

OCTOBER 2022



Multi Agency Meeting

Larne Foodbank held a meeting in Larne Town Hall on 20th September. Some forty people attended representing the various agencies that are involved in helping people in the Larne area. There was an opportunity to hear from every organisation and representative about what it was they are doing followed by some time to network with each other. We want to thank all who attended and those who let us know how helpful it had been to them.

Christmas Hampers



As the tell-tale signs of Christmas are beginning to appear around us, Larne Foodbank has begun preparations for our annual distribution of Christmas Hampers.

To ensure that we have everything that is required, we will be asking for specific items over the next couple of months so that the Hampers will be ready to be packed and delivered in December. Each week we will be requesting two or three items that we need, so look out for these on Facebook or on our website:

www.larne.foodbank.org.uk



Bank the Food

For the most up to date information on shortages and collection points simply download the Bank the Food App to your phone:

<https://www.bankthefood.org/downloadapp/>

Client Survey at Larne Foodbank

At Larne Foodbank we have recently carried out a survey with our Clients. The aim of this survey was to find out more about people's experience of obtaining a voucher; from the moment they have to consider this, though speaking to referrers to arriving at the door of Larne Foodbank.

People highlighted that they felt hindered in reaching out for help due to anxiety, pride, embarrassment, and perceived judgement. However it was also noted that some individuals were encouraged by a friend who has had a positive experience.



In the survey we enquired as to whether operating out of a church was off-putting but were met with a unanimous response that it was not a problem but rather "comforting". Furthermore, we asked about our location being situated in Craighill with 96% responding positively about the location.

During the survey, Clients indicated their referrer, ease of obtaining a voucher, and whether they were given support or guidance with the circumstances that brought them to this point. 76% of responses indicated that help was being offered to them.

The information obtained from this survey has provided us with a much needed insight into the journey of the client up to the point of coming to our doors. This has encouraged us to collaborate more closely with referrers in helping people solve their crisis and getting the right support for their circumstances.

Maybe we can all combat the stigma by having better attitudes towards those who find themselves in a time of crisis as it could be any one of us who needs help.

School Breakfast Cereal



At Larne Foodbank we are keen to liaise with local schools in providing cereal for breakfast clubs to help schools ensure that no child starts the day hungry. Having breakfast has been shown to have a positive impact on factors such as physical and mental health, social skills, concentration, behaviour, attendance and

academic outcomes. If this is something that your school requires help with then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

School's Out

Just a reminder that Larne Foodbank can help by providing food parcels to support to families during the October half-term holidays.

