

Didcot Emergency

*Food
Bank*



Grant Aid £500 from Didcot Town Council to Didcot Emergency Foodbank December 2020 - report

Didcot Emergency Foodbank has been in operation since March 2009 and is available to the town's residents and those of the surrounding villages.

Each year, as a special project, the Foodbank prepares a Christmas hamper for Didcot families in financial difficulty who are being assisted out of their situations by the Didcot branch of the national debt charity Christians Against Poverty (CAP). The hamper consists of 35 items of food and toiletries very similar in content to the packs we give out each week to clients, but augmented by Christmas puddings, cakes and biscuits, with some toiletries and a table decoration. The aim is to assist both with actual food needs and to give encouragement to people at a dark time in their lives.

For Christmas 2020 there were 15 such families, all of whom were necessarily on very tight budgets, and who were not aware that they would be receiving a hamper. We had our packing evening on 4th December with a group of volunteers from the town who came forward to help, and the hampers went out to the families in Didcot and Harwell the following day, delivered by their CAP "friend" who stands alongside them during the period of debt recovery.

The total cost for the hampers was £974 in purchases, plus approximately £50 made up from our stocks. At the Council's invitation we applied for a grant for £500 towards that expenditure, which was kindly approved.

Andrew Snell

June 2021