# **Peterborough Soup Kitchen**

**Impact Statement 2020** *Feeding the homeless and disadvantaged since 1984.* 

### Why is Peterborough Soup Kitchen needed?

A report dated 3 November 2020 presented to the Peterborough City Council (PCC) Health Scrutiny Committee states" there are around 120 rough sleepers in Peterborough at present. This estimate is based upon the highest number of people accommodated by PCC at the height of the efforts to get all rough sleepers off the streets during the COVID-19 pandemic."

#### How we have performed

The table below sets out our performance over the past 12 months and makes comparisons with previous years figures. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on our operations throughout 2020 and our volunteers have adapted admirably to the current situation.

Indicator	2020	2019	Summary
Average number of clients served per session.	36	43	All these individuals are highly likely to be facing extreme poverty, if they are able to purchase food some will have no facility to cook or prepare it. Currently numbers attending each session vary between 30 and 65. <i>Our serving van was only operating between January to March 2020. The remainder of the year involved preparation and distribution of food bags.</i>
Servings of both food and drink over a 12 month period. From April to December breakfast and lunch bags were prepared and distributed by our vol- unteers.	5,828 food servings 5,000 drinks 16,280 breakfast bags 5,701 lunch bags	80,000 food servings 51,000 drinks	We focus on providing good quality food so the people we serve stay physically healthier whilst they seek more intensive support to move their lives forward. As well as providing nutritious food to our clients we also promote and sign- post service users to other more specialised services , and they tell us we reduce their sense of isolation due to the community that exists around our serving van. <i>Significantly less due to the suspension of our mobile van opera-</i> <i>tions from March until December 2020</i>
Number of volunteer hours	6682	7310	We are run entirely by volunteers and each session is managed by 24 teams of 4 to 6 volunteers. Other volunteers help in the kitchen, collect food donations prepare food and undertake administrative functions. <i>Significantly less than last year due to social distancing requirements restricting numbers of volunteers permitted to work in our kitchen.</i>
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Indicator	2020	2019	Summary
Total donations received.	£47170	£15622	Our supporters include the BGL Group, Bakkavor Foods, RSA Nationwide plus other companies who nominate Peterborough Soup Kitchen as their charity of the year, plus many individual donations received particularly during the win- ter period.
Number of presentations on the work of Peterborough Soup Kitchen delivered to the local community. <i>Ceased March 2020</i> .	1	21	We speak to many organisation s ranging from local groups/schools to small/ large companies. We aim to make people aware of the issue of homelessness and the real difficulties faced by people with no place to live.
Number of volunteers trained in food hygiene and allergen requirements. <i>Not able to hold</i> <i>training sessions during 2020</i> .	0	4	An CEIH accredited trainer delivers food hygiene and allergen training through- out the year. The aim is to have at least one person within each team trained on food hygiene and allergen requirements.
No of company charity days held. Not able to organise company charity days during 2020.	0	5	Many companies and local groups encourage staff and members to work alongside a local charity. Usually involves baking days in the kitchen, food preparation and sending a team out with a team. In addition DIY/cleaning tasks are undertaken.

#### **Other Achievements**

- Increased on-line presence through the launching and regular updating of our new website plus increasing interest through greater use of social media. We can evidence this i.e. more than 200 tweets sent out and now over 230 followers on Twitter with similar activity and growth on Facebook
- Working together with local organisations from across the voluntary, faith, community and public sectors through the Safer Off The Streets initiative, to bring a more targeted approach to tackle the issue of rough sleeping and homelessness. Member of Peterborough Food Partnership.
- Commenced preparation and delivery of breakfast bags to 3no. local schools. 720 bags delivered in December 2020 and targeted at children who arrive in school having had no breakfast.
- Provision of food boxes for those in need, upon request.

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