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| page1image1791072 | 'By the community for the community; welcoming all faiths and none’ | page1image1786144 |

**Harrow Foodbank: a brief history and summary**

Harrow Foodbank is a charitable trust affiliated to the Trussell Trust, based in the London Borough of Harrow. We have been operating since June 2013, and now feed almost 2000 people each year. Our objective is the prevention or relief of poverty in Harrow and surrounding areas in particular, but not exclusively, by providing emergency food supplies to individuals in need and to charities or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty. We work in partnership with local care agencies which refer clients in crisis to us. By signposting people to care agencies, advice services and other support agencies we aim to seek resolutions to their immediate crisis, which is causing their need to use the Foodbank.

The continued support of our many volunteers enables us to operate smoothly and provide a good quality service to our clients. For the past five years, a number of groups, organisations and local individuals have supported our work to provide this much needed service in our area. Around 30% of Harrow Foodbank beneficiaries are children under 16.

We hope, one day there will be no food poverty across the globe, but for now, right here on our doorstep, people are going to bed hungry, and as long as our service is needed we would like to sustain our project so that we can support the vulnerable people in our community.

**History of Harrow Foodbank:**

**November 2012** Churches of different denominations, Citizen's Advice Bureau and other voluntary groups and Harrow Council came together to work co-operatively, thinking about food poverty and how to add value without creating dependency.
**February 2013** Steering Group met for the first time, identified 8 future Trustees reflecting the geographical spread of Christian churches across Harrow. They co-opted others to help the set up especially Citizen's Advice Bureau & a Harrow Council Welfare Reform representative.
**May 2013** Holy Trinity Wealdstone (HTW) kindly offered space for the admin office, warehouse and distribution centre.
**June 2013** The first Distribution Centre at HTW Tuesday session officially opened and the first voucher was redeemed on 4th June.
**August 2013** The Friday session added to the HTW Distribution Centre.
**September 2013** St Paul’s Distribution Centre opened providing Wednesday sessions.
**June 2014** The main office and warehouse moved to Phoenix Business Centre in Rosslyn Crescent.  **June 2016** The Certificate of Recognition was awarded by the Mayor of Harrow for the service.

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