

**BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Community Funding Sub Committee**  
**10 September 2024**

**Food Bank Donation**

**Recommendation**

**The Sub Committee RESOLVE to make a further donation of £5,000 to the Food Bank, and that a further review takes place in 6 months' time.**

Ward

All

Risk Management

There is a budget provision for the distribution of community grants to various organisations. There is a legal power under s137 of the Local Government Act to cover this expenditure.

Objective

To support worthy organisations within the Town by giving financial help after consideration of any application submitted.

Report

It was previously agreed at the Community Development Committee, 13 February 2024, to make a regular 6 monthly payment of £5k, to the Blyth Food Bank subject to ongoing review.

This was based upon the current economic situation and the effect on the population of the town.

The Food Bank continues to provide an essential service, and a review has recently taken place in line with the Committee's decision.

From the information received the numbers of referrals are slightly reduced to those of last year, but there is now a greater dependency on the Food Bank having to purchase more products, due to the level of donations reducing. They also have premises maintenance costs to meet. This will therefore have a knock-on effect on the financial reserves.

The Food Bank are continually monitoring the reserves to ensure that they can continue providing this essential service.

**Malcolm Wilkinson**  
**Town Clerk**

**3 September 2024**