

A Tribute To Alex Munro

We at Larne Foodbank are sad to share the news of the passing of Alex Munro. Alex was Chair of the Foodbank for 3 years, followed by 5 years as Honorary Secretary. While in these roles he did so much for the people in our community behind the scenes, never seeking recognition or praise. Alex was constantly striving to ensure our service was reaching those people that were vulnerable and needed our compassion and support. It was Alex who worked diligently to secure a grant to source, purchase and erect a purpose built warehouse for Larne Foodbank to store our food, from its inception through to completion, at no cost to Larne Foodbank. When Covid-19 hit and the majority of our volunteers needed to step back, Alex swung into action to implement a risk assessment that would enable us to stay safe whilst ensuring we could remain open. Alex also provided us with a 3-year business plan that will be implemented and followed to the letter. Whilst our ultimate goal is to remove the need for Foodbanks, we have been left in a position that we can keep providing our service to those who need us. Alongside these wonderful accomplishments during his time at Larne Foodbank we want to recognise Alex for his infectious personality. He was a guiding light, a mentor and always the voice of reason sprinkled with a dose of good humour. Alex was particularly proud of the fact that our Foodbank was founded and supported by 8 churches in our town and that all denominations, and none, were represented in our donations, volunteers, Committee members and Trustees. Through his faith, Alex has enriched the lives of all who he came in contact with, sharing his trust in God with us time and time again. And when challenges arose, we have been able to recognise Gods faithfulness to be true. To Alex's wife and family, our sympathies are with you and be assured that you will always remain a part of the Larne Foodbank family.



JULY 2023

Hunger in Northern Ireland Report

The Trussell Trust has undertaken an in-depth study on hunger in the UK, its causes, impacts and who is affected. This research also breaks down data specifically for Northern Ireland. You can find the full research methodology and findings on the Trussell Trust website but we felt it was important to highlight a few key findings relating to information from Trussell Trust Network Foodbanks in Northern Ireland:

1 IN 6 people experience food insecurity

1 IN 5 people referred are from a working household

58% of people referred have experienced an adverse life event in the past 12 months

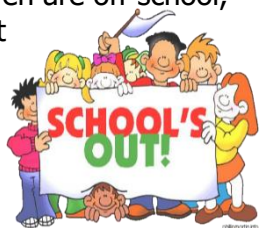
48% of people referred are living with children under 16

60% of people referred to foodbanks are disabled

Food Poverty can impact anyone, all it takes is for a few unfortunate circumstances to align. Food insecurity does not discriminate either and reaches many aspects of life. However, this research has highlighted that the impacts of recent financial and economic pressure has been especially severe for some groups. Despite the rise in use of Foodbanks the Trussell Trust reports that 'more than 2/3 of those experiencing food insecurity have not received food aid. Foodbank use does not represent the entirety of need across the country, but rather those who have accessed this form of support.'

Schools Out – Holiday Hunger

As those faced with holiday hunger has become a growing concern over the summer months when children are off school, we at Larne Foodbank continue to do our best to meet the needs of our local area. We have distributed leaflets to all local schools to help signpost those who are faced with the reality of food poverty to Larne Foodbank where our kind-hearted volunteers are available to help.



Food Shortages

Currently we have a high stock level of baked beans and tinned vegetables. The items that we are in need of at the moment are:

- **Tinned Potatoes or Smash**
- **Rice (500g or 1kg bags)**
- **Sauces for Pasta**
- **Tins of Soup**



We are always very grateful for the generosity of the people of Larne who continue to support Larne Foodbank and help us to respond to the need in our local area. Without your wonderful support we simply would not be able to continue to meet the needs of those who are faced a time of crisis.

THANK YOU