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WINDSOR FOODSHARE



Windsor Foodshare was opened in October 2013 in response to the growing need. Residents in Windsor were previously having to access the Slough Foodbank and the Maidenhead Foodshare scheme. We started out with 5 vouchers and increased over the years to 50 just before this pandemic. Our aim is to provide an emergency supply of non-perishable food to any individual or family where one or more people are going hungry due to being unable to afford sufficient food. People with this need are issued with a voucher by one of our huge team of referrers. These include schools, housing services, CAB, health services, and most recently the West Windsor Hub and the Central Windsor Hub (a full list can be found on our website).

The Impact of Covid-19

The outbreak of the pandemic and the lock down gave us some challenges. Our donations of food almost stopped but we did see a dramatic increase in financial donations which was quite astounding. The difficulty was sourcing enough food as there were shortages in supermarkets and cash and carries. Thankfully that situation only lasted a couple of weeks and we have since been able to purchase what we need thanks to the financial donations. As well as this, there has been an amazing community response. Round 50 household in Windsor have a collection box outside their house. Residents nearby can drop off food and it is then delivered to us each week. The demand for our service has doubled since the end of March. We were supporting around 80-90 individuals each week; this has increased to 160-180. We anticipate that this increased demand may continue for some time and might in fact increase further when the full impact on the economy is felt.

This means that we need to be mindful of future funding needs and why we are so incredibly grateful to the Maidenhead Magpies 150 challenge for naming us as one of the organisations they will support.