

A Guide to Food Aid and Other Services in Wakefield & District

Also includes information about services on domestic abuse, children's clothing, welfare rights, housing and homelessness, mental health, and asylum-seekers and refugees.

Social Security Working Group

**Unite Community
Leeds & Wakefield Branch**



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Introduction

Unite Community was set up by Unite the union – one of the largest trade unions in the UK - in late 2011. Recognising the impact of austerity, the aim was to bring people outside workplace trade unions into the union family. It is a way of supporting individuals and communities and assisting them to defend and advance their interests.

Unite Community offers membership at low cost to anyone who is not in paid full-time work. This includes those who are unemployed, people who are retired, students, volunteers and carers.

Unite Community's activities include campaigns on benefit issues such as Universal Credit, cuts to public services, taking buses into public control, environmental issues, and supporting Unite members involved in industrial disputes. We have also supported members with social security problems, including those facing work capability and Personal Independence Payment assessments and appeal tribunals.

There are also individual benefits and services available to members. These include discounts at major high street retailers, debt counselling, a free 24-hour legal helpline and learning opportunities.

Further Information on Unite Community and how to become a member membership is included at the end of this guide.

The guide

In the guide, we list sources of food aid of which we are aware and which are available at no cost, including foodbanks, places where hot meals are available, and help with children's clothing.

We also include agencies offering welfare rights advice, advice on housing and homelessness, mental health services and support for asylum seekers and refugees.

As far as we aware, the information in this guide is accurate at the time of publication. We hope to update it as changes take place and new services become available.

Please note the details below are correct as at 23rd June 2021 but could subsequently change as COVID-19 restrictions ease.

Delivery and referrals

Please also note all the food banks listed are currently "delivery only" except where indicated and require a referral. This is normally in the form of a voucher that you obtain from a professional such as a doctor, social worker, advisor at Citizens or from the police. The voucher is then exchanged for the food parcel.

1. Food Banks

Wakefield Council services

Wakefield Council has a Welfare Services Team who can be contacted on 0345 8 506 506. The team have a network of food aid providers to whom they can refer people.

The council also provides food parcels for those with children during the school holidays. However, the parcels just for those children who receive free school meals and the schools give out the vouchers.

Calder Grove

Calder Grove Food Bank

Calder Grove Cricket Club, Denby Dale Road, WF4 3DP.

Email: [cgccworkforce@gmail](mailto:cgccworkforce@gmail.com)

Tel. 0753 030 4669 com

Referral not necessary. People need to phone with details of name, address, dietary requirements. Deliveries every Saturday morning between 9 and 11a.m within a 4.5 mile radius of the postcode. Submit details of what is required by 2pm on a Friday. Email is the preferred way of communicating in the first instances.

Castleford

Airedale Food Bank Castleford

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Airedale-Food-Bank-118610036716992/>

Referrals: via the Wakefield Council, Employment Hub, partner agencies or self-referring via Facebook.

Food delivery service at the present time.

Castleford 'Foodbank at the Link'

51-53 Beancroft Road, Castleford, WF10 5BP.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Foodbankatthelink>

Tel. 01977 514477

Hours of opening: Thursday Evening 6.30-7.30pm.

Trinity Mission, Castleford

Trinity Methodist Church, Powell Street, Castleford WF10 1EL.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Trinity-Mission-Castleford-247234915686001>

Open for food parcels on Tuesdays and Wednesdays each week from 12-2pm. One food parcel per person per fortnight. These will be served through the window in to the car park area.

Crofton

Crofton Food Bank

Tel. 07834 997767

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Croftonfoodbank>

Hours of opening: deliveries only on a Friday.

Eastmoor Community Food Bank

St. Swithuns Community Centre, Arnecliffe Road, Eastmoor, WF1 4RR

Tel. 01924 361212

Referral not needed. Users need to register with the food bank. At the present time phone in the morning for a food parcel later in the day by delivery only. They are open from Monday to Friday but parcels not normally delivered on a Friday except in an emergency.

Featherstone

South Featherstone Gospel Hall Food Bank

Station Lane, Featherstone, WF7 5BB.

Tel. Donna Cox 07805 101 825

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sfghchurch>

Hours of opening: 6.30-8.00 Wednesday evening.

Hemsworth

Hemsworth Food Pantry

Tel. 07907 104687

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/hemsworthfoodbank>

Set up to help families through Covid-19 and beyond.

Referrals through: Cashwise, Citizens Advice, Turning Point, health visitor and local schools.

Deliveries only at the moment

Kettlethorpe

Kettlethorpe Guardians Foodbank

Standbridge Centre (opposite Crematorium), Standbridge Lane, WF2 7ND.

Tel. 07761377378

No referral needed. Donations and collections on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 1600 to 17.30.

Knottingley

Kellingley Social Centre, Marine Villa Drive, Knottingley, WF11 8ER. Tel. Paul on 07951916738. Referrals; also help to people in need turning up. Deliveries on Tuesdays.

Lupset

St. George's Community Centre

Broadway, Lupset, WF 2 8AA.

Tel. 01924 369 631

Open Tuesdays to Thursdays and, with certain exceptions, on Mondays and Fridays. Referral needed.

Normanton

Normanton Food Bank

The Well Project, Castleford Road, Normanton, WF6 2DP.

Website: <https://normanton.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/>

Tel. 01924 895634 or 07307 189851

Deliveries on Tuesday 4-5pm Friday 3-4pm. Personal callers are also able to attend the above address at these times.

Kinsley

The Food Hub

Kinsley and Fitzwilliam Resource Centre, Wakefield Road,
Kinsley, WF9 5BP

Tel. 01977 610 931

No Referral needed. Free Fare Share food available on Monday mornings from 9 am. Usually all gone by 9.30 am.

Ossett

The Resource Food Bank

Christ Church Parish Centre, Vicar Lane, Ossett WF5 0BE.

Tel. 07522604130

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/The-Resource-Food-Bank-1889066631191756>

Deliveries on Fridays only.

Pontefract

Pontefract Food Bank

Central Methodist Church, Newgate, WF8 1NB.

Tel. 07935 530583

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Pontefract-Food-Bank-769628636451641/?ref=page_internal

Deliveries on Mondays and Thursdays

Pontefract Community Kitchen

Horsefair, Pontefract, WF8 1PP.

Mainly work with homeless people but will help anyone who is vulnerable and in need. They serve hot meals and give out food parcels on Thursday evenings at 6pm.

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/pontefractcommunitykitchen>

Tel. 07521 259 552

Rhyhill

Havercroft and Ryhill Community Learning Centre

Community Cabin, Mulberry Place, Ryhill, WF4 2BD.

Tel. 01226 727 824

Users of the food bank need to phone and make an appointment to register, but no referral is needed. There is also a community cabin which can also help with food, household items and advice.

South Elmsall and South Kirby

Westfield Centre, South Elmsall Town Council

South Elmsall, Pontefract, WF9 2PU.

Tel 01977 642335

Every Friday between 10am to 2pm

Referral via food voucher needed.

South Kirby and Moorthorpe Community Association

Friends of the Community, Food for Upton

Village Hall

Harewood Lane

Upton

WF9 IJB

Tel. 07747087658

Facebook: <https://bit.ly/3tXP6w>

Hours of opening: Friday 12-2pm

Self-referral 3 times; welfare & social worker referral.

Delivery if needed but otherwise pick up; delivery any other day if needed.

Wakefield (city)

Lightwaves Community Trust

Lower York Street, Wakefield, WF1 3LJ.

Tel. 01924 360 158

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Lightwaves%20Leisure%20Centre,%20Wakefield/261154727328530/>

Hours of Opening: Fridays & Saturdays (delivery only)

St. Catherine's Foodbank

Doncaster Road, Wakefield, WF1 5HL.

Tel. 01924 211130

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/StCaths>

Hours of Opening: Tues, Wed, Fri. 10-3pm.

Real Junk Food Project

Kiosk on lower ground floor of the Ridings Shopping Centre, Wakefield. Kirkgate entrance opposite the British Heart Foundation Charity Shop.

Food can be ordered on the 'Too Good To Go' app. and picked up on a Friday between 12 and 3pm. Operates on pay-as-you-feel basis.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TRJFProject>

Email: info@trjfp.com

2. Hot Food and Clothing for homeless and those in need

Wakefield Street Kitchen

Contact wakefieldstreetkitchen@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/wakefieldSKV/>

Charitable organization providing, food, clothing and support to all those in need.

Referral: just ask for help – no formal referral process.

CAP (Community Action Project) Care Wakefield

2-8 Market Street, Wakefield, WF1 1DH.

Tel. 01924 381119

<https://www.facebook.com/cap.wakefield>

Help for those in need including the homeless. Meals, showers, clothing, furniture and household goods.

Opening times: Monday – Friday from 10.00am to 12.30pm

Pontefract Community Kitchen

Horsefair, Pontefract, WF8 1PP.

Mainly work with homeless people but will help anyone who is vulnerable and in need. They serve hot meals and give out food parcels on Thursday evenings at 6pm.

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/pontefractcommunitykitchen>

Tel. 07521 259 552

3. Domestic abuse

Wakefield District Domestic Abuse

Telephone helpline: 0800 915 1561 open 8.30-5pm Monday to Thursday and 8.30am to 4.30pm Friday.

4. Welfare rights and finances

Citizens Advice

Ground Floor, 27 King Street, Wakefield WF1 2SR.

Tel : 03444111444

Advice Line open 9-5pm Monday to Friday

Website <http://www.wakefielddistrictcab.co.uk>

Outreach also available at:

Hemsworth, Havercroft and Ryhill, Normanton, Pontefract, South Elmsall.

Cash Wise

Run by Wakefield District Housing for all social housing tenants across the district. Offering support to get personal finances in order.

Website <https://www.getcashwise.co.uk>.

5. Children's clothing & equipment

Airedale Baby and Children's Bank

Support to families with pre-loved baby items and children's clothing. Birth to Teen available.

Tel. 07920 878 782

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Airedale-Baby-and-Childrens-Bank-101163548483808/?ref=page_internal

Referral: self-referral through Facebook or from partner agencies.

Stepping Stones Baby Bank

Non-profit, volunteer organisation. Aims to support families in Ossett, Horbury and surrounding areas with baby essentials to ensure that no child goes without. By doing this, we play our part in reducing landfill.

18 Fairfield Gardens, Ossett, WF5 OLX

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/SteppingStonesBabyBank>

Email: steppingstonesbabybank@gmail.com

Referrals from health and social care professionals or other agencies but they do take some private referrals from individuals.

6. Housing advice

Housing advice team

Queens House, Queens Street, Wakefield, WF1 1JR.

Tel. 01924 302085

Website: <https://www.wakefield.gov.uk/housing/rented-homes/information-for-tenants/housing-advice>

The Housing Advice Team within Wakefield Council offers advice on “tenancy problems, disrepair, harassment and unlawful eviction, mortgage and rent arrears, and entitlement to benefits.” They also offer “representation in the County Court for mortgage and rent arrears and can represent clients at tribunal with Housing Benefit or Council Tax Support appeals.”

Telephone advice and appointments on 01924 302085 or via reception. Available Monday to Wednesday 9am to 5pm, Thursday 10am to 5pm and Friday 9am to 4.30pm. Emergency calls possible outside these times.

Housing Needs Service

Queens House, Queens Street, Wakefield, WF1 1JR.

Tel. 01924 302085

Website: <https://www.wakefield.gov.uk/housing/rented-homes/information-for-tenants/housing-advice>

The Housing Needs Service within Wakefield Council “provides advice, assistance and support to prevent homelessness.

If you cannot carry on living where you are, and have nowhere else that it is reasonable for you to stay, we will consider your circumstances under the homelessness law.”

Website also includes links to [Rough Sleepers Support Service](#) and [Provision of accommodation to homeless 16 and 17 year old young people](#) Hours of opening: telephone contact only at present: Mon-Wed 8.30 -5; Thur 10-5; Fri 8.30-4.30

Street Support Wakefield District

Useful information about local and regional services available on the website:

<https://streetsupport.net/wakefield/>

Wakefield Rough Sleepers

Night Shelter opens at Wakefield Baptist Church if temperature drops below a certain level in winter months. Offers overnight stay, hot meal and breakfast next morning.

Wakefield Baptist Church

Belle Isle Avenue

WF1 5JY

01924 382 996

Wakefield's Rough Sleeper Outreach Service

People sleeping rough and those concerned about them can ring the service direct on 01924 385722.

Other help

See section 2 above, "Hot Food and Clothing for homeless and those in need", page 6).

7. Mental health support

Wakefield Council Mental Health Support

This is via the Council's website and contains some very useful links, advice and information:

<https://www.wakefield.gov.uk/health-care-and-advice/public-health/mental-health-wellbeing/mental-health-support>

GP, emergency services & Social Care Direct

If you need support, your GP can offer advice and help.

The emergency services should be contacted on 999 if someone is going to harm themselves or others.

Social Care Direct can be contacted if you're worried about an adult or older who appears to be at risk. 0345 8 503 503.

Samaritans

Tel. 0330 094 5717 (local charges apply)

Free phone: 116 123

Website <https://www.samaritans.org/branches/wakefield/>

The Samaritans "provide confidential, non-judgmental support 24 hours a day for people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those which could lead to suicide."

Turning point Talking Therapies

133 Carlton Street, Castleford, WF10 1EF.

57 Kirkgate, Wakefield, WF1 1HX.

Tel. 01924 234 860

Website: <https://talking.turning-point.co.uk/wakefield/>

Offers services “If you are aged 16 years or older and are registered with a GP surgery in the Wakefield District, you can access NICE recommended therapies at Turning Point Talking Therapies by contacting us directly.” ***Not able to deal with people in crisis situations.*** Hours of opening: ring 01924 234 860 8am-8pm Mon-Fri; 10-4 Sat.

8. Asylum seekers & refugees

Wakefield City of Sanctuary

St. Michael's Church, Westgate, Wakefield. WF2 9RW.

Offers welcome and inclusion to people coming to the district whose lives are in danger in their own countries.

Tel. 01924-782394

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cityofsanctuary>

Website: <http://wakefieldcityofsanctuary.org/>

Asylum Seekers and Refugees Drop In

Wed morning 10a.m-12 noon

Quaker Meeting House

Thornhill Street

WF1 1NQ

Tel. 08453 479 398

Free English Classes

Tuesdays 10.30-12.30 Wakefield Baptist Church

Belle Isle Avenue WF1 5JY. Tel. 01924 382996

Further information about Unite Community

Joining Unite Community

If you would like further details of Unite Community, please go to the following link: <http://www.unitetheunion.org/growing-our-union/communitymembership/>

If you would like to join Unite Community, you can do so online here: <https://www.unitetheunion.org/join-unite/>

Membership costs 55p per week or 66p if you choose to pay into the political fund (to support the Labour Party).

Alternatively, if you would like further details and an application form through the post, please telephone 0113-2364830.

Unite Community Leeds & Wakefield Branch contacts

Email: unitecommunityleedswakefield@outlook.com

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/unitecommunityleedswakefield/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/unitecomleeds>

Website: <http://unitecommunityleedsa.wordpress.com/>

Unite Regional Office

Unite Regional Office, 55, Call Lane, Leeds, LS1 7BW.Tel. 0113-2364830.