**Manager’s report April 2024**

This month Wallingford food bank has sent food to 244 adults, 135 children in 106 households, compared with 284 adults, 185 children in 156 households in the same month last year. These are the lowest figures for month this food bank year. A late Easter distorts the comparison a little. We additionally helped 19 families, (24 last year) missing their children’s free school meals during Easter holidays with supermarket vouchers (referred via schools). Many thanks to David and Corinne for arranging this.

I asked Anya who manages our electronic system to show graphically, how the number of households requesting help has shifted over the last four years. I am very grateful to her for the time she spends every week keeping the system in good order. When you look at the graph do remember that the food bank year starts in December (for historical reasons). I hope it is helpful.

A graph of financial growth

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

There is always a spike in December. But last year is anomalous as demand dropped steadily away from the absolute peak of December 2023, with an initial typical dip in January, followed by a steady decline until the autumn.

One thing that I’ve observed recently is that we have several clients who still use us, but less frequently. This is encouraging as it suggests they are managing for at least part of the month. The numbers of children having our support has dropped each month since December.

With best wishes

Alice Penney