



GOVERNING BODY REPORT

Agenda Item No.	07
Reference No.	IESCCG 19-51
Date.	24 September 2019

Title	Emergency Food Fund	
Lead Chief Officer	Maddie Baker-Woods, Chief Operating Officer	
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Purpose	To inform the Governing Body on the work and interim outcomes of the Emergency Food Fund within Suffolk but in particular Ipswich and East Suffolk.	
Applicable CCG Clinical Priorities:		
1.	To promote self care	x
2.	To ensure high quality local services where possible	
3.	To improve the health of those most in need	x
4.	To improve health & educational attainment for children and young people	x
5.	To improve access to mental health services	
6.	To improve outcomes for patients with diabetes to above national averages	
7.	To improve care for frail elderly individuals	x
8.	To allow patients to die with dignity and compassion and to choose their place of death where appropriate	
9.	To ensure that the CCG operates within agreed budgets	
Action required by Governing Body:		
To note the report.		

1.0 Background

1.1 The Emergency Food Fund was created by Ipswich and East Suffolk and West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Groups. As health partners we understand that income and poor nutrition are key causes of ill-health and therefore were keen in working with partners to address these issues.

Evidence is widespread and includes:

- There is a 12 year drop in life expectancy between Suffolk's most deprived and least deprived areas.
- 27.8% of children in Ipswich live in poverty.
- The most deprived children and young people are 1.5 times more likely to go to A&E or be admitted to hospital than the least deprived.
- There are strong links between deprivation and mental health.

1.2 Poverty impacts health, that is seen acutely when people are unable to feed themselves and their families adequately. Meeting this need is vital to maintaining good health and wellbeing which will help to relieve pressure on health services.

The Fund was available for organisations delivering in East and West Suffolk.

This fund particularly offered:

- grants of up to £10,000 for the development of emergency food deliveries and holistic support for those in need (primarily aimed at foodbanks).
- grants of up to £5,000 to tackle emergency food for young people in need, such as holiday hunger projects.
- grants of up to £5,000 to groups distributing food to older people in need.
- grants of up to £5,000 to organisations distributing food to the homeless and vulnerably housed (i.e. supported accommodation).
- grants of up to £2,000 for Parents Teaching Associations (PTAs) to access funding for breakfast clubs or similar.

1.3 Working with Suffolk Community Foundation the Suffolk CCGs Emergency Food Fund has awarded over £65,000 to 10 local food banks and other voluntary organisations involved in feeding nearly 1300 people in Suffolk.

Grants awarded in 2019 (All Suffolk)

Organisation	Grant awarded	Estimated beneficiaries	Project
Aspect Living Foundation	£4,970	500	To provide replacement insulated delivery boxes for the new 'Meals on Wheels' service in Suffolk.
Caribbean and African Community Health Support Forum	£2,716	50	To support Dice 'n' Spice - a home meals delivery service.
Catch 22	£5,000	125	To provide a project for children and young people in Ipswich to help prevent holiday hunger.
Chapman Centre Trust	£5,000	300	To provide breakfast and lunches to homeless people in Ipswich at the Chapman Centre.
FIND (Families in Need) Ltd	£2,000	1000	To support additional food purchases over the winter period.
Gatehouse Caring in East Anglia	£10,000	1500	Towards supporting the running costs of the Gatehouse foodbank.
New Life Church (Suffolk)	£10,000	2800	To support the foodbank and its work within the community.
REACH Community Projects	£10,000	1500	Towards running costs of the foodbank in Haverhill.
Stour Valley Vineyard Church	£6,000	3000	To support the Storehouse foodbank.
Suffolk West Citizens Advice Bureau	£9,954	750	To directly support foodbanks in the West Suffolk area.
Whitton Youth Partnership	£4,095	1200	To support holiday hunger in the Whitton area of Ipswich.
Total	£69,735	12,725	Cost per head: £5.48

Beneficiaries by group (All Suffolk)

Primary beneficiary group	Estimated beneficiaries	Amount awarded
People living in poverty	9,925	£43,000
Families/parents/lone parents	750	£9,954
Black, Asian and minority ethnic	50	£2,716
Homeless people	300	£5,000
Older people	500	£4,970
Children and young people	1,200	£4,095

Geographical locations of grants awarded



2.0 Detail of Grants Awarded and Beneficiaries

2.1 Aspect Living Foundation (197202)

The grant of **£4,970** was to provide replacement **insulated delivery boxes** for the new '**Meals on Wheels**' service in Suffolk.

Project area: Suffolk

Primary issue: Health, wellbeing and serious illness

Primary beneficiaries: Older people

Primary age group: Seniors (65+)

Primary ethnicity: All ethnicities

Aspect Living Foundation (ALF) inherited their original equipment from the previous service providers and used the grant to replace the old insulated carry boxes and heated inserts with new **insulated delivery boxes** in two sizes. Due to **food hygiene and safety** reasons, it is imperative the meals reach customers within a **specific temperature range**.

Elderly and vulnerable people are at increased risk of malnutrition, hospital admission or readmission if they are unable to have a nutritious meal daily. This service provides **nutritious meals to older people** in Suffolk, together with a **personal safety and wellbeing visit** at the time of delivery which can also be used to **combat loneliness and social isolation**. ALF staff alert next of kin, local authorities or NHS professionals at an early stage if support is required.

Although most of their customers are over 65, the service is aimed at anyone who is **housebound** whether through **illness, age or infirmity**. The service is available on a **temporary or permanent** basis, for example for people recently discharged from hospital, in order to prevent readmission. Family, friends and carers of customers can be **reassured** that someone is looking in on their loved ones.

2.2 Caribbean and African Community Health Support Forum (187190)

The grant of **£2,716** was to support **Dice 'n' Spice - a home meals delivery service**.

Project area: Ipswich

Primary issue: Caring responsibilities

Primary beneficiaries: Black, Asian and minority ethnic

Primary age group: Seniors (65+)

Primary ethnicity: Caribbean

The Caribbean and African Community Health Support Forum (CACHSF) have purchased **essential equipment**, such as durable food containers, kitchen serving equipment and thermally insulated bags, as well as using part of the funding towards **kitchen hire** and **volunteer expenses**. This has allowed the organisation to provide a **culturally appropriate food** provision within the **African and African Caribbean communities** of Suffolk, benefitting **isolated people** who have difficulty leaving their homes due to illness or disability.

Case study

“My husband is now housebound and unable to do much for himself, but the team now provide two hot meals a week for him which he enjoys very much. This takes some of the pressure off me so that I get a break from the everyday cooking. I am not always at home on a Wednesday when the food is delivered, but they always make sure that he is looked after before they leave. I am so grateful to the CACHSF team, I cannot thank them enough.” – a client

2.3 Catch 22 (187164)

The grant of **£5,000** was to provide a project for **children and young people** in Ipswich to help prevent **holiday hunger**.

Project area: Ipswich

Primary issue: Poverty and disadvantage

Primary beneficiaries: People living in poverty

Primary age group: Children (5-12)

Primary ethnicity: All ethnicities

To help prevent **holiday hunger**, Catch 22 are co-ordinating a programme of **free activity sessions** supplemented by a **nutritious meal** for each participant during the **Easter, May, Summer and October school holidays** in 2019. So far, the programme has provided activity opportunities in **three locations** for 15-30 young people a day during the school holidays. **Referral schools** this year have been **Ipswich Academy, Westbourne Academy and Chantry Academy**.

During the **Easter** holiday, **32 individuals attended**, with a total of **72 free lunches** provided and **12 hours of activity** over the six sessions. Five sessions were attended by **40 individuals** during **May** half term, with **60 free lunches** provided and **10 hours of activity**. The **summer** project consisted of 20 sessions attended by **64 individuals**, with **20 free lunches** provided and **40 hours of activity**.

"I think it was brilliant. Everyone was friendly and great with the kids. She had fun, played, tried new things and wanted to do more sessions." – Parent

"If I wasn't doing this, I would just be at home playing video games." – Young person



2.4 Chapman Centre Trust (197212)

The grant of **£5,000** was to provide **breakfast and lunches** to the **homeless** of Ipswich at the Chapman Centre.

Project area: Ipswich

Primary issue: Homelessness

Primary beneficiaries: Homeless people

Primary age group: Adults (26-65)

Primary ethnicity: All ethnicities

The Chapman Centre is open **seven days a week** and provides an average of **twelve hot lunches per day**, as well as **breakfasts on Wednesdays and Thursdays** to clients who have been found **rough sleeping**. Most clients do not have the facilities to cook a hot lunch and so would not receive a hot nutritious meal without this service. An average of **three food parcels per week** are also given out of clients needing **emergency food**.

Since **1st April 2019**, the Chapman Centre have provided **88 breakfasts** and **1,493 lunches** to **homeless people**, helping to maintain their health and wellbeing. Whilst clients are in the centre, staff hold informal conversations to provide **advice on housing, benefits and debt**, as well as **signposting** clients to other organisations where appropriate. This assists vulnerable clients, who often lead chaotic lives, to move towards **independence**.

2.5 FIND (Families in Need) Ltd (187185)

The grant of **£2,000** was to support **additional food purchases** over the **winter** period.

Project area: Ipswich

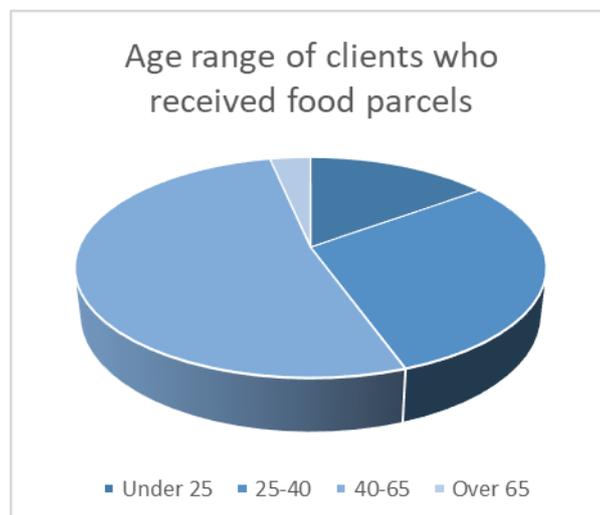
Primary issue: Poverty and disadvantage

Primary beneficiaries: People living in poverty

Primary age group: All ages

Primary ethnicity: All ethnicities

FIND will use this funding to purchase **additional food** and **fresh produce** to include in **food parcels after Christmas**, as food bank collections are usually smaller at this time of year, making it difficult to cover **essential items**.



2.6 Gatehouse Caring in East Anglia (197207)

The grant of **£10,000** was to support the **running costs** of the Gatehouse foodbank.

Project area: St Edmundsbury

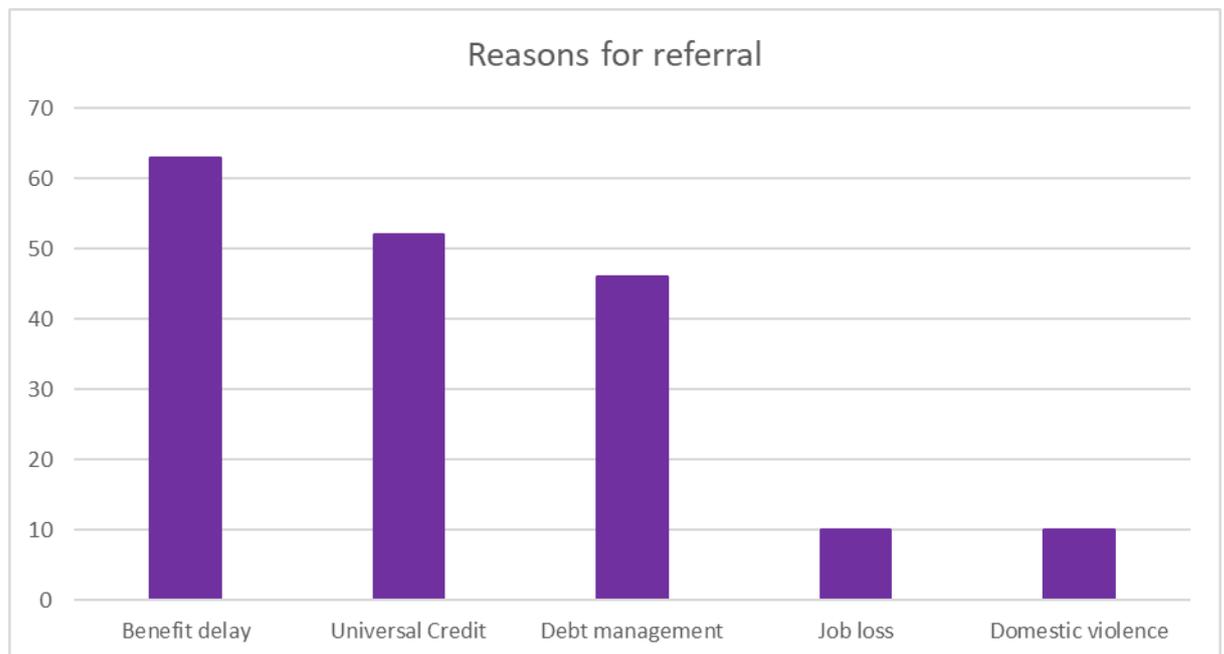
Primary issue: Poverty and disadvantage

Primary beneficiaries: People living in poverty

Primary age group: Adults (26-65)

Primary ethnicity: All ethnicities

Between 1st April and 1st August 2019, Gatehouse gave out **325 food parcels**, of which **150 parcels were for families with children**. More parcels are given out during school holidays, such as Easter, the Summer and Christmas, which it thought to be due to families not being able to use the free school meal system to provide hot meals for their children on weekdays.



2.7 New Life Church (197204)

The grant of **£10,000** was to support the **foodbank** and its **work within the community**.

Project area: Stowmarket

Primary issue: Poverty and disadvantage

Primary beneficiaries: People living in poverty

Primary age group: All ages

Primary ethnicity: All ethnicities

New Life Church provide **emergency food parcels** through their foodbank, run **two lunch clubs** and offer **family support**. The food parcels support **families and individuals in times of crisis**, such as unemployment, bereavement, victims or crime and family breakdown. The roll out of **Universal Credit** has resulted in a **dramatic increase in referrals** as people are struggling to adjust to the changes.

Case studies

“Our foodbank worker delivers food to people all over the area. Recently, he delivered food to a homeless man living in his car. The worker was able to encourage the man and chat with him, along with delivering the much needed food. The man appreciated the time spent with

him, the encouragement not to give up and the company of our driver. The man has since been housed in Ipswich.”

“We supported a family through domestic violence, providing help and encouragement to get out of the situation. We continued to support as they fled their home. We were able to help with food parcels, family support and the family attended holiday lunch clubs. By liaising with other organisations working with the family, we were able to support them while they were in the refuge and continue to visit them now they are back in Suffolk.”

2.8 REACH Community Projects (187191)

The grant of **£10,000** was towards the **running costs** of the foodbank in Haverhill.

Project area: Haverhill

Primary issue: Poverty and disadvantage

Primary beneficiaries: People living in poverty

Primary age group: Adults (26-65)

Primary ethnicity: All ethnicities

From **1st August 2018 to 31st July 2019**, REACH provided **970 food boxes (up by 19% on the previous year)** which supported a total of **1,710 people (up by 11%)**. Debt is a big issue, often caused by **Universal Credit**, with **28% of clients stating debt as the reason for needing support**, up from 21.5% the previous year and considerably higher than the Trussel Trust average of 9%. Mental health is an issue too, with REACH estimating that at least **50% of clients are experiencing some form of mental health issue**. Benefit related issues are down, but REACH believe this may be due to clients feeling that **debt is a greater concern than the benefit issue** and therefore stating debt as the reason for needing support.

Case study

“REACH recently visited a family who literally had no money left and no food in the house. They had not really done anything over the summer holidays, so REACH not only took them food, but also purchased cinema tickets for the family out of client aid – if nothing else, just to give them a break!”

2.9 Stour Valley Vineyard Church (197452B)

The grant of **£6,000** was to support the **Storehouse Foodbank**.

Project area: Sudbury

Primary issue: Poverty and disadvantage

Primary beneficiaries: People living in poverty

Primary age group: All ages

Primary ethnicity: All ethnicities

The foodbank collects donations of food, sorts and bags them and provides **food parcels** for those in **food poverty** through their **twice weekly drop in sessions**. Food is delivered to clients without transport after the Tuesday drop in. Clients receive a **three day supply of food for every family member** and are **signposted** to other organisations for further help where appropriate.

Case study

“I fell into a living nightmare when my DLA/PIP 'transfer' left me facing homelessness and bankruptcy. I never thought I would need help from a foodbank. I didn't know what to expect. I felt ashamed, guilty, a failure in life because I couldn't provide for my daughter. The ladies

offered food, support, understanding and great comfort with their prayers and love. When this is over, I want to help other people. Thank you.” – a Storehouse client

2.10 Suffolk West Citizens Advice Bureau (197211)

The grant of **£9,954** was to directly support **foodbanks** in the **West Suffolk** area.

Project area: West Suffolk

Primary issue: Poverty and disadvantage

Primary beneficiaries: Families/parents/lone parents

Primary age group: All ages

Primary ethnicity: All ethnicities

Suffolk West Citizens Advice Bureau (SWCAB) provide **free, confidential, impartial, non-judgemental and independent information, advice and advocacy** to the local community. Trained and experienced staff offer advice on welfare benefits, money, employment, housing, consumer, immigration and child support issues, as well as offering support with form completion for disability benefits.

SWCAB are offering advice during **one session each week at six foodbanks** – Haverhill, Bury St Edmunds (x2), Brandon, Mildenhall and Newmarket, reaching a minimum of **3-5 people a week at each venue**. This project enables SWCAB to **directly support clients receiving food parcels** at the foodbanks, as clients who are referred to the organisation do not always attend.

2.11 Whitton Youth Partnership (197208)

The grant of **£4,095** was to support **holiday hunger** in the **Whitton** area of Ipswich.

Project area: Whitton, Ipswich

Primary issue: Poverty and disadvantage

Primary beneficiaries: Children and young people

Primary age group: Children (5-12)

Primary ethnicity: All ethnicities

Whitton is one of the **10% most deprived** wards of the country and therefore has a high level of **families in poverty** and children receiving **free school meals**. Whitton Youth Partnership deliver four different sessions for young people after school and during the school holidays. Having identified **holiday hunger** as a problem, the organisation will support young people attending their activities by providing **free food** at an **Easter** session, a three day transition project during **May half term**, two **Summer** activity days, three sessions in **October half term**, a session at **Christmas** and another during **February half term**. An average of **30 young people** attend each day session. Food is also provided at the end of the **monthly Movie Club** on a Saturday morning, with around **20 young people** attending each month.

Case study

“A young lady, who is one of our regulars from Whitton Primary School, chose a quiet moment to ask the volunteer kitchen staff if she could take some of the leftover food home for the rest of her family. A package was put together and our 9 year old went home with it - says it all really.”

3.0 Publicity and Social Media

The image shows a collage of social media posts and news articles. At the top left, a Facebook post from the Suffolk Community Foundation (@suffolkgiving) is visible, dated February 27. Below it, a purple-bordered box contains two article links: an Ipswich Star article and an EADT article, both related to the Suffolk Community Foundation and CCGs food parcel help. To the right, a tweet from WYP (@whitton_youth) dated February 19, 2019, thanks @suffolkgiving for a visit to the Junior Youth Club. Below the tweet are several photos of young people preparing fruit skewers. Another tweet from the Suffolk Community Foundation (@suffolkgiving) dated February 27, 2019, is also visible, mentioning an Emergency Food Fund. A purple-bordered box at the bottom right contains a link to a website article titled 'Tackling food poverty in Suffolk - a visit to Whitton Youth Partnership'.

Ipswich Star article:
<https://www.ipswichstar.co.uk/news/suffolk-community-foundation-and-ccgs-food-parcel-help-1-5905500>

EADT article:
<https://www.eadt.co.uk/news/suffolk-community-foundation-and-ccgs->

WYP @whitton_youth
Lovely to have @suffolkgiving and friends visit our Junior Youth Club today - to see us in action - thanks for coming 🍌
11:40 am - 19 Feb 2019 From Gislingham, England
1 Retweet 2 Likes

Suffolk Community Found...
An Emergency Food Fund has been created
food e been youth to sue locally

Wonderful work you are doing in Whitton
#Ipswich #TeamSuffolk #Thankyou

Tackling food poverty in Suffolk - a visit to Whitton Youth Partnership:
<https://www.suffolkcf.org.uk/tackling-food-poverty-in-suffolk-a-visit-to-whitton-youth->

4.0 Evaluation

4.1 This report has summarised: the purpose of the grant programme, awards made; initial provision; and detailed examples of beneficiaries' experiences. Some investments are still being spent. A full evaluation will be provided 12 months after the grants were made, which will provide the basis for future further investment and decision making.