



OUR IMPACT 2025

Rescuing good food • Fighting food poverty
Empowering communities



If you were creating a happy planet, what would it look like?

I think of abundance: plentiful delicious food, growing in a thriving, sustainable ecosystem. I think of unity: communities where everyone has what they need – companionship, compassion, joy. I think of security: a home, a safe place to be yourself.

Imagining it is almost painful when it's so far from the reality. Global crises and cost-of-living pressures have made the vast majority of people in the UK poorer, in multiple ways. Working families can't pay the bills. It's even harder if you're disabled or ill, if you're older, if you're a care leaver, if you're alone.

When so many overlapping systems are failing our people and our planet, it can be overwhelming. It can make us feel powerless to enact change.

But together, we are powerful. Together, we can be part of better.

We can take direct action, today, every day, for that happy planet.

What your action looks like is up to you. You might donate money, a gift every month that keeps our work going. You might give your time as a volunteer, picking and delivering food where it's needed. You might look at your workplace or business and see ways to rescue food from waste, or support with your resources, knowledge, and network. You might be one of the hundreds of charities, schools, and hubs we work with, transforming your community.

Whatever your action looks like: thank you.



Lucy Bearn,
CEO
FareShare
South West



FareShare South West

Our vision is a future where no food is wasted, and all people can thrive.

At FareShare South West we join the dots between food waste and hunger, empowering communities to turn an environmental problem into lasting social good.

We rescue quality surplus food from the food industry and share it with charities and schools to bring health, dignity and routes out of poverty for people across the south west. Our supportive volunteering and employability programmes offer local people the opportunity to thrive.

FareShare South West is an independent local charity, working in partnership with national charity FareShare who support us with food, projects and raising awareness of food justice for all.

*April 2024 – March 2025

A year in numbers*



1,830

tonnes of food saved That's the weight of 7,280 grizzly bears



4.36m

meals worth of food with a retail value of £6.3m



370

member charities, schools, and community hubs

reaching around 42,000 people of all ages and backgrounds



336

regular volunteers

picking food and making deliveries every week of the year



32

people supported with employability across our

Bristol FareChance programme and Plymouth pilot projects

The big picture



Our planet

A shocking 8-10% of global emissions are caused by food waste. That's nearly five times the impact of aviation. In the UK alone, 4.6m tonnes of good-to-eat food is wasted each year by the food industry – enough for 10 billion meals.



Our children

21% of England's schools now run a food bank. A 2025 YouGov survey revealed that 85% of teachers said children were unable to concentrate as a result of poverty; over half personally provide extra food for pupils during the school day. In central Bristol, 49% of children are living below the breadline.



Our health

Healthy food is twice as expensive per calorie as unhealthy food, making a nutritious diet inaccessible to millions of us. 1.3m people over 65 suffer from malnutrition in the UK. In the last ten years, 5-year-olds have become shorter due to the lack of key micronutrients, while over a fifth will leave primary school with obesity.

Systemic change is needed to make good food, health, and dignity available to all. Until then, we're here, empowering a network of hope from Cornwall to Gloucestershire.

Small eggs, big impact

Why do some foods become surplus? **St Ewe Eggs** tell us that you can't 'turn off' a chicken – the hens keep laying whether the eggs are sold or not. And when they're not, they come to us: versatile, protein-rich, and nutritious.



Surplus
donations = nearly
90,000 eggs

"We're incredibly grateful to FareShare South West for the vital work they do every single day. It's an honour to support a network that feeds communities and tackles food waste head-on."

Farm fresh and local

Our decade-long partnership with Somerset-based Field & Flower was inspired by co-founder James wanting to make a difference locally.



From customer
donations and food =
480,000 meals

"FareShare South West is just a fantastic organisation, amazing people making a true difference. It's a relationship that we're really proud of. For me, it's probably one of our best achievements since setting up the business."

Winter warmth

As well as continuing our year-round food support, in winter we step up and do more.

- 1180 **family food parcels** with cooking kits and crafts
- Food for **Caring at Christmas**, who provide five days of support for people without a home
- 476kgs of turkey legs, donated by **Field & Flower** thanks to their Leg Up campaign



Thank you to over 70 local food suppliers who support our work, including:

SPAR Appleby Westward • Cereal Partners • Nisa/DHL • Refresco

Cornwall



Scott and Kim, Harbour Housing

Harbour Housing, St Austell

We shared

1,528 kgs

Food for

3,639 meals

The charity supports people across Cornwall with complex needs, including those experiencing homelessness and abuse, and can also provide daily nutritious meals thanks to our partnership.



"We've got volunteers who come down a couple of days a week and cook for

about 50 residents. They make up meals for the freezer, so no one goes hungry. Getting involved in cooking is good for them because many are struggling to keep their head out of things that they don't want to be in, and they come down to the kitchen and concentrate on one thing - it works well for them." Kim,

Harbour Housing

In Cornwall:



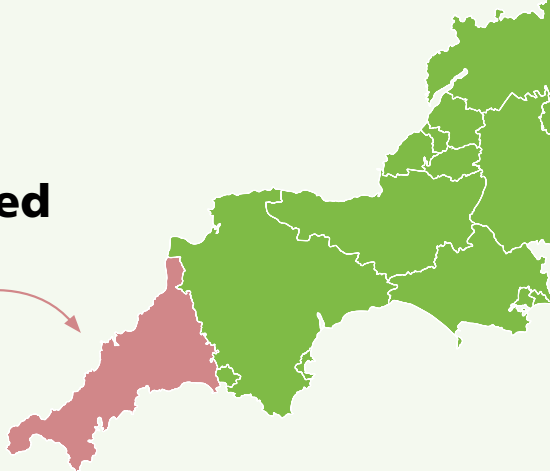
3,105 people fed

27 charities supported



264,920 kgs

of food shared with a
value of £912,486



"The first couple of months, I didn't really do much, I just hid away.

Having the food here helps a lot. The main meals, like the roasts, are the best. I know a lot of people here do appreciate it and it helps them a lot." **Scott, resident**



Harbour Housing

Thank you



Plymouth, Torbay and Devon



Headway Plymouth, Devonport

We shared

3,528kgs kgs

Food for

8,402 meals

Headway Plymouth supports people with acquired brain injuries and their families. They use FareShare South West's food in cooking sessions and to stock a much-needed food pantry for those unable to return to work, and family carers.



"There's nothing better than preparing food to stretch and test almost every aspect of someone's brain function, from relearning about food safety and nutrition to flexing all of those sensory muscles around taste, texture and smell. Food is something that lights up the brain from every angle and we use it regularly throughout our week to engage and re-enable our clients."

Craig, CEO



In Plymouth, Torbay & Devon:



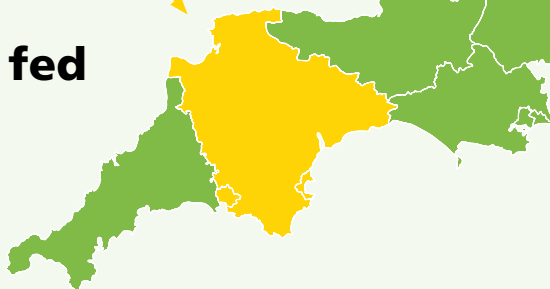
10,810 people fed

94 charities supported



566,593 kgs

of food shared with a
value of £1,916,490



*"Coming in
and being
able to cook
for other
clients here,
it benefits
everybody.*

*I'm in supported living, but I'm
now in a position where I can
cook and clean for myself in
my own flat. So, being able to
take items home with me is a
big benefit."* Jason, client and
volunteer

Exeter Food Action

We shared

33,731 kgs

Food for

80,314 meals

This unique
partnership means
the EFA team can
support over 60
local hostels, food
banks, soup kitchens
and schools.



Thank you



From the heart of Devon



LUSCOMBE

FROBISHERS

 **eurofins foundation**





Wivey Kitchen and Pantry

Wivey Kitchen and Pantry, Wiveliscombe, Taunton

We shared

7,814 kgs

Food for

18,605 meals

"You can see people's eyes light up with all the fresh fruit and veg. We're also explaining to people that it's surplus food. So, you might need the help, but actually you're helping by using this surplus food as well. We've got about 26 families that we deliver to, and the rest of the meals will go into our free-to-access freezers."

Members of the community can go in and take those meals and leave us donations as they feel fit. It's anonymous, so people don't feel there's any stigma.

"We've got people that have got things like arthritis, so they find it very difficult to chop. So, us delivering meals that they can then just pop in the oven or microwave, and they know it's all fresh food, it's not processed. They think it's brilliant." Sarah, Coordinator



Meals from Wivey Kitchen

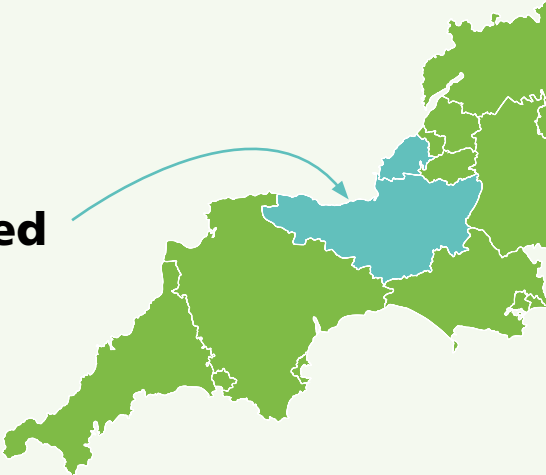
In Somerset



3,910 people fed
34 charities supported



133,578 kgs
of food shared with a
value of £456,522



Cooking at Wivey Kitchen

Thank you



Charlie Bigham's

Wiltshire, Bath and North East Somerset



Claire with a volunteer, Oasis Bath

Oasis Bath Pantry, the Paragon and Southdown, Bath

We shared

21,958 kgs

Food for

52,282 meals

"We feel really strongly that surplus food should be put to good use and, on the occasions where we have any food left at the end of a pantry session, we share that with other community organisations, so nothing goes to waste."

"We'd never want people to have to choose between something from the store cupboard and fruit or veg, so fruit and veg have always been free here and, for many people, that is the bit they appreciate the most – having access to that fresh produce." Claire, Oasis Bath



In Wiltshire & BANES



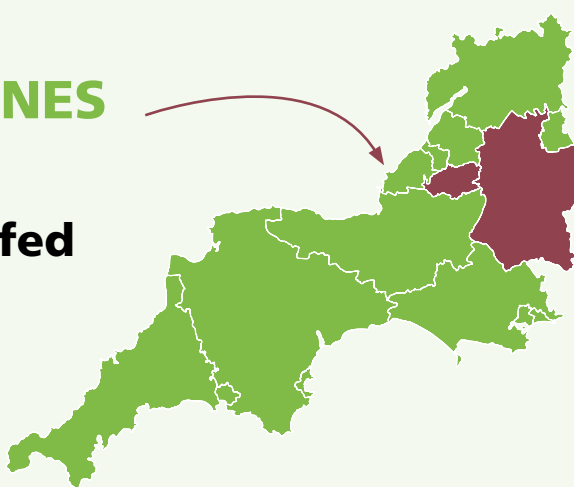
6,900 people fed

60 charities supported



253,871 kgs

of food shared with a
value of £906,226



"Stigma exists. It wasn't easy coming here in the first place, but there was nothing that made it difficult, and that's why I say to people here, I shop here as well. It's the highlight of my week coming here and being able to help people and feel useful." Tina, volunteer

Thank you





Ash, Learning Partnership West School

Learning Partnership West School, Bedminster The Big Hideout, Hartcliffe

We shared

2,357 kgs

Food for

5,612 meals

Learning Partnership West runs an alternative learning provision in Bedminster, and also coordinates mentoring, play and youth sessions, including Hartcliffe's Big Hideout adventure playground. Chef Ash cooks hot meals from scratch and runs cooking sessions.

"Since I've been working here, there are many things we've solved through food. We're getting better ingredients in and we're able to use the stuff from FareShare South West to support that."

"When it comes to health, what you're putting inside your body is huge. So, if you're already slightly on the back foot in terms of being dysregulated or not eating well outside school, if we can just give you some quality of nutrition, it's going to help you. Through cooking sessions, students learn valuable life skills. We give them the confidence to go and cook some relatively simple things at home."

Ash, chef

In Bristol



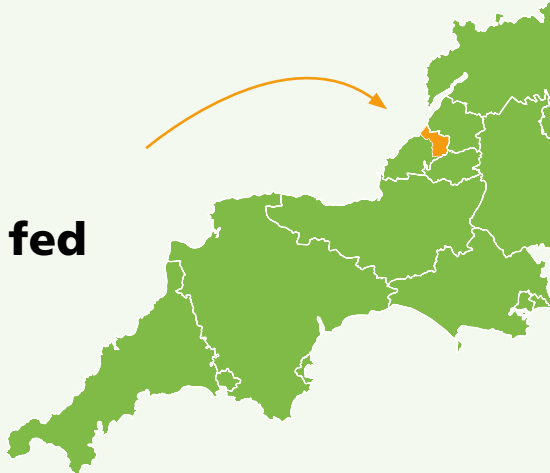
14,030 people fed

122 charities supported



510,387 kgs

of food shared with a
value of £1,797,014



Thank you



"Working with Fareshare South West has helped families with their household budgets, given children a high-quality meal and an opportunity to try new dishes and ingredients, and helped reduce food waste." Emma, Business Development Assistant LPW

Gloucestershire and South Gloucestershire



Sharon and Rochel, Gloucester Windrush Meal Venture

Gloucester Windrush Meal Venture, Matson, Gloucester

We shared

2,248 kgs

Food for

5,351 meals

The Meal Venture is for people in Gloucester who are older, disabled, or in need of support. The weekly delivery from FareShare South West means their volunteers can take good quality, surplus fresh food and create a weekly menu of hot meals, with additional provisions bagged up for those who need them. For some it will be the only home-cooked meals they eat.

Coordinator Sharon says the group is now approaching 45,000 meals, adding that pretty much everyone on the team is “differently abled”, with many having a disability. Coming together to create meals and food parcels for those who need them is important for each of them.



Daphne

In Gloucestershire and South Gloucestershire



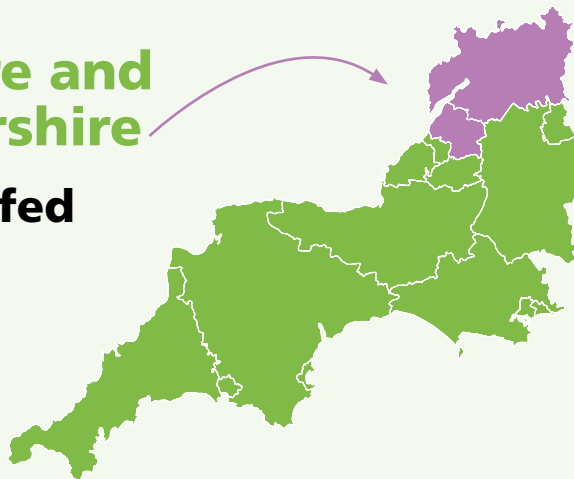
3,795 people fed

33 charities supported



100,611 kgs

of food shared with a
value of £341,024



Sharon and Esther

"Our work is centred around wellbeing; both the wellbeing of those we serve, and of each other as we give back and stand together. The support, and the partnership we've built with FareShare South West has made a real difference. The food bags they've helped provide have gone a long way in easing the pressures of the 'heat or eat' crisis many are facing. It's a practical help, yes, but also a symbol of care — and that means the world."

Sharon, Coordinator

Thank you

CREED
THE FOODSERVICE COMPANY

Volunteering

90% of our workforce are volunteers: picking food orders, checking on stock, packing vans, driving, navigating and supporting with admin tasks.

This year has included lots of opportunities to socialise too – from picnics in the park and afternoon tea to celebrations, yoga and crafts for wellbeing.

"I believe in their ethos of preventing food poverty, supporting people in need and preventing food waste. I'm really grateful that they've taken me into the FareShare South West family because coming to work with them is a pleasure. Everyone is very supportive, from the management down to the cleaners, and it's a real lovely social environment."

Susan, Plymouth volunteer



"I want to spend my time volunteering for my mental health. We are asylum seekers here and we are not allowed to work, so being here is very helpful to us. It enables us to have a purpose. Thank you to the people at FareShare South West. I'm so glad to give food to people who need it."

Gurdeep, Bristol volunteer



Thank you to the 295 people from 35 businesses who have volunteered too!

"The team are so knowledgeable of the cause and impacts. You make me feel part of the team and I would like to thank you for your time and kindness! You should receive more recognition for all you do. I will definitely be volunteering again :)"

Sophie, Babcock International

FareChance

This unique employability programme is for young Bristolians who've faced barriers to work, education and training, from generational unemployment to mental health challenges and rock-bottom confidence. At Vale Lane, they get to shine, gaining meaningful work experience, warehouse skills and the self-esteem to embrace their full potential. This year:



Scarlett* discovered her passion for food, and is now a cook at a homelessness charity, and an apprentice with Bristol's only women-led butchers.



Cameron has embraced the world of paid work and credits FareChance with his new confidence. He's bought his nan a house and plans to buy his own next year.



Jen enjoyed the resilience training local mental health charity Off The Record provided to all participants. She's now looking for a similar role for LGBTQ+ young people and continuing to volunteer.

"Here, they help people that are wondering where their next meal is going to come from. I am personally on that line - so I'm helping people that are like myself."

Jen, FareChance participant

*Names changed to protect the privacy of the participants.



Thank you

THE NISBET TRUST

Thank you



Our work is only possible thanks to financial support from trusts and foundations, businesses, and members of the public.

Food Friends

Our Food Friends help us plan for a sustainable future by giving every month. Over 240 of you helped to share food for 213,240 meals with hungry people across the south west with your regular gifts – thank you.



Community and events

Fundraisers, you got creative this year! £10,126 raised by Grosvenor Consultancy, Focus Accountancy, Enlightened plus FSSW staff and volunteers by abseiling the Avon Gorge | £1,040 raised by Dartmouth Foods and regular Plymouth volunteer Sue who threw herself out of a plane! | over £1200 from Bristol Fijian Rugby 7s | £400 playing darts at The Crown in Bristol



HL Foundation

Partnerships

“We are honoured to support FareShare South West through the HL Foundation. This partnership is not just a corporate initiative – it’s a heartfelt reflection of what matters to our people. Our colleagues nominated and voted for FareShare South West themselves, drawn to the incredible work it does to tackle food insecurity and redistribute surplus food across our region.

“Seeing the charity’s tangible impact in local communities makes this relationship all the more significant. FareShare South West is making a real difference and supporting its work is a shared purpose that deeply resonates at HL.”

Sophie Cole, HL Foundation Chair

And thank you to all the companies that have supported us with larger donations.

Supporting our winter projects and the Big Give:



- Hargreaves Lansdown
- Rathbone Greenbank
- Osborne Clarke
- Anthony James & Co
- Origin Workspace
- DTV Kit
- Enlightened
- Enterprise Mobility
- Lost and Grounded
- Nicholls Stevens Financial Services
- Arup
- Loom Digital
- Everoze
- FanHub
- Alfred Bagnall and Sons (West) Ltd
- Double Puc
- Focus Accountancy
- gcp Chartered Architects
- Resonance
- Studio Bad
- Swan Wealth Management Ltd
- Shakespeare Martineu
- Ferguson Mann Architects
- BW Business Advisers

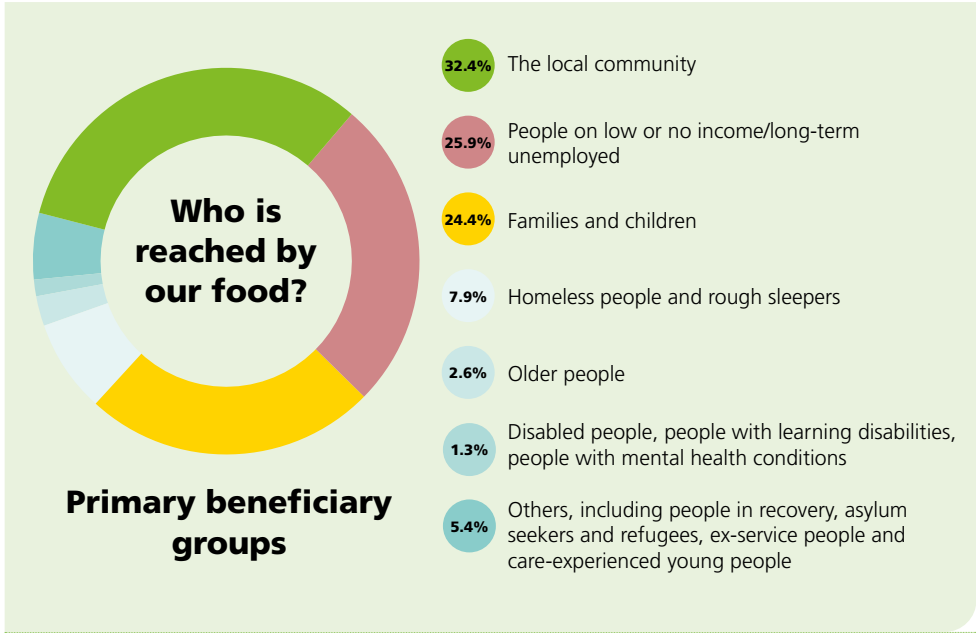
Supporting our core work:



- Hargreaves Lansdown
- Rathbone Greenbank
- Ayvens
- IOP Publishing
- Box-E
- Mesa Catering
- Focus Accountancy
- Go South West
- Great American Europe
- Grosvenor Consultancy
- HRA Global
- S&W Partners
- The Cow and Sow
- RAW Food and Drink PR

We really appreciate businesses who pair their team volunteering with a financial donation:

- Burges Salmon
- Howden Group
- Newicon
- Ideagen



What's next?

Planning ahead for a sustainable future.

In 2020, we scaled up our operations almost overnight to battle the devastating impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. Within the space of five months, we delivered six times the amount of food than the previous year.

The world may have changed, but the need hasn't. We reach over 42,000 people in the region but there are a million more who need food and the wraparound support that goes with it. Thousands need routes into work. We have to get bigger to do more. And we have to do it without the pandemic funding that powered our 2020 activity.



Defra funding

FareShare South West will receive a fixed-term funding pot in 25 – 26 to help rescue more food direct from the farm gate. This will fund some temporary additional staff, and new equipment including a 7.5t food collection truck, freezer, and larger chiller.



New hub in Plymouth

In early 2026 we'll move to a bigger hub. It'll help us to rescue more fresh produce, work with more local suppliers and charities, offer employability support and share food for over half a million additional meals in Devon and Cornwall over the next three years.



New hub in Bristol

In 2026, we'll also open a new 'mega hub': a large-scale multi-use community redistribution and skills hub in partnership with other like minded organisations. This will create space for a community training kitchen, more freezer and chiller capacity, and larger-scale supported volunteering and employability programmes.

How?

It's only possible through collaboration and public support. Our three-year strategy sets out an action plan for sustainable growth, drawing on partnerships, new income streams and fundraised income.



Be part of better

Here's how you can get involved.



Volunteer

Join our friendly teams in Plymouth and Bristol, as a regular or corporate volunteer



Become a Food Friend

Make a regular financial donation to keep our wheels turning



Donate your surplus

Join us as a food supplier



Partner with us

Live up to your values, from charity partnerships to pro bono support



You can be part of better with FareShare South West

Volunteer in Plymouth or Bristol

Become a Food Friend with a regular donation

Donate surplus from your food business

Partner with us to make a difference in your community

faresharesouthwest.org.uk

info@faresharesouthwest.org.uk

 [/faresharesouthwest](https://www.facebook.com/faresharesouthwest)

 [@faresharesouthwest](https://www.instagram.com/faresharesouthwest)

 [@fareshare-southwest](https://www.linkedin.com/company/fareshare-southwest)

Registered charity address:

FareShare South West, Unit 4 Little Ann St, Bristol BS2 9EB

Registered charity number: 1125905



Registered with
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REGULATOR**