

It certainly has been an amazing few weeks for Peterborough Soup Kitchen! On 25 March we had to suspend operations as social distancing requirements were introduced to prevent the spread of Coronavirus which meant that we were not able to serve food from our mobile serving van. However, we were then pleased to be asked to support the initiative to move people off the streets into temporary accommodation, by providing daily breakfast bags and lunch bags to individuals living in city centre hotels.

Peterborough Soup Kitchen has been recognised for adapting to this latest situation both on radio and on television but the greatest accolade was to be asked to meet HRH The Duke of Cambridge at the Garden House to explain our new role and how our volunteers have adapted to assist with the initiative to move people off the streets.



During the pandemic we have supported and fed over 120 people in 3 different hotels, by working alongside the Three Pillars charity and since March 2020 more than 9000 bags of food have been delivered.

All our volunteers were extremely pleased to be involved in supporting one of the most vulnerable groups of people in society; those sleeping on the streets. HRH spent over an hour at the Garden House and say a big thank you to everyone involved.

It was heart-warming to hear the stories of several invited guests who had been moved into the hotels as they shared their personal stories of change together with their aspirations and hopes for brighter futures in new homes.



During the visit, Light Project Peterborough staff and volunteers were joined by Peterborough Soup Kitchen and other partners, so that all those involved over the past few months were able to give an account of how they have contributed to the work in these challenging times.



The Duke heard from registered social landlords who are now working much closer together because of the pandemic. Other organisations were able to tell of how much practical input with food and much needed supplies have helped ensure that no one has gone hungry or been in need.

It truly was a great day for Light Project Peterborough and their partners. The Garden House provided the most amazing setting and a genuine interest and passion from HRH to help people move off the streets was clear for all to hear and see.



Our hopes are that this wonderful day will raise awareness and support for people who find themselves in the desperate situation of nowhere to call home. For more information and to support the work of Peterborough Soup Kitchen, please visit www.peterboroughsoupkitchen.org.uk