**Manager’s report May 2025**

May has seen demand more similar to last year than in any of the last 6 months. We have fed 358 adults and 204 children in 154 households this month; compared with 295 adults, 222 children in 154 households last year. Yes, exactly the same number of households.

This reflects that last May was an unusually small increase of 11.6% in demand compared to the typical increases of 60, 70 or even 80% in the first half of 2024. We have had another 9 new clients referred to us. This is typical of the last few months.

Disappointingly the number of children has risen for the first time since Christmas and is in fact just higher than the December total, so it has shot back up, though it is still slightly smaller than last May.

This time last year we finally joined other UK food banks in facing a deficit by the end of the financial year. I am glad to say that this year, with the slight decrease in demand we are in a more stable position. However, we are now entering our ‘lean’ months as we traditionally have fewer extra donations over the summer months and become dependent on our regular supporters.

If demand starts to increase, we may well start to struggle again.

If you are one of those who donate regularly to us, thank you. It is so helpful to know that some income is reliable. It allows us to plan and to be more confident in the future.

If you are considering donating either food or money to us, please do have a look at our donations page on the website <https://wallingfordfoodbank.org.uk/donate/>

It has all the information you need to help us help local people in need.

It is wonderful still to have your support.

Thank you all so much

Alice Penney

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