

**BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Community Development Committee**  
**9<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

**Food Bank Donation**

**Recommendation**

**The Committee RESOLVE to make a further donation of £5,000 to the Food Bank, and that a further review takes place in 6 months' time.**

Ward

All

Risk Management

There is a budget provision for the distribution of community grants to various organisations. There is a legal power under s137 of the Local Government Act to cover this expenditure.

Objective

To support worthy organisations within the Town by giving financial help after consideration of any application submitted.

Report

It was previously agreed at the Community Development Committee, 13 February 2024, to make a regular 6 monthly payment of £5k, to the Blyth Food Bank subject to ongoing review.

Monitoring visits have taken place in September 2024, February 2025, September 2025 and April 2026 in line with the Committee's decision. The most recent visit was carried out in April 2026 and confirmed that the Food Bank continues to provide an essential service within the community.

Demand for the Food Bank has continued to increase to service need. Referrals are received from a wide range of agencies as well as through self-referrals. Patterns of demand fluctuate during the year, with peaks around key holiday periods. For a full breakdown of the service, please see the appendices included.

The data provided includes the number of parcels provided to Seaton Valley residents. The Food Bank does not receive any direct funding from Seaton Valley Council. However, they do act as an agent for the Food Bank to collect donations from their residents.

The Food Bank has faced rising costs, with expenditure increasing and reserves reduced following essential improvements and training. Public donations have also fallen, though efforts are being made to encourage contributions.

The Food Bank continues to deliver a vital service to the community. The Committee's established approach of providing 6-monthly support through a £5,000 donation remains appropriate. This recommendation is informed by monitoring visits and the latest reports provided by the Food Bank.

Hannah Gregory

Community Engagement Assistant

01 June 2026

## Appendix

### FOOD BANK DATA JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2025

2025	Number of Referrals	Number of Adults	Number of Children	Number of Parcels	Single Person	Percentage of referrals		No Large Families	Emerg Parcels	Veg Parcels	No Cook Parcels
Month	177										
Jan	131	219	72	353	116	66%		13	5		
Feb	148	160	45	261	86	66%	Low	5	4		
Mar	153	186	85	329	89	60%		15	6		
April	221	182	65	306	102	67%		9	11		
May	171	263	74	391	159	72%		10	14		
June	217	194	65	318	123	72%		6	9		
July	161	279	110	419	137	63%	High	18	7	5	14
Aug	206	201	82	342	96	60%		15	1	4	2
Sept	172	264	97	417	128	62%		18	5	5	10
Oct	177	223	72	353	95	55%		7	16	4	6
Nov	171	227	120	400	103	58%		18	4	2	6
Dec	116	238	121	395	90	53%		29	2	8	8
SeatVal	2221	125	72	176	68	59%		0			
Total		2761	1080	4460	1392	64%		84	84	28	46

### FOOD BANK DATA JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2026

Month	Referrals	Adults	Children	Parcels	Person	of referrals		Families	Parcels	Parcels	Parcels
Jan	176	220	88	301	104	59%		13	14	6	2
Feb	184	225	77	296	111	64%		10	7	7	3
Mar	158	204	74	265	101	64%		9	9	11	5
April	196	251	86	329	117	57%	High	4	9	14	5
May	155	195	90	265	95	61%	Low	27	14	1	2
June											
July											
Aug											
Sept											
Oct											
Nov											
Dec											
SeatVal	6	8	4	9	3	50%		0	0	0	0
Total	875	1103	419	1465	531	61%		63	53	39	17

NUMBER OF REFERRALS BY POST CODES							
2026	NE24 1	NE24 2	NE24 3	NE24 4	NE24 5	NFA	Total
Jan	28	46	17	29	42	14	176
Feb	34	35	15	36	50	14	184
Mar	35	38	11	20	40	14	158
April	43	47	15	31	47	13	196
May	30	43	7	20	41	14	155
June							0
July							0
Aug							0
Sept							0
Oct							0
Nov							0
Dec							0
<b>Total</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>869</b>

## DATA 2014 - 2025

Year	Referrals	Adults	Children	Parcels	Seaton Valley Parcels	Total Parcels	Total Meals
2014	883	1108	306	1414	280	1694	16940
2015	982	1231	340	1571	312	1883	18830
2016	778	908	354	1262	257	1519	15190
2017	855	998	389	1387	282	1669	16690
2018	940	1098	428	1526	310	1836	18360
2019	1219	1548	486	2034	312	2346	23460
2020	1381	1373	828	2201	336	2537	25370
2021	1519	1470	911	2381	310	2691	26910
2022	1912	2536	1675	4241	314	4555	45550
2023	2540	3092	1582	4656	292	4948	49680
2024	2300	2776	1233	3970	219	4189	43984
2025	2221	2761	1080	4284	176	4460	46830
<b>Total</b>	<b>17530</b>	<b>20899</b>	<b>9612</b>	<b>30927</b>	<b>3400</b>	<b>34327</b>	<b>347794</b>