

Message from Kevin Jennings Medway Foodbank Warehouse Manager

Hello to all our Supporters,

Thank you for your ongoing support of Medway Foodbank through donations of food and other essentials, being one of our regular collection points or by organising a special collection.

Thanks to your generous donations over Harvest and the Christmas period, our stock levels of many essential items are still good, but there are several items where our stocks now need boosting. You will find a copy of the latest Shopping List on our website, Medway Foodbank's latest stock shortage or '**shopping**' list. This focuses on items that we particularly need in stock right now in order to continue to help those in crisis in Medway. We aim to provide a broad spread of basic provisions and some treats and extras where we can.

Medway Foodbank only works with non-perishable food items (tinned and dried goods), which do not spoil or decay, i.e. no fresh, chilled or "use by" dated items. All items should be unopened, in date (i.e. within the "best before date" or BBD) and in good condition. This means that neither the foodbank nor the recipient has to worry about storing the food in a fridge or freezer, and there is less likelihood of food going to waste. It also means that we can give each client a food parcel that contains three days' worth of nutritionally balanced food, as well as provide some small treats to help brighten their lives, particularly those of the children. We also take non-food items such as toiletries and cleaning products, as these are just as essential to the clients who come to us.

All suitable donations are gratefully received, but in the interests of our clients, we want to give you clear guidance on the items we really need now, and those items that we do not currently need donated. We have noted at the bottom of the attached 'shopping list' the current high stock items. If some of these are donated, we will find space for them, but it would be far more beneficial to those that we support if the 'shortage' items are donated.

Financial donations towards the cost of the work are also very helpful.

Information about financial donations and other ways you can support Medway Foodbank is on our website: <https://medway.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/>. I hope you find this information useful. Please do contact the Foodbank office on 01634 757057 if you have any questions or need further information. Thank you for your ongoing help, support and prayers - Medway Foodbank would not operate without your generosity. Thank you and kind regards.