ONE CAN TRUST
STRATEGY
2026-2029 I SUMMARY

ONE CAN
FOOD BANK + TRUST

onecantrust.org.uk

> **97% OF VOLUNTEERS SAY ONE CAN TRUST'S WORK IS 'IMPORTANT' OR 'VERY IMPORTANT'**

WHERE WE'VE COME FROM

Since 2011, One Can Trust (OCT) has grown from a cupboard of food at St Andrew's Church into one of the most trusted and vital community charities in South Buckinghamshire.

We are proud to be more than a food bank. We are a lifeline for families, children, and individuals in High Wycombe and the surrounding area.

Headline impact 2023-25

Supported over **35,000 school meals** for local children since 2023

Reached a peak of **965 people supported in a single week** (March 2023)

Over **400 clients engaged** with community services beyond food parcels

Awarded the **King's Award for Voluntary Service** in 2023

The King's Award for Voluntary Service

Sustained by over **400 dedicated volunteers**

Informed national government policy change on School meals through the data of our school meals programme

ONE CAN FOOD BANK + TRUST

> “THANK YOU AGAIN ONE CAN FOR HELPING OUT IN HARD TIMES.

WHERE WE ARE TODAY

Food Bank

Weekly support ranges from 400-889 clients

Around 85 new individuals are referred each month

Average of 889 clients supported weekly during the cost-of-living crisis peak

Community Support

Operate a range of services including parent and toddler groups, children’s and adults’ clothes banks, as well as weekly community café providing free hot meals

Over 400 clients engaged in community services with all new clients receiving calls to offer signposting and wider assistance (e.g. access to individual client grants)

School Meals

- 35,512 meals funded for over 190 children in partnership with 9 schools
- 100% funded by philanthropy, reaching children not eligible for Free School Meals
- Clear impact on children including improved concentration and attention, and reduced absence.
- Helping parental anxiety around food

Volunteers

185+ warehouse volunteers

111+ packers

87+ drivers

77+ community service volunteers

CLIENT STORIES

> “Mentally I feel much better. I am calmer. If things go wrong, I now have support. I can cope with life now.

> “I felt supported as well as getting the food and I did not feel judged.

> “I had nothing. One Can has given me food, clothes, toiletries and a sense of community. It’s good to know that One Can is always there.

CASE EXAMPLE:

A single mother of three was first referred for food parcels. Through One Can Trust’s clothes bank she received school uniforms. With support from our Community Services team, she accessed debt advice and is now financially stable — no longer reliant on food parcels.

THE CHALLENGE

Across the UK, poverty remains unacceptably high:

- **3.8 million people experienced destitution in 2022**, including 1 million children
- Destitution has **doubled since 2017** (Joseph Rowntree Foundation)
- Locally, One Can Trust client numbers in 2025 remain **double those of 2019**, showing how fragile recovery is and the lasting impact of COVID-19 and the cost of living crisis.

In High Wycombe,
20.8%
of children live in income-deprived households, compared to a county average of 12.1%

OUR RESPONSE

One Can Trust has never stood still. We have continually adapted to meet the changing needs of our community:

- **COVID-19:** Pivoted from self-pick hubs to home delivery with 300+ Street Heroes collecting and distributing food
- **Nutrition First:** In partnership with Raising Nutrition, we redesigned food parcels for healthy, balanced meals (accredited in 2024)
- **Beyond Food:** Established Community Support projects from toddler groups to clothes banks and Wednesday café at our subsidiary CIC, Open House Micklefield that manage Hills Café
- **School Meals:** Launched 3-year programme in 2023 to ensure children just above the Free School Meals threshold don’t go hungry
- **Partnerships:** Working with Buckinghamshire Council, Citizens Advice, NHS Social Prescribers, housing providers, schools, and faith groups to ensure holistic support

SCHOOL MEALS

WERE LAUNCHED IN 2023 TO ENSURE CHILDREN JUST ABOVE THE FREE SCHOOLS MEALS THRESHOLD DON’T GO HUNGRY

WHERE ARE WE GOING

Strategic aims

Our mission is simple: **to bring together a community who contribute to the effective running of our services in support of those who face hardship in our local area.**

Our vision is: **“To be here to help, for as long as there is a need.”**

DIRECT CLIENT SUPPORT

- Providing Relief and Support to Those in Need
- Fostering Community Connection and Reducing Isolation
- Empowering Independence

INDIRECT IMPACT & SYSTEMIC CHANGE

- Understanding Individual Circumstances
- Influencing Systemic Change Through Data and Advocacy
- Reducing Stigma

ENABLERS

- Awareness of One Can Trust Services
- Passionate and Dedicated Volunteers
- Food, Funding, Finances and Resources
- Open & Transparent Operations
- Committed Staff and Stakeholders
- Agile Culture & Can-Do Mentality

“IT’S ABOUT CREATING COMMUNITIES IN A NON-JUDGEMENTAL, FRIENDLY, SAFE PLACE

“IT'S A GREAT ENVIRONMENT TO VOLUNTEER AND HELP FEED HUNGRY FAMILIES.

Our Support to Clients

We support clients in a number of ways...

1. **Providing Relief and Support to Those in Need**
   Offering practical assistance to individuals and families experiencing financial hardship or crisis.

2. **Fostering Community Connection and Reducing Isolation**
   Creating opportunities for people to connect, participate, and feel part of a supportive community.

3. **Empowering Independence**
   Providing information, guidance, and signposting – through initiatives such as toddler groups and client support conversations – so people can build resilience and move toward long-term independence.

4. **Understanding Individual Circumstances**
   Conversations with clients enable us to tailor our services and delivery models to meet their specific needs.

5. **Influencing Systemic Change Through Data and Advocacy**
   Anonymised and aggregated insights from client interactions and surveys help inform partners, stakeholders, and policymakers, supporting wider advocacy for those experiencing hardship.

6. **Reducing Stigma**
   Ensuring that no one feels ashamed to seek help, and that everyone can access support without judgement.

KEY ENABLING OBJECTIVES

To achieve our aims, we depend on the following enablers:

- **Clear Awareness of the Breadth of One Can Trust Services**
  Ensuring clients, partners, and the wider community understand that we offer far more than food support alone.
- **Passionate and Dedicated Volunteers**
  Including effective volunteer recruitment, training, and retention to sustain and grow our impact.
- **Sustainable Resources**
  Securing the food, funding, facilities, and operational resources—including warehouse capacity – needed to deliver our services effectively.
- **Open and Transparent Operations**
  Maintaining strong governance, financial rigour, efficient processes, and accountability in everything we do.
- **Committed Staff and Stakeholders Living Our Values**
  Building a culture where employees, volunteers, donors, clients, and trustees work collaboratively and uphold our shared principles.
- **An Agile, Can-Do Culture**
  Remaining flexible, adaptive, and responsive to crises, changing client needs, and shifts in government policy.

LOOKING AHEAD

We are committed to ensuring One Can Trust remains strong, responsive, and sustainable.

Our priorities are:

1. **Diversifying income** – building new streams beyond food donations and corporate giving
2. **Strengthening IT & data systems** – to better understand client needs and demonstrate impact
3. **One roof vision** – bringing food, community services, and staff together
4. **Measuring outcomes** – moving beyond numbers to show the real change in people's lives
5. **Advocacy** – using anonymised data to influence local and national policy on poverty and hardship

HOW YOU CAN HELP

One Can Trust exists because of the generosity of our community — individuals, volunteers, corporates, funders, and partners. Together, we can ensure no one in High Wycombe and the wider area of South Buckinghamshire goes hungry or unsupported.

Ways to get involved

- **Volunteer** – in our cafe, clothes bank, warehouse, as a driver, or with community service
- **Donate** – food, funds, clothes or skills to help us grow
- **Partner** – collaborate with us to reach more people in need

WE'RE HERE TO HELP, FOR AS LONG AS THERE IS A NEED.

CARING ABOUT OUR COMMUNITY

To find out more please visit onecantrust.org.uk, email **office@onecantrust.org.uk** or call **01494 512 277**.