



Annual Report and Financial Statements
For the year ending 31 May 2023
Charitable Incorporated Organisation
1194360

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Friends of the Homeless in Fareham and Gosport
Registered Charity 1194360
Information for the year ended 31 May 2023

Trustees	Jennifer Broben-Darney Ken Gulson Philip Rutt
Charity Correspondent	Philip Rutt 20 Hillside Mews Sarisbury Green Hampshire SO31 7LQ
Charity Registered Number	1194360
Bankers	Barclays
Independent Examiner	Gillian Lodge PgCertTLHE, PgDip (Res), MAPP (Dist), FCCA, FHEA Senior Teaching Fellow Accounting and Finance Management School of Accounting, Economics and Finance Faculty of Business and Law University of Portsmouth Richmond Building 5.14 Portland Street PO1 3DE
Website	www.friendsofthehomeless.org.uk
Email	enquiries@friendsofthehomeless.org.uk

Friends of the Homeless in Fareham and Gosport
Trustees' Report
For the year ending 31 May 2023

Who are we?

- The Friends of the Homeless is a Christian based group. The charity became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) during 2021 and transferred all its assets, operating processes and procedures from the previous Registered Charity (1041277) of the same name, becoming fully operational from 1 June 2022.
- The CIO operates the Fareham and Gosport Basics Bank.
- This project provides short term support to individuals and families who find themselves in a crisis or emergency situation.
- It is accessed through a number of agencies in this area that come into contact with people that are likely to require assistance.
- The service is available to anyone in need. In 2022/2023 we handled on average some 290 referrals per month which represents an average of some 670 individuals fed, about one third of whom are children.
- The group is wholly operated by volunteers and is totally dependent on voluntary donations and gifts.

In more detail

The Fareham and Gosport Basics Bank is the charity's principal project. This provides food support and relief to those who find themselves in a short run crisis or emergency situation. This represents an outworking of the biblical principle of 'loving your neighbour as yourself'.

This is enabled by operating two food banks which supply food parcels to last for a period of up to a week completely free of charge. We are also able to offer toiletries and nappies. We operate an on-line, cloud based referral system which is accessed by over 150 agencies. Such pre-qualification gives some real assurance that service users are receiving help for background issues such as debt, homelessness, mental or physical illness, unemployment and benefit problems. We rely on the agencies to manage the relationship with their client.

The agencies include a homeless direct access centre, the women's refuge, social services, health visitors, the probation service, Citizen's Advice, council housing offices, school outreach workers, health visitors, social workers and a number of other charities and others who come into contact with people in severe need or crisis.

We cover the local authority areas of Fareham and Gosport and a part of the City of Winchester area.

Our centres are within easy access of Fareham and Gosport town centres, where people can come and collect the required items. People may access the service up to four times in one year. This limit is designed to prevent people from becoming dependant on the service and also ensures that we can support as many people as possible.

The level of food and toiletry donations declined during the year under review. However, we received generous support financially which has enabled us to make up any shortfall and to continue to provide fresh fruit and vegetables, together with bread, eggs and milk. Thus, the charity remains self sufficient. Our donors include schools, churches, commercial organisations and individuals.

Drop off points in local supermarkets also provide valuable support outside the peak Harvest to Christmas period when donations of food and toiletries are at their highest. That donations during these 'festival' periods were generous during the cost of living crisis is a tribute to all those who donate to us.

Our volunteers are a significant asset. These are people of faith and no faith who work to achieve the common goal of trying to make a difference to the vulnerable in our community. They do this unstintingly with good humour and great commitment, with compassion, no small degree of sadness and without passing judgement on those whom they help. We are grateful for all they contribute.

Contact details

Fareham: Aspect House, Westbury Road, Fareham, Hampshire, PO16 7XU
Phone - 01329 822204

Gosport: Unit 1, The Old Railway, Spring Garden Lane, Gosport, Hampshire PO12 1FQ
Phone - 07826 305900

Website: www.friendsofthehomeless.org.uk

Email: enquiries@friendsofthehomeless.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/farehamandgosportbasicsbank

Open: Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Our background

The Friends of the Homeless started in 1991 by providing a nightly soup run in the local area for homeless people. A centre was opened in 1995 where people were able to get free meals and clothing every day (with access to washing facilities). This developed into a 24 hour direct access centre with 16 beds. This was transferred in January 2003 to Two Saints, a charity who also run a number of other hostels in the area.

Following the success of the transfer, the group started the Basics Bank project which has been operational from Aspect House since July 2003. A second centre opened within Jacobs Well Care Centre in Gosport in June 2007, moved to the David Bogue Hall in January 2013 and to its current premises in The Old Railway in September 2018.

The Trustees declare that they have approved this trustees' report and the accounts on pages 8 and 9.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

P.L Rutt

Name: Philip Rutt (Chair)

Date: 30 March 2024

Friends of the Homeless in Fareham and Gosport

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees of Friends of the Homeless in Fareham and Gosport

I report to the trustees of Friends of the Homeless in Fareham and Gosport on my examination of the receipts and payments accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 May 2023 which are set out on pages 8 and 9

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTORS AND EXAMINER

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed - Gillian Lodge

Gillian Lodge
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Accounting and Finance Management
School of Accounting, Economics and Finance
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27/03/2024

Friends of the Homeless in Fareham and Gosport

Receipts and Payments Account for the Year Ending 31 May 2023

	2023	2022
Income		
Donations and Grants	£86,440.00	
Subscriptions	£0.00	£0.00
Bank Interest	£0.00	£0.00
Debt repaid	£0.00	£0.00
	<u>£86,440.00</u>	<u>£0.00</u>
Expenditure		
Rent	£21,049.93	
Telephone	£1,110.92	
Insurance	£862.92	
Food and Supplies	£38,608.58	
Sundry Expenses	£4,641.94	
Stationery and Administration	£1,465.55	
Light & Heat	£957.49	
Travel Expenses	£80.32	
Repairs & Maintenance	£388.00	
Legal Fees	£0.00	
	<u>£69,165.65</u>	<u>£0.00</u>
Surplus (Deficit) for Year	<u>£17,274.35</u>	<u>£0.00</u>

Friends of the Homeless in Fareham and Gosport

Balance sheet as at 31 May 2023

	2023	2022
Current Assets		
Cash at Bank	£19,274.35	£2,000.00
Cash in Savings A/c	£149,009.75	
Debtors		
	<u>£168,284.10</u>	<u>£2,000.00</u>
Current Liabilities		
Creditors and Accruals	Nil	Nil
Net Current Assets	<u>£168,284.10</u>	<u>£2,000.00</u>
Represented By		
Accumulated Fund		
Balance brought forward	£2,000.00	
Surplus (Deficit) for Year	£17,274.35	
Cash at bank	<u>£19,274.35</u>	<u>£2,000.00</u>