



# Rutland foodbank

## Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 4 June 2019  
5:00pm

All Saints Church Hall  
Oakham



# Chair of Trustees' Report

*David Clark*

Between 1st April 2018 and 31st March 2019, three day emergency food supplies were supplied to 1113 local people in crisis by Rutland Foodbank. This represents a 31% increase on the prior year.

We are greatly indebted to the people of Rutland and the surrounding area for their generosity in donating food and the other essential supplies to meet the needs of those in difficulty in our community. This year has again demonstrated how much we rely on the commitment of our loyal volunteers.

“Low Income” is the biggest single, and fastest growing, reason cited as the primary cause of the family unit’s food crisis and accounted for 59% of all vouchers compared to 47% in the 2017/18. (See chart below). This trend is in alignment with the figures aggregated by Trussell Trust across their national Foodbank network. Trussell Trust attribute the cause to benefits not covering the costs of essentials and as a result more and more people are falling into financial difficulties and food crisis.

Our 31% increase in clients served this year is significantly above the equivalent national increase of 19%

(<https://www.trusselltrust.org/news-and-blog/latest-stats/end-year-stats/>). Rutland



Foodbank continues to benefit from being part of the Trussell Trust Network.

Trussell Trust conducted the annual Quality Assurance audit in December 2018 and no concerns were reported.

Oakham Distribution Centre has a wonderful team of Supervisors and volunteers. We have never once been unable to open as planned. Our thanks go to Peter Hart for liaising with volunteers and issuing the duty rota each month. Ann Burt and Heather Day have both stepped down as supervisors and our thanks go to them for their tremendous service since Foodbank started. The property we rent at Melton Road, Oakham continues to be ideal for our work and was redecorated this year by Oakham Explorer Scouts.

Janet Reynolds stepped down from leading the Uppingham Distribution Centre and the centre is now lead by the team of supervisors who open up for clients at Uppingham Parish Church every Friday morning.

With volunteer help from local firm Efficient Portfolio, Heather Day established a Facebook page, enhancing our connectivity and communications to the local community.

We received fantastic support at Harvest. In all, collections by churches, schools and businesses gathered in 1.7 tonnes of provisions. Hilary Smith and the Warehouse Team perform an incredible job managing major seasonal influxes such as at Harvest and Christmas. Jane Duce kindly made available an additional stor-



age unit at the warehouse into which we received donations and this has become an essential facility for the operation.

We distributed 230 Christmas Hampers to people in Rutland for whom Christmas is a real stretch financially. Again this year we received great support from our referral agencies who distributed invitations to their clients on our behalf. Rutland Lions raised an amazing £1278 through a collection at the Uppingham Carol Concert and a street collection in Oakham. As a result, we were able not only to provide more hampers than ever before but also carry forward funds to next year's Hampers Appeal. We thank everyone who contributed financially to the Christmas Hampers Appeal. We are again especially indebted to Lands End for their generous support.

Praise God for the financial support that we receive from individuals in the community and members of our churches, as well as from local organisations and businesses. We are grateful to all who have enabled Rutland Foodbank to be put on a very firm financial footing.



## Future Plans

We plan to maintain the organisation in its current format and continue to deliver an excellent service to our clients. The following characteristics of Rutland Foodbank are critical to our success and we intend to make sure that each remains in first class condition:

- Well motivated teams of kind and well informed supervisors and volunteers covering Oakham Distribution Centre, Uppingham Distribution Centre and Langham Warehouse.
- A sufficient supply of donations of food and other items from the community to meet the needs of our clients.
- Properly serviced Permanent Collection Points at supermarkets and churches.
- Excellent relationships with key referral agencies.
- Financial support sufficient to meet the ongoing costs of running the organisation.
- A safe and secure environment for our clients and volunteers with appropriate policies and procedures in place.
- Good connections with Trussell Trust.

We are currently advertising for a Volunteer Project Manager for Rutland Foodbank. Presently overall co-ordination and operational management is provided by the Chair of Trustees. Trussell Trust has sensibly recommended that a Project Manager role is separated out in order to create two distinct roles: Project Manager and Chair.



Since year end Suzanne Johnson has resigned as Trustee. Suzanne was a founder of the charity and the driving force in establishing it in 2013. She was Chair of Trustees until 2017. Vaughan Gilbert has been appointed Trustee.

Current Trustees are:

**David Clark** *Chair*  
**Caroline McCabe** *Treasurer*  
**Helen Baggott**  
**Charlotte Osborn**  
**Jane Duce**  
**Pat Anderson**  
**Vaughan Gilbert**

Thank you for your interest and support as we continue the work of blessing those in crisis with food help, dignity and compassion.



# Treasurer's Report

*Caroline McCabe*

We started the year with income a little uncertain, but have ended the year with revenue much more settled and guaranteed. Regular donations are now £440 per month. We continue to receive regular annual donations from individuals and organisations in the County which means we can plan for the year with greater clarity.

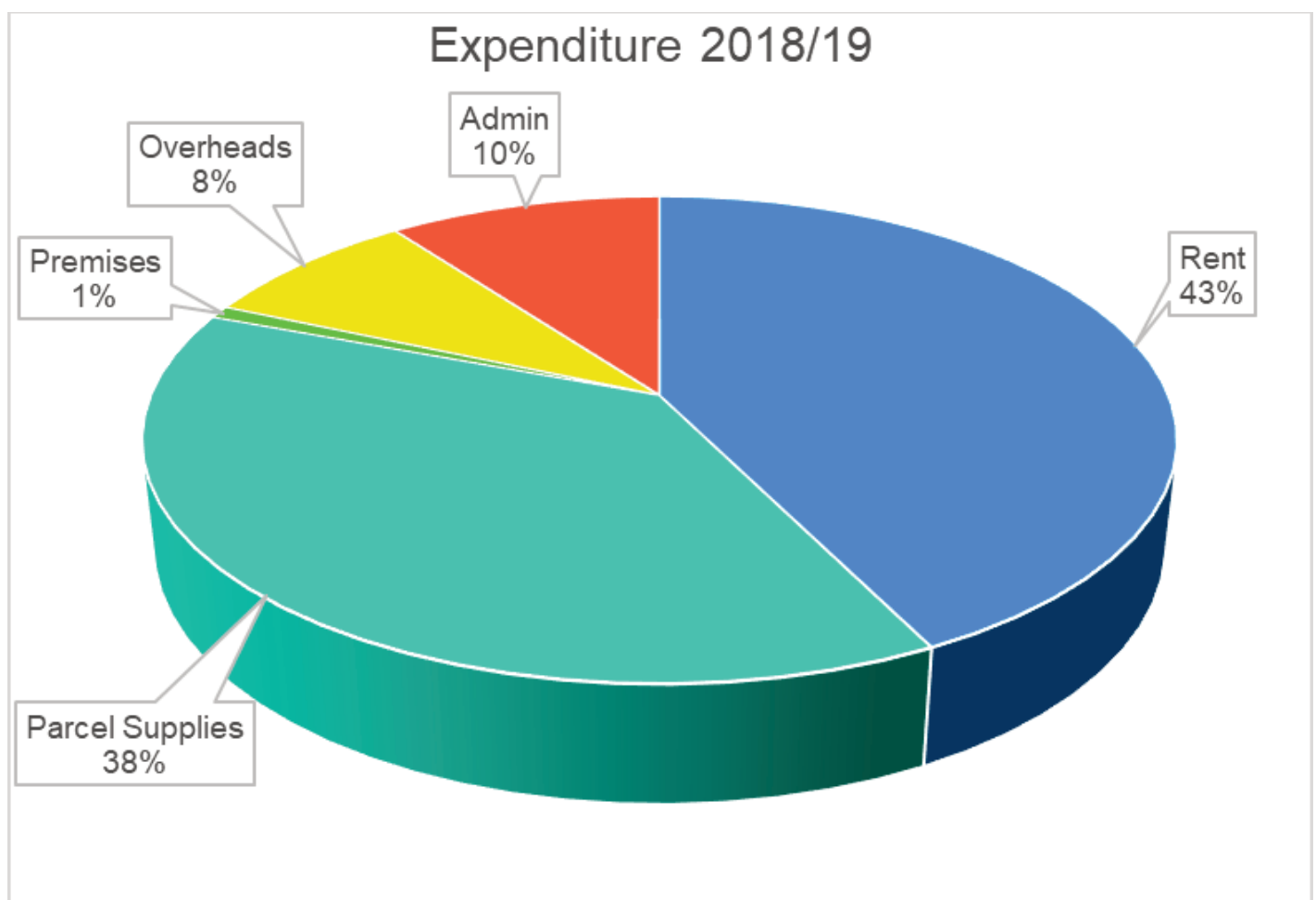
Expenditure is also fairly static at around £7000 per year.

Our largest expense is the rent and associated premises costs at the Oakham Distribution Centre, comprising £5457 of total expenditure (approx half of all expenditure).

Most of the costs for parcel supplies were for the Christmas Hamper appeal. We are

fortunate that the majority of our food for regular parcels continue to be donated through the collections points around the county.

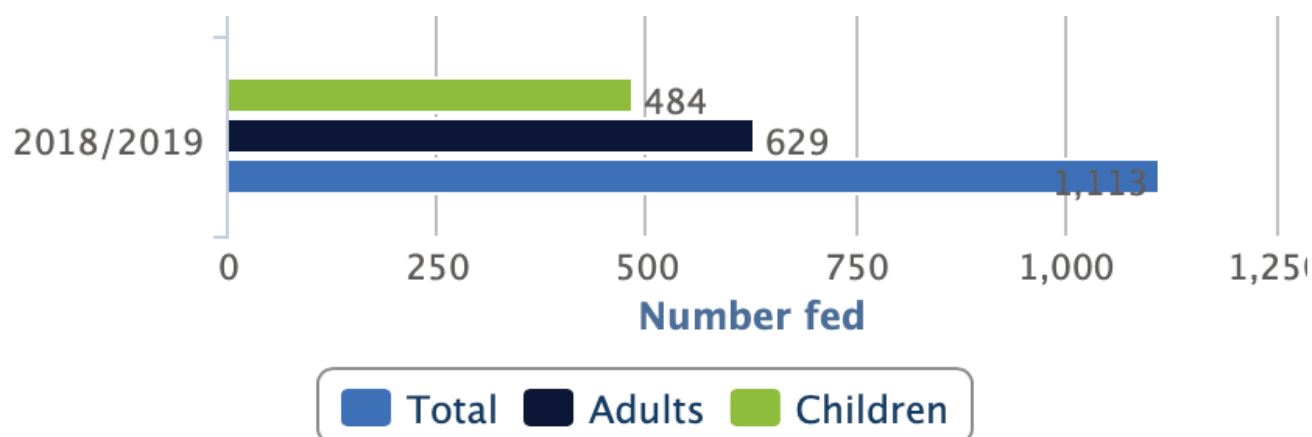
Admin expenses include our insurance costs - a total of £1,074 (approx. 10%).



# Voucher Holders Report

*Helen Baggott*

Rutland Foodbank has been very busy between April 2018 and March 2019. We have fed 1,113 people, 629 adults and 484 children – a big increase from the previous year, when the total was 846.



Social workers, and other Statutory workers and voluntary organisations do an amazing job in partnership with the Rutland Foodbank. I feel I know most of the referral agencies very well and all the social workers help the Foodbank with any problems about clients and support our requests for assistance. There are more schools referring on a regular basis and 6 new agencies have joined the team. In the past two months 3 new agencies have become voucher holders, 2 in the community, and one more school. There are 110 Referral Agencies and 36 agencies made referrals.

Last year we contacted all the schools in the county offering food parcels during the long summer holidays to families with children receiving Free school meals. In addition we offered 2 vouchers per family for use during the long summer holiday. This model will be repeated this summer.

The number of homeless clients and those sofa surfing has increased again this year. The plans for providing housing for the homeless will become a reality

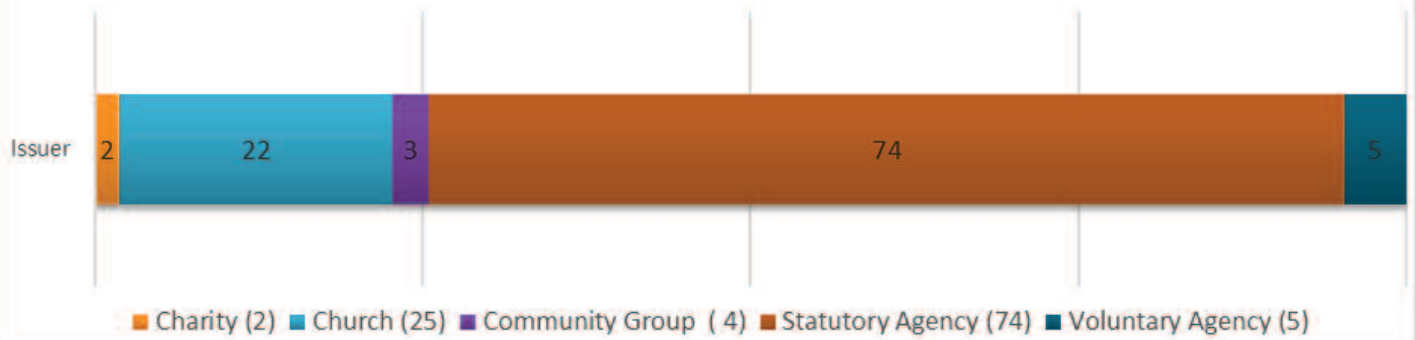
later this year when a proposal from Churches together in Oakham will provide one or even two houses.

The Trussell Trust data base continues with their new version, (from 2018) which has many improvements. The new system is moving away from one about vouchers and who uses them, to one about clients and the services they receive. We believe that this is the way forward for our clients. The chart reveals that more than three quarters of our clients have a low income or are waiting for benefit changes and delays to be resolved and as a result many are in debt.

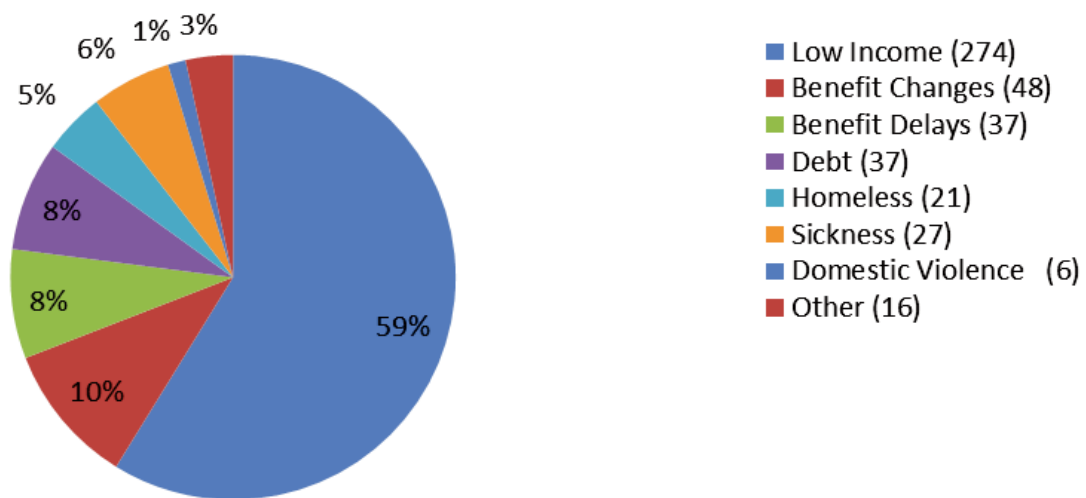
One member of the Housing Options team (from Rutland County Council) will come to Foodbank sessions about once each week and if clients wish they can speak to them about housing issues.

A member of the CAB – Citizens Advice Bureau has been doing a similar drop in for some time. We now have quiet space in the 'back room' for these informal meetings.

## Breakdown of Voucher Issuers 2018/19 TOTAL 110



## Reason for Crisis Situation 2018/2019



## Uppingham Report

*Keren Edwards*

The many tasks carried out by Janet Reynolds who so ably led the Uppingham distribution centre until last September, have been shared among the six supervisors, who meet regularly and are ably assisted each week by other volunteers, and by Jeremy who delivers and maintains the stock.

We are grateful to the Parish church for allowing us storage space and use of the premises, and for the support offered by the rector and parishioners.

Our three local food stores and a nursery have supplied boxes for donations to the

Rutland Foodbank, and local people continue to be generous.

The number attending with vouchers on Friday mornings continues to fluctuate from week to week, and we have a few who call in just for company and support.



## ***Rutland Foodbank***

*Registered Charity No 1158460*

*<http://www.rutland.foodbank.org.uk>*



**"THE PEOPLE  
AT THE FOODBANK  
WERE WONDERFUL,  
THEY UNDERSTOOD  
AND SAVED US"**