Annual Review 1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025



SHREWSBURY



Introduction

Dear Friends,

As another year passes, we're proud to reflect on what we've achieved and excited about what's to come.

Every day, we see the positive impact of our work, on the environment, and on the lives of people in Shrewsbury. This is so important given the continuing cost of living crisis affecting many in our community.

In 2024-25, we rescued 250 tonnes of surplus food that would have otherwise gone to landfill. This is a 17% increase on the previous year. When translated into nearly 600,000 meals, this achievement feels even more significant. It was a big challenge, but thanks to the dedication of our Food Hub team and incredible volunteers, we made it happen. A huge well done to everyone involved!

However, last year, redistributing one tonne of food cost around £1000 — with rising costs and strengthening our team, this is set to rise to £1,200. At just 50p per meal, this represents incredible value for the impact it delivers.

In November, we were thrilled to secure a major three-year grant from the National Lottery Community Fund — a strong endorsement of our mission. This support will cover around a quarter of our operational costs, giving us a vital foundation to build on. However, it still leaves us with plenty of fundraising ahead. See p9.

We're deeply grateful to our food suppliers. Every kilo donated supports a growing network of charities, schools, and community groups, ensuring good food goes to good use. More on p6.

We're also incredibly fortunate to work with an amazing team of over 200 volunteers who bring energy, passion and bucket loads of humour to everything they do. The impact we make is only possible because of each and every one of you. Thank you.

And to our generous donors — thank you. Your support powers everything we do. Feel proud of what we've achieved together.

This year we aim to rescue at least 300 tonnes of food, equivalent to over 700,000 nutritious meals. Adding in our growing Community Kitchen project, our 2025/26 budget is over £400,000. Working with our partners and your generous support we are confident it can be achieved.

Thank you once more, however you support our work.



Jo Powell Chair of Trustees



Tammy Bloodworth General Manager

- Jo & Tammy, September 2025

Our vision is a community where food is valued and not wasted.

Our mission is to redistribute surplus food and to reduce food waste in Shropshire for environmental and social good.

2024/25 Overview and impact

Key Stats



250 tonnes from 60 suppliers rescued from going to landfill = 1,220 tonnes over 9 years!





Shared enough food for 597,000 meals.





Supplied food to over 90 community groups saving them up to 40% of their food budgets!





Supplied 14 Foodshares every week supporting people in our community.



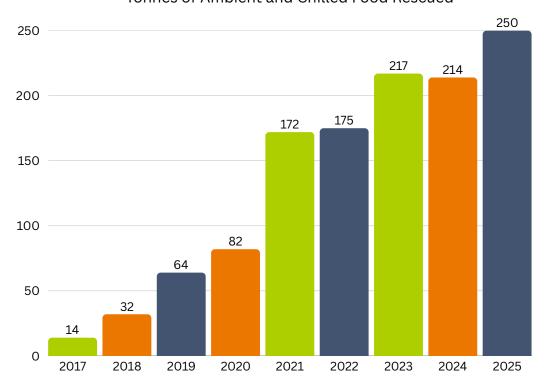
Mitigated 655 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent to a forest of over 50 football pitches.



What's on the Food Hub van?







Over nine
years...

1,220 tonnes
rescued

equivalent to 2,320,368 meals

DID YOU KNOW...

Over 300 people have made a donation to the Food Hub this year — and many have now set up a regular giving commitment. This steady support helps us plan ahead and reach thousands in our community. A monthly gift can make a big, lasting impact. Will you join them?

Donate Today

www.shrewsburyfoodhub.org.uk/donate

Volunteer-powered food rescue

Shrewsbury Food Hub simply wouldn't be here without our incredible volunteers—some of whom have been with us since day one! They're the heart and soul of everything we do, rescuing surplus food from local suppliers and delivering it safely to community groups 362 days of the year.

200+ volunteers 17,000+ hours of service £208,000 value of volunteer time*

*based on min wage

I think the Hub is adaptable and responsive to what is going on, nothing is too much trouble. I absolutely love it!

Mike, Food Hub volunteer



I've done lots of volunteering in my time but the Food Hub is the best. I feel that everything you do is tangible, it makes a real difference.

Gillian, Food Hub volunteer



I like the Hub because its flexible and I like driving the van. I also like the principles of the Hub, its friendly and the people are smashing!





07399 039292



www.shrewsburyfoodhub.org.uk/ support-us/volunteer

Working in partnership

We work in partnership with many organisations to deliver our mission. In this section of our Annual Review, we want to say thank you to all involved, and tell you more about them.

Foodshares

Foodshares are a key way we distribute surplus food to the community. Everyone is welcome to ensure food reaches "bellies not bins". In partnership with local community spaces and groups, the Food Hub run 14 Foodshares per week across 12 different locations. Foodshares offer much more than food, they also create spaces for people to connect and socialise.





Find our regular weekly timetable on our website or follow us on Facebook for local changes and updates!

Foodshare Timetable

@ShrewsburyFoodHub

Community Partner Organisations

We grew our community organisation and charity links to over 90 during the year.

The groups range from: before and after school clubs; youth groups; care homes; health organisations; and charities including those that support the homeless and those contending with domestic abuse.

Regular support for our local Repair Cafe, Men's Shed, Life Shed and other volunteer-run groups also grew this year, helping to reduce food bills and increase the range of foods they offer.



Josh and Tammy loading Crossbar Van

Working in partnership

Local Businesses

We enjoy strong and lasting relationships with local businesses through our corporate partnership programme *Friends of the Food Hub*. During the past year we have worked with companies such as Aico, Howden Insurance and Openreach. It's a great way for them to align their environmental and social goals with our mission. Find out more below about team building days, events and other ways to get your business involved.

It was a real privilege to be part of the Openreach volunteering team yesterday... Really brought to life the real food waste and over production challenges that the amazing Food Hub team are helping to overcome... I've never met so many inspiring people in one day before! Well done to the Food Hub team and thank you for letting us visit!



Openreach team building day at the depot

Find out more!

www.shrewsburyfoodhub.org.uk/support-us/corporate-partnerships

Surplus Food Suppliers

Throughout the year we received surplus food from 60 suppliers. We collect from supermarkets and other retailers seven days a week. Food manufacturers, restaurants, cafes, and local farmers also make significant contributions.

Pallets of surplus sugar and flour were a highlight and we found a home for all of it!

Thank you to all our suppliers for working alongside us to ensure your surpluses are put to good use!



Sugar, sugar everywhere!

Soupersonic & Community Kitchen

Our fantastic Community Kitchen project has continued to grow over the year! Since 2023, through our Soupersonic and Community Kitchen sessions, we've been equipping communities across Shropshire with essential cooking skills and bringing people together—using surplus food that would otherwise go to waste. The project has produced a wide range of delicious items including soups, sauces, pestos, tray bakes, pickles, chutneys, canapés, crumbles, and pies—all of which have been redistributed to local community groups. The groups we have worked with include Shrewsbury Men's Shed, Shropshire Domestic Abuse Service and Shrewsbury Ark.



104 people gained skills, confidence and connection through this project!

A standout moment of the year was launching #FridayNightDinner with Coleham School - working not only with pupils but also engaging their parents.

I can only describe the sessions as transformational

 seeing the children grow in confidence and
 witnessing their parents' amazement at what such
 young children can achieve.

 Tracy Othen, Coleham School Teacher



Apple crumble in the making



Cooking and knife skills at the Men's Shed

66 I was blown away by the confidence the blokes at The Men's Shed built in such a short amount of time.

Watching them develop serious knife skills and cook amazing dishes by the end of the sessions was both inspiring and humbling!

- Steve @_thehungryguy

Fundraising

Fundraising is vital to our charity's work. Thank you to everyone who has contributed—your generosity helps us feed our community.

Community Fundraising and Donations for Food

In 2024/25 we raised over **£76,000** from our local community. Throughout the year we had lots of fun at events including quiz nights, sporting challenges, festival stands, and surplus feasts. Here are some of our community fundraising highlights!



The Rotary Club of Shrewsbury Darwin's cycling event, the Border Randonnee, raised an incredible £1717.30.



The Hungry Guy's Time for Lunch surplus feasts raised an amazing £1192.



With the help of our quizmaster, Phil, our quiz night at the Unison Club raised £955.

Individual Fundraising

A big thank you to the 300+ people who made a donation over the past year.

One-off and regular donations raised an impressive £41,000. We really appreciate the support from individuals who choose to give—your generosity help us keep doing what we do.

Trusts & Foundations

We secured a number of grants from charitable trusts and foundations, totaling **£55,000**.

Thank you to all the trusts and foundations whose generous grants empower our work and amplify our impact—we're truly grateful for your support.

Statutory Funding

We received **£129,000** in grants through statutory bodies in 2024/25 — including Shropshire Council, Shrewsbury Town Council, the National Lottery, and the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. These significant contributions provide vital stability, helping to secure our future and strengthen our ability to serve the community long-term.

Thank you to all those who were involved. We would love to hear from you if you have a fundraising idea! Just give us a call or contact us via our website page!

Get in touch!

www.shrewsburyfoodhub.org.uk/contact

Awards





National Lottery Grant Expands Our Reach

In October 2024 we were awarded £304,000 over three years from the National Lottery Community Fund. This funding covers around a quarter of our redistribution costs as well as extending our Community Kitchen project.

Thanks to all those who take part in the National Lottery, it makes a real difference.

Awards

Our co-founders, dynamic duo Ali Thomas and Katy Anderson, received honorary master's degrees from the University of Chester for their work setting up Shrewsbury Food Hub. Very well deserved!



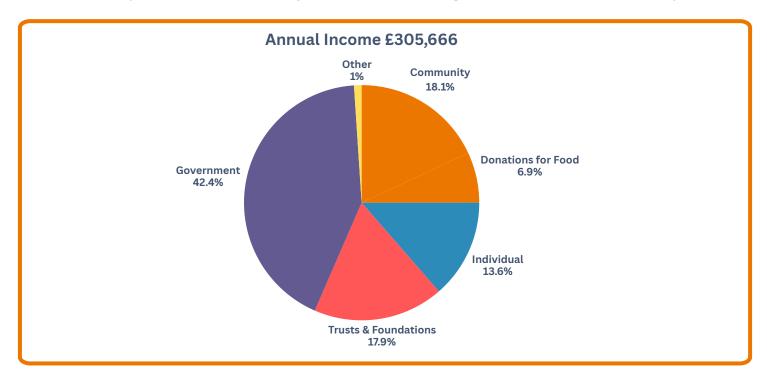


Our General Manager, Tammy on behalf of the Food Hub, received a High Sheriff's Award from Brian Welti, then High Sheriff of Shropshire, in recognition of great and valuable services to the community. Congratulations, Tammy!

Financial Overiew* and Future plans

Income and Expenditure Year Ended March 2025*

We raised an impressive £305,666 last year from a wide range of sources. More detail on p8.



Our total expenditure was £305,613. This included £58,000 on the Community Kitchen project. The balance covered all other costs including the redistribution of 250 tonnes of surplus food. This equates to approximately £1,000 per tonne, or 42p a meal.

*Unaudited accounts - audited accounts available upon request from Dec 2025.

Looking Ahead

In 2025/26, we aim to:



Increase our rescued food tonnage by 20% to at least 300 tonnes.



Expand our Community Kitchen project with a target of adding another 5 community groups to the program reaching a total of 16.



With your help, raise £415,000.

TO ALL OUR FRIENDS, THANK YOU!

WE APPRECIATE EVERY HOUR, EVERY POUND AND EVERY KILO OF SURPLUS FOOD WE RECEIVE!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE EVERY MONTH? Become a regular donor today!

A gift of £10 a month will provide 240 meals a year for our community.

You can set up your monthly donation at www.shrewsburyfoodhub.org.uk/donate or scan the QR code, or give us a call!



