

APPENDIX 3



Independent examiner's report on the accounts							v2
Report to the trustees/members of	Charity name Caithness Foodbank SCIO						
	Registered charity number SC 050903						
On the accounts of the charity for the period	Period start date			to	Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
	01	01	24		31	12	24
Set out on pages						(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)	

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention ~~other than that disclosed on the attached page*~~

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed**:

[Redacted signature]

Date:

23/2/2025

Name:

CHARTERED BANKER

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

Address:

CAITHNESS VOLUNTARY GROUP
THE ARCADE SUITE
PULTENEY CENTRE, HUDDART STREET
WICK KW1 5BA

*Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply. If the words do apply, set out those matters which have come to your attention on the following page.

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Disclosure section

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

**Give here brief details of
any items that the
examiner wishes to
disclose**

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the user to provide details of items to be disclosed. The box is currently blank.

Chairperson's Report.

Thank you for coming along this evening to our AGM – we've held it earlier this year to tie in with our financial year and returns.

Our number of referrals to Caithness Foodbank remains steady with very little difference from last year figures.

The Thurso Centre has fractionally more referrals than the Wick Centre but it is not significant. The majority of our referrals come from CAB, New Start, Highland Housing, Drug and Alcohol, with a significant number from Highland Council Housing Service and the Mental Health Team. There are 38 referral agents that we have had referrals from this year. Many are Highland Council Services but others are community organisations. Almost all of our referral agents now use our e-referral system which makes life easier for us and for them.

We endeavour to highlight our profile in the community by regular posts on our Facebook page as well as attending events like the Mey Games. School visits are popular to link in with their curriculum from Early Years to High School.

Most of our food donations come from our Tesco supermarket drives at Christmas and the summer through links with the Trussell Trust.

Other major donations of food come individuals, churches, schools and nurseries as well as charity events.

This year we have had to purchase less food than in previous years.

We also receive donations of money, which we use to buy food to supplement our stock of supplies. We also continue to receive donations from Cadbury at Christmas and Easter as well as a selection of adult and children's books from the Scottish Book Trust.

We have to continue to update our policies and Risk Assessments throughout the year and I have to thank our Trustees who undertake these tasks along with our Treasurer who keeps a tight grip on our finances

We haven't made much progress with the Boys Brigade Hall.

At the moment we are in discussion with another organisation who we hope will make a joint proposal with, this would make the project more sustainable and community focussed.

Provisional Plans for the site have been drawn up and are currently being discussed. The next step is to get the building specifications drawn up to allow us to get a quote for price. We hope this year is the year to drive this exciting project forward.

A small group of Trustees and our lead volunteers have forged good communication links with the Northern Cluster of Foodbanks – Shetland, Orkney, Highland and ourselves in Caithness. We all met up in Kirkwall last summer to visit their centre and find out about their practices – which are very similar to our operations. We meet up regularly online to discuss issues relevant to us all.

I have to thank the volunteers and Trustees for their dedication and support.

We wouldn't be able to run the service we offer without them.

Food Distribution (Previous year's figures shown in brackets)

19.1(18) tonnes of food were distributed as food parcels during the year.

In total, 1545 (1535) adults and 754 (872) children received food parcels in total 2299 (2407)

Thurso Centre processed 657(674) vouchers Wick centre processed 604 (551) vouchers.

Those receiving food parcels by Ward:

Wick and East Caithness 731(726) adults and 376 (370) children

Thurso North West Caithness 780 (809) adults and 376(502) children