Helping you run a successful foodbank

In these difficult economic times, more and more churches are setting up foodbanks for people in their parish. If you are running a foodbank, the advice below should help you make sure everything is safe.



People bring along their foodbank vouchers where they can swap them for a box of food.

What happens at a foodbank?

1. People donate food

Schools, churches, businesses and parishioners donate non-perishable, in-date food. You may well collect food during Harvest Festival, or at 'Supermarket Collections', when volunteers buy something extra during their weekly shop.

2. You store and sort the food

Volunteers check that the food is still in-date and pack it into boxes ready to be given to people in need.

3. You identify who needs help

Your foodbank will probably be working with people from the care sector who are best placed to weigh up who might need help. Professionals like doctors, health visitors, social workers and police can identify who needs help and give them a foodbank voucher.

4. You give people food

People bring along their foodbank vouchers to your foodbank centre where they can swap them for a box of food. Each box normally contains at least three days worth of nutritionally balanced, nonperishable food. Volunteers will meet them and also let them know about other organisations that can help.

Your foodbank might also run a delivery service to take boxes of food out to people living in rural areas.

Things to think about

To make sure that your insurance covers all the risks involved in running a foodbank, we have to ask you some questions which you can find below. They should help to highlight the issues you need to think about.

Please fill in your answers as fully as you can. To make sure your church insurance policy covers your foodbank, we will need to add a small annual charge to your premium.

Questions

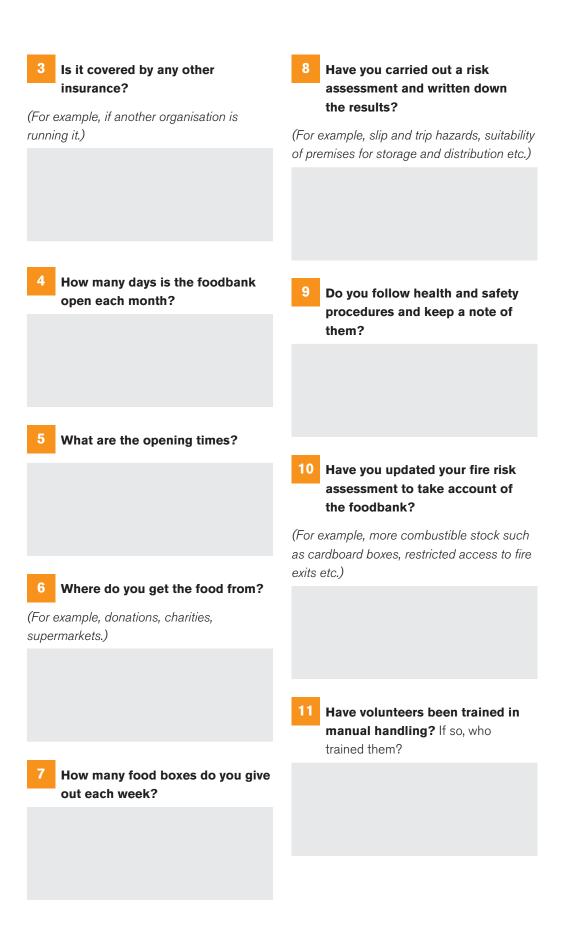


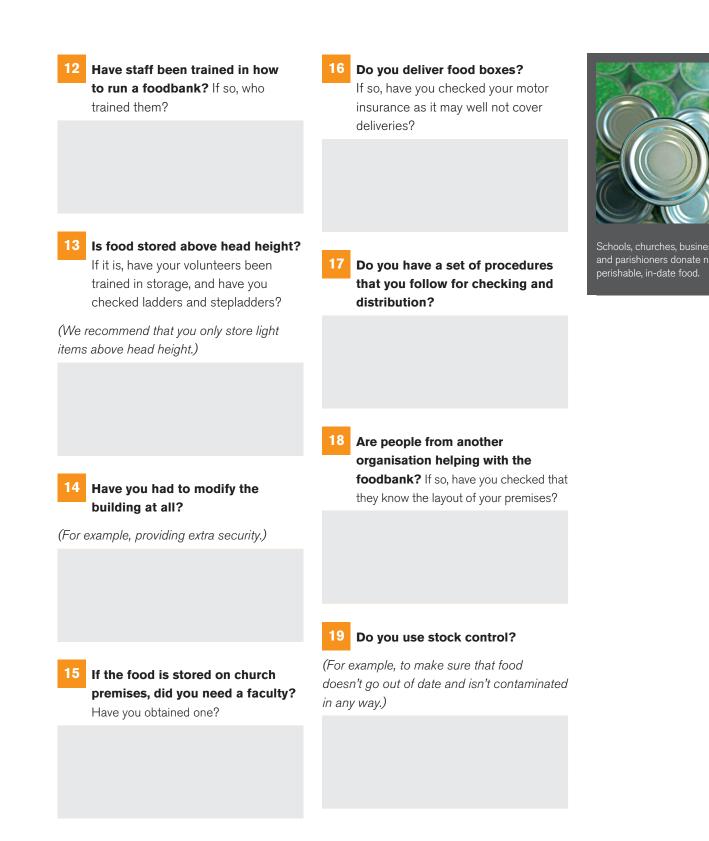
Where do you hold the foodbank?

(For example, the church hall, the church, other premises.)

Who runs the foodbank?

(For example, the church, a charity or another organisation.)





20	Are all donations non-perishable food?	23 Have you arranged for the local authority to collect any extra rubbish from the foodbank?
		(We recommend not to keep waste outside the building as this could increase the risk of fire.)
21	Do you have a training programme for all your staff and volunteers?	
		If you'd like to know anything more, please call us on 0345 777 3322 (lines open
22	Do you check that new staff and volunteers are suitable and experienced?	8am-6pm Monday to Friday, excluding Bank Holidays). Alternatively please get in touch with your local Insurance Consultant and Surveyor.
		Advice for foodbanks If your church is involved in a foodbank, we have created a set of questions to help you keep things as safe as possible. Find out more.



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