Lincolnshire Co-op
Communications

MEDIA RELEASE
[04/11/2026]

Local food banks receive £226K boost

42 food banks covering Lincolnshire and parts of Cambridgeshire, Nottinghamshire and Humberside are sharing an incredible **£226,718,** thanks to Lincolnshire Co-op's Community Champions scheme, which brings together efforts of its members, customers and colleagues.

Newark Food Bank is one of the services the community has supported and is receiving **£15,846** of vital funding.

Volunteer Malcolm Jowett said: *"The cost-of-living pressure means that people are struggling to make donations, more people need our help, and our running costs are higher.*

"This money will help us to continue to give valuable support to those who need it in our community; a big thank you to everyone who's contributed!"

From **8th March to 5th September**, the Society donated each time a member shopped with their dividend card, colleagues organised fundraising events, and customers donated change in stores.

The retailer collects for food banks all year round, through donation bins in its food stores. However, ahead of school summer holidays, the co-op also hosted **12 food bank drives**, and the equivalent of over **5,000 meals** were donated at these events, with **eight local businesses** also making donations.

13 colleagues have also used their employer-funded volunteering hours to provide practical support to their local food bank or to help encourage donations.

Funeral colleagues in Sutton on Sea and Mablethorpe supported their local food bank by pooling their colleague volunteering hours to make home deliveries to its service users.

Funeral Director Lucy Hunter said: *"This is more than just delivering food parcels; for many of the service users, we're the only face they'll see all week.*

"Working with the food bank has been eye opening, and it's a true privilege to be part of something that's making local people's lives better."

The co-op recently held a celebration event, which bought together food bank volunteers, colleagues who have made significant contributions, and members of its Board of Directors.

Senior Community Co-ordinator, Mary Leggett, said: *"Our local food banks provide invaluable support to some of the most vulnerable people in our communities, often when they have nowhere else to turn.*

"Many people are struggling with the cost-of-living crisis, making these services more important than ever. With the current climate in mind, a donation of this size is truly remarkable, and demonstrates that community spirit remains alive and well. Thank you to every single person who's contributed."

Ends

For more information contact:
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Notes to editors:

1. **Lincolnshire Co-op** is an independent co-operative society. Its purpose is to bring together ideas, energy and resources to make life better in communities. It has around 300,000 members and 2,900 local colleagues in Lincolnshire and the surrounding counties and an elected board of directors who oversee the business.

The society provides **valued services** and supports the **local economy** from outlets across its trading area including food stores, filling stations, post offices, travel branches, funeral homes, a florist, a crematorium and community libraries. It also cares for people's **health and wellbeing** through its pharmacies and support for a network of wellbeing walks. Local good causes benefit through its Community Champions scheme and together, colleagues and members also look after the **local environment** through volunteering.
As well as its trading outlets, Lincolnshire Co-op owns properties, from flats and houses to commercial premises. The society brings land and buildings back into use to create attractive environments. With Lincolnshire Co-op as landlord, rents stay local and are invested in schemes that benefit the community.

2. **List of recipients and the amounts that they are receiving:**

Agape Care Food Bank - £5,840
Alford Storehouse Church Food Bank - £3,005
Bardney Larder - £1,815
Barton Area Food Bank - £1,973
Bassetlaw Food Bank - £5,716
Bilsthorpe Emergency Team - £2,000
Birchwood Food Bank - £3,877
Boston Food Bank - £12,095
Bourne Food Bank - £2,165
Branston All Saints Food Bank - £4,630
Brigg Food Bank - £3,194
Cafa Food Bank - £4,196
The Clipstone Food Hub - £1,795
Collingham Food Pantry - £3,414
Community Action Response Food Bank - £2,325
Crowland Community Larder - £2,935
Destiny Outreach Coningsby - £9,640
Epworth Food Bank - £2,705
Holbeach Community Larder - £4,030
Horncastle Community Larder - £2,550
Gainsborough Salvation Army - £9,065

Grantham Food Bank - £3,221
Ingoldmells, Chapel & Addelthorpe - £2,070
Isle of Axholme Food Share Project - £2,425
Lincoln Community Larder - £29,251
Lincoln Food Bank - £20,029
Long Sutton Food Bank - £3,787
Louth Community Larder - £3,071
Market Rasen Salvation Army - £3,060
Newark Food Bank - £15,846
Rock Foundation - £6,116
Scunthorpe Food Bank - £6,746
Selby & District Food Bank - £2,190
Sleaford New Life Community Larder - £14,928
Spilsby & District Community Larder - £2,275
Sutton Bridge Community Larder - £2,225
Skegness Food Bank - £3,740
We Are One - £6,736
Whittlesey Emergency Food Aid - £3,715
Woodhall Spa & Kirkby on Bain Food Bank - £2,585
Wragby Food Bank - £2,545
Hull Food Bank - £1,723