

# **THE HUB**

**(Working with strategic partners, and East of Northamptonshire Council to provide support and training for local food banks and smaller charities )**

## **WHY THE HUB?**

Since 2020, just before the pandemic until now, BAK UP CIC has been on the front line providing local food banks across the East of Northamptonshire with ambient food to enable them to carry out their charitable work. As a direct result of our work with DEFRA and FareShare, we provided thousands of pounds worth of quality good food to the local food banks and smaller charities across the East of Northamptonshire. According to Ofgem global price cap has gone up by 54% and approximately 22 million customers will see a rise in their energy prices.

Already with the high cost of living and the squeeze on household incomes, many are deciding especially older adults and the vulnerable to turn off their heating during the winter so that they do not incur bills they can't afford to pay. Without any form of intervention, these people will struggle in the cold winter months, and some will, unfortunately, lose their lives.

The HUB will be central in bringing local charities under one local umbrella to ensure that they do not run out of essential and basic stuff for the older adults, the vulnerable, and those adversely impacted who will struggle to heat their homes and eat without any form of intervention.

## **HOW**

The hub will be working with local food banks and smaller charitable organisations in East Northamptonshire by restocking them when running low on essential products including ambient food so that they can carry on supporting people who can not afford to heat their homes and eat during this coming winter and beyond.

The Hub will also work with strategic partners to provide training and strategic input into the effective running of local food banks and smaller charities across the East of Northamptonshire to ensure that they have the inbuilt capabilities and capacity to carry on supporting their local communities through these challenging times

Also, the HUB with its strategic partners will provide a level plain field by targeting smaller foodbank charities run by ethnic minority groups across the East of Northamptonshire to ensure that they have the support and training needed for them to provide adequate help to ethnic minority communities across our county.

Through local training with our strategic partners, the HUB can look at ways to improve the effectiveness of local food banks and smaller charities that are struggling to carry out their work in the communities.

## **BENEFIT**

1. Small local charities with annual returns under £30000 sign up for free
2. The HUB will provide local food banks with extra food to continue their support for the local communities.
3. The HUB will bring small local food bank charities together in one place to work and learn from each other.
4. The HUB with its strategic partners will facilitate local training and best practice for all small local charities across the East of Northamptonshire to thrive.
5. The HUB will work with strategic partners to conduct research in the context of local sustainable charities and share findings with local charities and other interested groups.

## **How will the HUB be sustained in the short and long term?**

1. Partnership with the local council
2. Support from strategic partners
3. Partnership with external stakeholders.

## **Cost of living and Support Ratio**



