

## Campaign steps up to keep tax credit lifelines

AS part of our work towards ending hunger in our community, Newcastle-Staffs Foodbank is backing the Trussell Trust Keep the Lifeline campaign.

The UK Government is planning to cut £20 a week from Universal Credit and Working Tax Credit payments in October. As part of the campaign we will be sharing a series of messages on our social media accounts to help build pressure for this to change. We also have a series of resources available for volunteers and supporters who would like to add their voice to the campaign, such as letters to send to MPs in the area. More than a million people say they are likely to need a foodbank if this cut goes ahead. The Government can choose to keep the lifeline however. Please like and share our posts and visit [www.trusselltrust.org/keepthelifeline](http://www.trusselltrust.org/keepthelifeline) for more info.

### KEEP THE LIFELINE

The planned £20 cut to Universal Credit in October will have a devastating impact on people who are just managing to keep their heads above water.

[trusselltrust.org/keepthelifeline](http://trusselltrust.org/keepthelifeline)



### KEEP THE LIFELINE

A lifeline that's left to wear thin and threadbare isn't strong enough to pull families safely through hard times. The £20 cut to Universal Credit could break that lifeline.

[trusselltrust.org/keepthelifeline](http://trusselltrust.org/keepthelifeline)

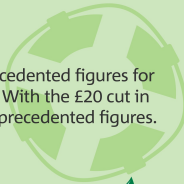


### KEEP THE LIFELINE

Over the past year we saw unprecedented figures for the number of parcels given out. With the £20 cut in Universal Credit, expect more unprecedented figures.

It doesn't have to be this way.

[trusselltrust.org/keepthelifeline](http://trusselltrust.org/keepthelifeline)



## Heartfelt thanks to:

We would like to express our thanks and gratitude to the many people who have supported our Crowdfunder appeal. We are astounded by your support. We also thank our referral partner Aspire, for a hugely generous donation of £1,000 to help us continue our work. And we are truly grateful for the nomination to the TKMaxx HomeSense Foundation and the £500 donation from the community fund.

*Giving people hope and dignity.  
 We are Newcastle-Staffs Foodbank.*

## Slimmers' success

STAFF at TT Pumps in Woore are continuing with their slimming challenge to raise funds for Newcastle-Staffs Foodbank. The business selected the foodbank as one of its corporate charities this year. Among the fundraising events is a sponsored slim. Staff have been dropping pounds to raise pounds, with TT Pumps topping up the latest £141 collection to £300. A big thank you to those taking part!



# Apprentice Matthew on his first month in post...

## IN OTHER NEWS



### Support in a digital age

If you would like to help our foodbank but are unable to hold traditional collections, please make use of our QR code which takes scanners directly to our Crowdfunder donation page.



### Connect with us!

Did you know Newcastle-Staffs Foodbank is on social media? You can keep up-to-date with our latest news and appeals at the touch of a button. Please engage with us online as well as in person.

Like, share, follow!

Tweet @NewcStaffsFB.  
Share @newcastlestaffsfoodbank on Instagram.  
Or you can always message @NewcastleUnderLymeBoroughFoodbank on Facebook.

WHAT'S it like? That's a question I get asked the most and to be honest there's not a simple answer to it. For a start it's pretty fun. A lot of people have told me in my life that work shouldn't be fun because otherwise you can't achieve a 'work life balance'. But listening to music whilst dating donations, talking to some of our amazing volunteers and donors, and even just having my dinner break whilst warehouse manager Peter Till works, listening to classical radio on his little box radio - it amazes me seeing the generosity and kindness some people show at the warehouse and at my local centre of Kidsgrove. We've seen many acts of kindness and I've been lucky to meet some of the most knowledgeable and caring people this area has to offer. That's one of the reasons I decided to use my time to support the foodbank because nowhere else in my community can so many volunteers help so many people just because they have a good heart. My first month has been amazing but it's not exactly a walk in the park. One of the best parts is using the data system to record info which project lead Jane Baker and Peter have explained in detail.



I've already learned loads: how other centres work, putting up orders, learning Peter's warehouse system. From dating multiple boxes of pasta to sorting more tea than I've ever seen into month order for the next year, it's been a lot of work which I'm glad to be experiencing. Obviously it's weird starting a college course a few months away from your 19th birthday but with learning the online foodbank system, stock charts and statistics as well as using my experience from doing a supermarket job to rotate stock, I've had a busy start - and according to Gary, my tutor from the college, there is more to come. And of course none of this would be happening for me if it wasn't for the hard work and dedication of many people at foodbank but especially Jane, who pushed for me to get this role. Also I'd like to mention the lovely email I received from trustee Shiela Heap when I first started who thanked me for taking the role.



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