



Barnet Food Hub

MONTHLY STATISTICAL

REPORT

Edition: September 2023 No. 33
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SUMMARY

In the Monthly Statistical Report, the Barnet Food Hub Team compiles monthly statistical and quantitative data on food / support provided to its partners, for interested parties.

In the month of September, a total of 22,578.04 kg of food was handled and all but the unusable food distributed to our various partners. Further information on support, additional resources that were provided and initiatives undertaken are detailed below.

SEPTEMBER FOOD STATISTICS

The number of kilograms of food handled from Barnet Food Hub, and the meal equivalents are shown below.

In addition, we include a metric which we have developed, to indicate the equivalent value of the food we give out.

Each week we purchase fresh fruit and vegetables and ambient produce to ensure that we can provide a consistent supply of ingredients to our foodbank communities. As a result of inflation, this food, which used to be bought from a budget of £1,500 per week, now costs considerably more than it used to – the same food costs around £2,238 per week at time of writing.

By additionally working with our food surplus chain and with help from our team of volunteers, we are now usually sending out over £15,000 worth of food each week.

September 2023			
	Food handled (in kg.)	Equivalent number of meals	Value of food handled (£)
TOTAL	22,578.04	53,757.23	56,971.25

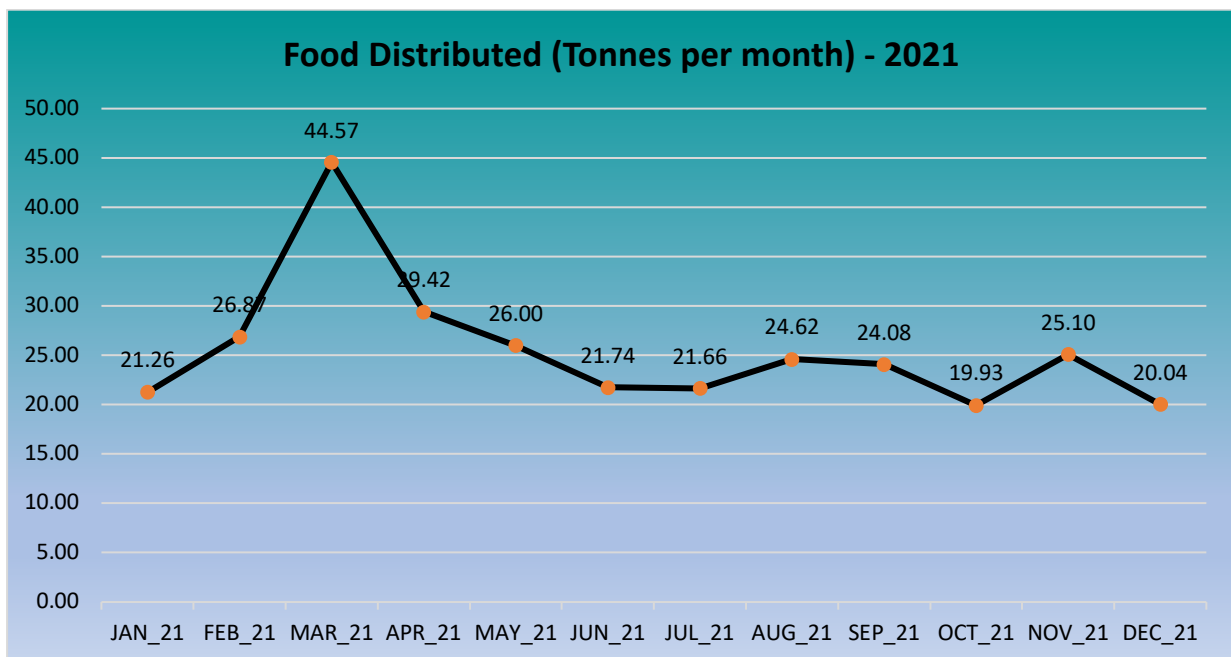


When our society wastes food, we also waste all the energy and water it takes to grow, harvest, transport it and package it. We do all we can to reduce the amount of food waste destined for landfill, and instead to try to make sure good food that might otherwise be binned, reaches the plates of food insecure people around the Borough.

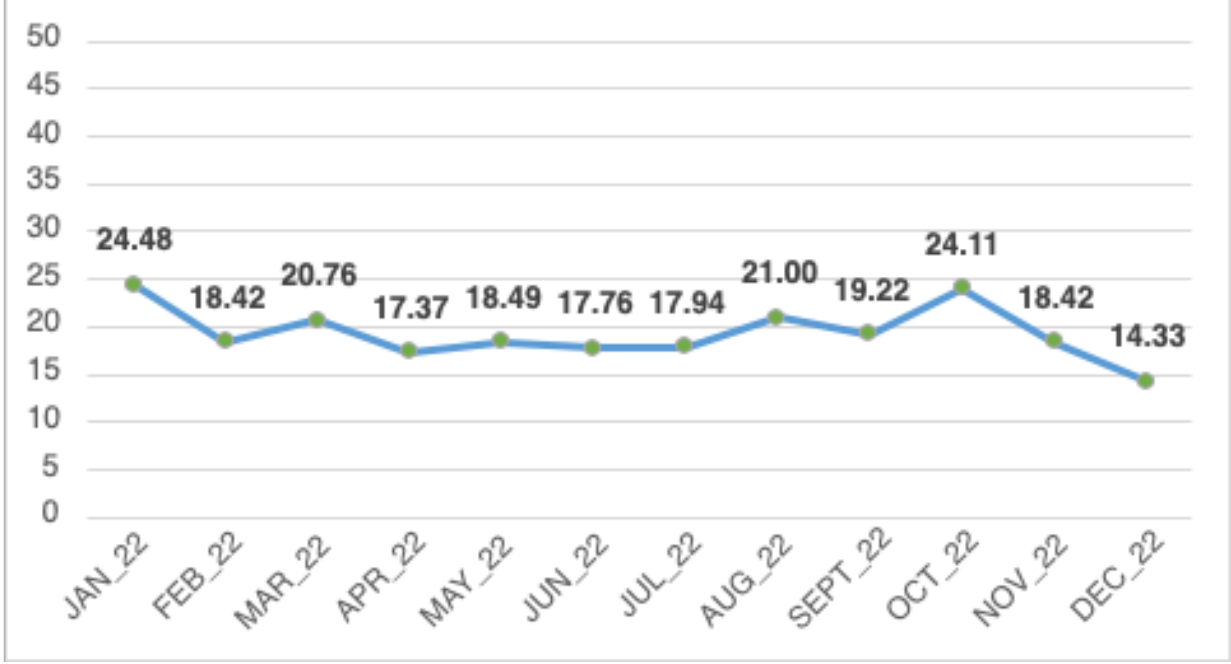
The 'equivalent meals' figure is based on an average portion size for a meal weighing 420g (data derived from Food Portion Sizes, FSA 2008 and also from data from Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP), outlined within <https://wrap.org.uk/sites/default/files2020-10/WRAP-Food%20Surplus%20Redistribution%20Estimate%202017%20-%20Information%20sheet.pdf>.

That document also contains a calculation of value for food waste at £3 per kilo; the 'value of food distributed' figure is based on the price of the purchased food that we distribute, plus an average of £3 for each kg of surplus food that we send out.

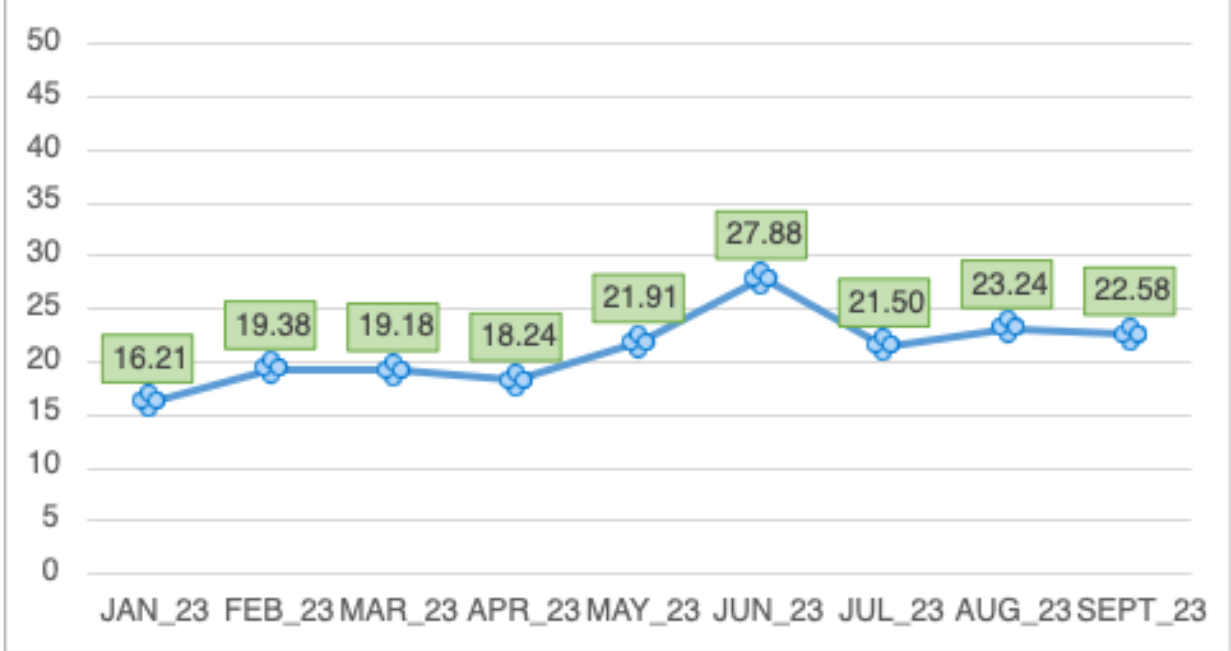
To ensure that the information remains legible, we have separated some of the data. The three charts below show the amount of food distributed during the course of 2021, 2022 and the food distributed to-date during the course of 2023.



Food distributed (Tonnes per month) 2022



Food Handled 2023 (Tonnes per month)



FOODBANK DATA ANALYSIS

Our Foodbanks share with us monthly data on how their food is distributed throughout the Borough of Barnet. September data is available from all Foodbanks in our network.

This information is collated by Barnet Food Hub and displayed via Public Health on an interactive dashboard, which is available to view using the following link:

<https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoib2U3YmlxZTQtOTc5Zi00NjliLWJmZGQtZmNmMWQ5NGFkNWxliwidCI6IjFiYTQ2OGI5LTE0MTQtNDY3NS1iZTRmLTUzYzQ3OGFkNDdiYiJ9>

It is clear from the figures provided, that Foodbanks are experiencing ever increasing numbers of people attending for support.



SUB-PROJECTS

Foodbank Visits

In September, team members from the Barnet Food Hub began a round of visits to all of the Foodbanks in our network.

There are several reasons for making these visits.

First, it's important that we ensure we remain totally up-to-date with the set-up at each Foodbank as these vary so widely in terms of the space and resources available. Knowing, for example, how much ambient storage space and refrigeration space that is available (or not) helps us gauge the amount and type of food we can send to a Foodbank each week.

Secondly, we offer to make an informal assessment of each Foodbank's compliance with food safety and hygiene regulations, to help them ensure that they would pass a spot-check inspection by public health authorities, were one to be made. After the visit, Simone sends a report which details any recommended areas for improvement.

Thirdly, we take the opportunity to gauge and discuss with Foodbank Managers, the potential for Digital Champions to visit the Foodbank and offer a weekly face-to-face help and advice service to their clients and visitors. People visiting Foodbanks are often stuck in a bind where they are unable to apply for jobs and improve their financial situation, because they don't have access to the internet to search or apply online, or because they struggle with the process. Digital Champions can help by providing hardware where it's needed (second hand), by providing access to the internet, and/or by holding clients' hands throughout the process – whether that's applying for jobs online or sorting anything else out that needs to be done online.

Also of course, it's very good for the team to meet up with Foodbank Managers and their volunteer teams face-to-face, especially those who aren't able to join in the network meetings, training and occasional social events which we hold.

We are grateful to the Foodbank Managers for making us so welcome and we are glad to hear that the reports and advice we have provided have proved valuable.



New Data Collection System

Each month we require the Foodbanks within our network to send us data about the people who have benefitted from the food help they've provided that month: how many adults, how many children – and ideally which postcode area they live in, their ethnicity and their food preferences (e.g., halal, kosher, vegetarian, etc.).

This data when we receive it, is fed into Barnet Council's dashboard and is valuable in helping to maintain an updated picture of food insecurity and food poverty in the borough. However, providing the data puts an additional burden on Foodbanks who usually have to rely on volunteers to count, input and send the information.

The team led by Simone here at the Hub is currently designing a new data collection system which aims to simplify the process for Foodbanks and streamline the process of collection and inputting, to save time at their end and also here at the Hub in collating the information.

The aim is for the new system also to automatically link people in with other services that they could benefit from, by identifying as much as possible the underlying source of their food poverty problem and trying to hook them up with organisations / charities / funding that may be able to help them.

We are excited at the prospect of launching this new data collection and are busy refining it ready for piloting in the coming few months.



Map of our Foodbanks across Barnet

We are currently supporting 15 Foodbanks with a predictable supply of purchased food, as well as providing other support and surplus food to several community groups across the Borough of Barnet.

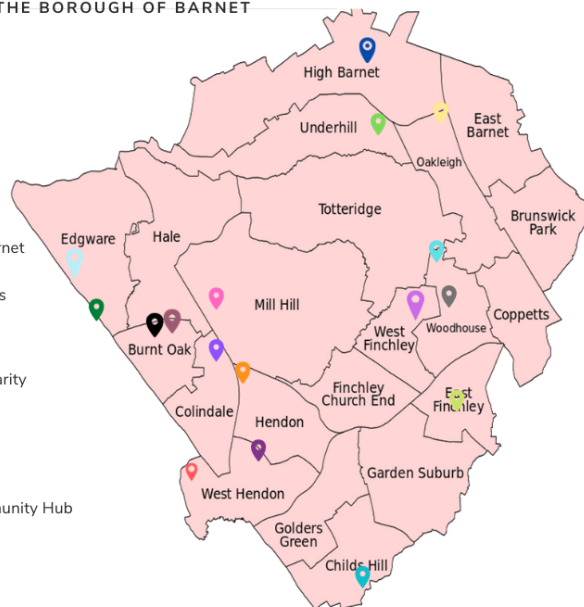
Below is a map of the Foodbanks currently supported in any way by The Barnet Food Hub – in other words, the map shows those we regularly give food to, as well as the additional two which we support only in other ways.



OUR FOODBANK PARTNERS

ACROSS THE BOROUGH OF BARNET

- All Saints Child's Hill
- Barnet Community Projects
- Burnt Oak Community Project
- PCN no. 5
- Chipping Barnet
- Christ Church Foodbank
- Colindale Foodbank
- Community Network Group
- Finchley Foodbank
- GIFT
- Homeless Action Barnet
- Living Way Ministries
- NW7 Hub
- RCCT Romanian Charity
- St Barnabas
- St Peter's Pantry
- West Hendon Community Hub



SUPPORT

Foodbanks supported through the Barnet Food Hub this month:

- All Saints Child's Hill
- Barnet Community Projects – Rainbow Centre
- Burnt Oak Community Foodbank
- Chipping Barnet Foodbank
- Colindale Foodbank
- Community Network Group
- Finchley Foodbank
- GIFT
- Living Way Ministries
- NW7 Hub
- PCN no. 5 (Was Burnt Oak Women's Group)
- RCCT
- St Barnabas
- St Peter's Pantry
- West Hendon Community Hub

Additional support provided to foodbanks:

Two newsletters were sent out to our Foodbank community during September, each containing a variety of community fund details and resources for help and funding which the foodbanks and/or their beneficiaries might find useful.



Additional resources and support initiatives provided to our Foodbank community this month, included:

- Opportunity for free training – Make Every Contact Count
- BACE holidays
- Gardening Grants
- Barnet Together Alliance Conference
- Tesco – Stronger Starts
- Community Organisations Cost of Living Fund
- Violence against Women and Girls Grassroots Fund
- Lloyds Bank Foundation d/Deaf and Disabled People's Organisations Funding
- Marketing for Charities Online Workshop
- Understand your charity's audience better – online workshop
- Looking to host a stall at a local community event?
- BBC DIY SOS 'The Big Build' are on the lookout for their next project
- Get started with Easy Fundraising
- Accessibility Tip – Dyslexia Friendly Language
- Accessibility Tip – Keep Text Formatting Simple
- Become a community organisation support member today
- The Garfield Weston Foundation Grants
- London Catalyst Grants
- The Thomas Wall Trust – Grants for Registered Charities
- Barnet Upshot Project
- Love Parks Week 28th July to 6th August
- Pride in the Park
- UK Black Pride
- Healthy Homes Team Summer Road Show
- The Hope Initiative UK (THIUK)
- What is a trustee and how do I become one?
- Job Opportunities available – 3 at Inclusion Barnet: Community Organisation Support Manager, Membership Development Officer (x2), Trainee Benefits Advisor (peer role)



- Opportunity to become a Trustee – Young Barnet Foundation
- Footwork's People and Place Fund
- Protective Security Schemes for places of worship – deadline extended
- Healthy Homes Team Summer Road Show
- Barnet launches bid for London Borough of Culture 2027
- Access to Work Plus
- College supports local community with free courses
- Zero Suicide Alliance Lunch & Learn
- Barnet Libraries – Free online event



Monthly Foodbank Meeting

Our usual Monthly Foodbank Meeting took place online two weeks later than usual to maximise attendance after the holiday season and avoid a clash with the Barnet Together Alliance Conference – the meeting took place on 9th October 2023.

These meetings are a valuable opportunity for the Foodbanks community of Barnet to meet up for an informal social and networking event; to share updates and news, discuss any concerns, and hear and discuss new ideas and initiatives taking place in the sector.

It's really helpful for everyone to be able to share and learn from each other in this way, and where there are more complicated issues, The Barnet Food Hub is happy to be able to step in and seek further advice and clarification, provide further information, or offer to host relevant training courses.

In addition, in this month's session, we were joined by Emeritus Professor of Medicine at UCL, George Grimble who joined our meeting to invite Foodbanks to suggest any research that they would find useful, which the University Masters students could explore and report back on. He envisages a partnership between a large public research university and local councils and charities to perform research on important topics which are not funded well.

The next monthly meeting is scheduled to take place online on Monday 30th October.



OTHER

Volunteering hours

The Barnet Food Hub engages with an ever-growing team of volunteers from the community. This ongoing engagement enables the Hub to process larger quantities of food and increases our ability to rescue divert food from the waste cycle. This also benefits the volunteers through offering a sense of community engagement and connection.

This month:	100 volunteer hours
Total:	3,675 volunteer hours

Food Surplus Partners

Donations from The Felix Project, Fareshare and the supermarkets are not always suitable or safe to redistribute to foodbanks. This could be because they are catering sized items or items past their 'best before'. When the food cannot be sent to any of our foodbank partners, we work with wider Barnet community groups to find good homes for these items. This is all part of the Barnet Food Hub commitment to a zero-food waste operation.

Surplus partners helped on an on-going basis:

- HSP: Clandon House
- New Barnet Community Association
- N2 Meals
- Family Resource Centre
- Feast With Us
- Gratitude
- Cat Hill Allotments (composting at our local allotment)
- Friend In Need
- Memory Lane
- Age UK
- The Sonia Community





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youngbarnetfoundation.org.uk



www.barnettogether.org.uk