can have severe consequences. The reality is that many of us are just one pay-day away from poverty and hunger.

Anyone can find themselves dependent on the safety net of the benefits system. In fact, benefits are the most common source of income for people using food banks. However, the benefits system has become a system intent on cutbacks.

Those coming to the Foyle Foodbank are not the authors of their own misfortune. Their problems go back to the government austerity programmes of recent decades.

## CHAIR'S VIEW CONTINUED

### WE NEED TO COLLECT SOME INFORMATION...

We collect personal information detailing why and how often people use the food bank to help us manage our food stocks. This information is collected confidentially, and our team ensures anonymity and dignity.

Storage and use of information are strictly controlled by UK legislation for creating anonymised reports used to lobby the government to address the causes of poverty and hunger and prepare various reports. We never share information without the subject's express permission.

Information from the Trussell Trust National Database was used to prepare the Trust's landmark report 'State of Hunger 2019'. For the first time, it revealed the failure of the

state benefits system, and identified the complex root causes of food poverty.

Approximately 3 million food parcels were distributed across the UK in 2018/2019. This effort involved 1,261 food banks in the Trussell Trust network and 809 in the independent network – clear evidence that the system is broken.

### DO NOT HESITATE TO LIFT THE PHONE...

The underlying ethos of the Trussell Trust is to provide food to the hungry. It is an ethos we, at Foyle, share. Rest assured, we will make your visit here as comfortable as possible. We will treat you with dignity, respect, compassion and empathy and offer a listening ear should you need help with the problems you face. Please do not hesitate to lift the phone.

### FINALLY, A WORD ABOUT THE PATHFINDER PROGRAMME...

The Trussell Trust's vision is to see an end to food banks across the UK. To help achieve its vision, Trussell Trust has developed a 5-year strategic programme called Pathfinder. Foyle Foodbank was





## CHAIR'S VIEW CONTINUED



accepted into the 'Pathfinder Programme' in 2021, joining 100 other Pathfinder food banks, including four in NI, to find a strategic pathway toward that vision.

Our shared challenge as part of the Pathfinder Programme is to build a more dignified, compassionate and just society, so food banks are no longer required.

The Pathfinder Programme aims to change communities, change policies, and change minds. We will achieve such change by collating evidence of the drivers of extreme poverty (or 'destitution')

and pushing for positive solutions that will help tackle these. We will bring communities and influencers together across NI to challenge the underlying structural issues that lock people into poverty and hunger, and campaign for sustainable long-term change.

This is a five-year strategic plan, and at Foyle Foodbank, we have just begun our journey. One thing is sure: in the coming months, you will be hearing lots more about the Pathfinder Programme.

**Denis McGowan**  
Chair of Foyle Foodbank

# MANAGEMENT TEAM AT FOYLE FOODBANK

## VOLUNTARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND MANAGER



**Denis McGowan**  
CHAIR  
6 years on Board;  
Health & Safety  
Consultant with Du Pont  
(retired)



**Teresa McCloskey**  
COMPANY SECRETARY  
6 years on Board;  
Performance Manager  
with Apex Housing  
Association



**Des Reid**  
TREASURER  
2 years on Board;  
Chartered Accountant in  
Practice



**Deirdre McDaid**  
BOARD MEMBER  
6 years on Board;  
Surestart Manager



**Alan Rodden**  
BOARD MEMBER  
6 years on Board;  
Businessman



**Damien McAdams**  
BOARD MEMBER  
5 years on Board;  
Civil Servant (retired)

# MANAGEMENT TEAM AT FOYLE FOODBANK

## VOLUNTARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND MANAGER



**Gerry Kelly**  
BOARD MEMBER  
6 years on Board;  
CEO of Apex Housing  
Association (retired)



**Alison Wallace**  
BOARD MEMBER  
1 year on Board;  
Strategy Manager  
Waterside Neighbourhood  
Partnership



**James McMenamin**  
MANAGER  
4 years volunteering;  
3 years employed

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 (EXTRACT)

		Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated Funds	31/12/21 Total Funds	7 months 31/12/20 Total Funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>						
Voluntary Income	2	104,778	55,290	-	160,068	124,635
Other Income	3	135	-	-	135	73
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>		<b>104,913</b>	<b>55,290</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>160,203</b>	<b>124,708</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>						
Direct Charitable Expenditure	4	19,392	48,322	-	67,714	39,586
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>		<b>19,392</b>	<b>48,322</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>67,714</b>	<b>39,586</b>
<b>Net incoming resources</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>85,521</b>	<b>6,968</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>92,489</b>	<b>85,122</b>
Balance at 1 January 2021		85,869	3,453	120,000	209,322	124,200
Balance at 31 December 2021		171,390	10,421	120,000	301,811	209,322



## BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2021 (EXTRACT)

	Notes	31/12/21		31/12/20	
		£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible Assets	8	-	6,645		3,283
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	9	-		3,450	
Cash at bank and in hand	10	342,352		213,252	
		342,352		216,702	
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
amounts falling due within one year	11	(47,186)		(10,663)	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			295,166		206,039
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			301,811		209,322
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			301,811		209,322
<b>FUNDS</b>	13				
Restricted			10,421		3,453
Unrestricted			171,390		85,869
Designated	14		120,000		120,000
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>			301,811		209,322

# APPENDIX A

## CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

### Companies and organisations who generously allowed staff to volunteer at Foyle Foodbank while at work:

Active Inclusion Project

Allstate

Angry Cherry

Apex

Aveva

Ballymagroarty Women's Group

Budget Energy NI

Computershare

Foods Connected

HSBC Bank

Life Hack

Radius

Seagate

Springrowth Landscape & Garden Centre

SureStart Edenballymore

Tesco

Ulster Bank



# APPENDIX B

## REFERRAL AGENCIES (PAGE 1 OF 2)

### Referral agencies who issued food vouchers listed A-Z:

16+ Pathways Tenancy Support	Family Nurse Partnership
4RS/RCD	First Housing Aid & Support Services
Abbey Medical Practice	Foyle Food Hub Collection Point
Aberfoyle Medical Practice	Foyle Haven
Action For Children Ebrington Square	Foyle New Horizons - Action Mental Health
Advice NI	Foyle Parents & Friends Association
All Saints Clooney	Foyle Women's Aid
Apex Housing Association	Gary Middleton MLA
Ashmore House	GDI
Ask	Glendermott Medical
Banks of the Faughan	Greater Shantallow Area Partnership
Bayview Medical Centre	Hillcrest Trust
Bogside & Brandywell Health Forum	HURT (Have Your Tomorrows)
Bridge Street Medical Centre	Irish Street Community Centre
Bryson Care/Floating Support	Lettershandoney District Development Group
Caw Nelson Drive Action Group	Lincoln Courts Community Centre
Cedar Foundation	Londonderry YMCA
Cityview Medical	Mark H Durkan MLA
Clarendon Medical	Men's Action Network (MAN)
Clooney Community Centre	Methodist Churches
Creggan Community Collective	Newpin
Creggan Day Centre	NI Housing Executive
De Paul	NIACRO
Dove House	North West Methodist Mission
Dunluce Family Centre	NWRC Student Services
Education Welfare Service	Oaktree B&B
Eglinton Community Limited	Outer West Neighbourhood Partnership
Eglinton Medical Centre	Park Medical
Emergency Walk-ins	Praxis Care - FYPP
Extern	Praxis Care Operations
Family Intervention Team Limavady	Probation Service NI
	Quayside Medical
	Rainbow Child and Family Centre

# APPENDIX B

## REFERRAL AGENCIES (PAGE 2 OF 2)

<b>Referral agencies who issued food vouchers listed A-Z:</b>	
RDACHRG	WHSCT - Gateway Team
Riverfront Medical	WHSCT - Physical Disability
Rosemount Resource Centre	Youth Justice Agency
Shantallow Health Centre	
Shantallow Residents Association	
Simon Community	
Sinead McLaughlin MLA	
Slievemore Recovery Mental Health Service	
Smartmove Housing	
Start 360	
Strand Foyer	
Strathfoyle Community Association	
Street Soccer NI	
Surestart (Little Hands)	
Surestart Edenballymore	
Surestart Shantallow	
SVDP	
The Resource Centre Derry	
The Rosses	
Triax	
Tullyally 12	
Ulster Unionist Party	
Ulster University Student Support	
Voypic	
Waterside Hub	
Wave Trauma Centre	
Western Health & Social Care Trust	
WHSCT - Adult Safeguarding Team	
WHSCT - Domestic Violence	
WHSCT - Family Intervention Eastbank	
WHSCT - Family Intervention Westbank	



# APPENDIX C

## DROP-OFF POINTS AND DONORS (PAGE 1 OF 2)

### Four drop-off points were provided for public donations of food at:

Maxol Service Station, Eglinton  
 Rath Mór Shopping Centre  
 Sainsbury's Strand Road  
 Tesco Strand Road

### Companies and organisations who generously donated food and hygiene products:

Aberfoyle Medical  
 Adult Youth Services  
 Airporter  
 Altnagelvin  
 Bahai Community  
 Banagher Church  
 Bayview Medical  
 Bikers  
 Boots Lower Road  
 Bready Primary School  
 Bridge Street Medical  
 Bryson Energy  
 Budget Energy  
 Carlisle Road Methodist Church  
 Carnhill Community Association  
 Carlisle Road Presbyterian Church  
 Cedar Foundation  
 Claudy Presbyterian Church  
 Clooney Methodist Church  
 Cross Fit  
 Culmore Hub  
 Currys PC World  
 Danske Bank  
 Derry City Football Club  
 Derry Community Notices  
 Drumahoe PS  
 Dunelm  
 E&I Engineering  
 Ebrington School  
 Eglinton Community Centre  
 Eurospar, Creggan Road  
 Everglades Hotel  
 Extern  
 Extreme Fitness  
 Fareshare  
 Feeny Parish Church  
 Firstsource  
 Fitness First  
 Foods Connected  
 Foyle College  
 Foyle Golf Centre  
 Foyle Search & Rescue  
 Gallagher Com Group  
 Glenmore Construction  
 Gransha Hospital U3A  
 Holy Child Primary School  
 Holy Family Primary and Nursery School  
 Hunter Apparel Solutions Limited  
 Iceland Foyle Street  
 Kevin Watson Group  
 Lincoln Courts Community Centre  
 Local Postmen/Royal Mail  
 Maxol Eglinton  
 Nationwide Building Society  
 New Look  
 Newbuildings Community Centre

# APPENDIX C

## DROP-OFF POINTS AND DONORS (PAGE 2 OF 2)

### Companies and organisations who generously donated food and hygiene products:

Newbuildings Presbyterian Church  
 Newbuildings Primary School  
 Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service  
 NWRC  
 Other  
 Park Hall  
 Pennyburn Credit Union  
 Pennyburn School  
 Praxis  
 Primary Care  
 Radiography Dept Altnagelvin  
 Rath Mór Centre  
 Rath Mór Shopping Centre  
 Reach Across  
 Retro Arcades  
 Rosemount Primary School  
 Sage Hair and Beauty  
 Sainsbury's Strand Road  
 Samaritans  
 Screwfix Direct  
 Seagate Technology  
 Shantallow Medical Centre  
 Sinn Féin  
 Social Supermarket  
 St Cecilia's College  
 St Joseph's Boys' School  
 St Patrick's and St Brigid's College  
 Supervalu  
 Tesco Strand Road  
 Thomas the Goldsmith

Thornhill College  
 Top Quality Blinds  
 Totals  
 Translink  
 U Turn Fitness  
 U3a Foyle  
 Ulster Bank  
 Ulster University Students  
 Waterside House  
 Wheelers  
 Whitehouse Nisa  
 Youth Justice Agency

Thanks also to the many anonymous donors who contributed so generously throughout the year.

### A MESSAGE FROM THOSE YOU HELPED...

"Just contacting you to thank you for my food parcel very much appreciated and such a variety of stuff. Thanks again!"

"I wanted to say thank you so much for the food parcel... I was blown away... and am so grateful. You made my mouth.. blessings to you all."



2 apex

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
Please present your vehicle at the door and wait in your car for your parcel.  
To help safeguard your safety, our volunteers will request that you maintain a 2 metre distance between individuals to reduce the risk of contact.



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