Food Banks

A food bank distributes food parcels to families or individuals in need. Over the last few years, there has been an increase in the number and use of food banks.

Food banks can be used by people from all backgrounds and in all circumstances including families, working people and older people.

Did you know...?

There has been an increase in the number of people using food banks

There has been an increase in demand for food parcels from families with young children



There are currently nine food banks in Belfast (see list overleaf)

Low income is the most common reason for visiting a food bank in Belfast

From: Enough is Enough Project Food Poverty Scoping Exercise, March 2015.



A food bank

A food bank usually requires a referral from one of the following:
Doctor, Social Worker, health worker or advice agency.
When an individual is referred, they receive vouchers for a food parcel.
Further details are available from each food bank, listed below as of June 2015:

The **Trussell Trust** works with churches and communities to manage foodbanks nationwide. Their interactive map helps locate your nearest food bank. **www.trusselltrust.org/map**

- Trussell Trust (North Belfast) Ekenhead Halls, 19 North Circular Road, Belfast, BT15 5HB
 Tel: 079 0209 9840. Email: info@northbelfast.foodbank.org.uk
 www.northbelfast.foodbank.org.uk
- Trussell Trust (Dundonald, serving parts of East Belfast) 971 Upper Newtownards Road, Dundonald, BT16 1RL
 Tel: 028 9543 5310. Email: info@dundonald.foodbank.org.uk www.dundonald.foodbank.org.uk
- Trussell Trust (South Belfast) Mornington Community Project, 117 Ormeau Road, Belfast, BT7 1SH
 Tel: 077 4333 2489. Email bruce@southbelfast.foodbank.org.uk www.southbelfast.foodbank.org.uk
- Foodstore @ Cooke (South Belfast) 15 Park Road, Belfast, BT7 2FW
 Tel: 028 9064 2981. Email: morris@cookecentenary.org.uk www.cookecentenary.org.uk
- Sustain (South Belfast) Newtownbreda Baptist Church, 43 Newtownbreda Road, Belfast, BT8 7BQ
 Tel: 028 9064 9402. Email: sustain@newtownbredabaptist.com
- The Larder Food Bank (East Belfast) The Larder, St Christopher's Church, 70 Mersey Street, BT4 1EY
 Tel: 028 9046 6431. Email: Adrian@boringwells.org
- Storehouse (Greater Belfast) 17 Castle Arcade, Belfast, BT1 5DG
 Tel: 028 9023 6333. Email: info@storehousebelfast.com www.storehousebelfast.com
- Willowfield Church Foodstore (East Belfast) 149 My Ladys Road, Belfast, BT6 8FE
 Tel: 028 9045 7654. Email: office@willowfieldchurch.co.uk
- North Belfast Advice Partnership, Ligoniel Improvement Association
 Wolfhill Centre, 148 Ligoniel Road, Belfast, BT14 8DT
 Tel: 028 9039 1225. Email: administration@ligonielvillage.com www.northbelfastpartnership.com

The following organisations also offer support to charities to reduce food waste:

- FareShare works with the food industry to rescue 'in-date' surplus food from landfill and re-distribute it to over 70 charities throughout Northern Ireland which are working to relieve food poverty.
 Tel: 028 9033 2230. www.chni.org.uk
- FareShare FoodCloud brings food businesses and charities together by matching those with too much food with those who have too little. Using a smartphone app, businesses notify registered charities of excess food available and the charities accept and collect what they need on a daily basis.
 www.fareshare.org.uk/fareshare-foodcloud-2/