



## Newsletter February 2026

### Facts & Figures:



It's 2026! From **January to December 2025**, we provided emergency food & toiletry supplies to a total of **10,228** people across our Sunderland foodbank network. We helped **6,883** adults and **3,345** children.

We currently have a total of **35 Foodbanks** across Sunderland & County Durham.

### NEWS

**Two-child limit on Universal Credit and Tax Credits**, is being scrapped from **April 2026**.

The **Department for Work and Pensions** plans to complete the managed migration of all remaining legacy benefit claimants to Universal Credit by **March 2026**.

The **North East Child Poverty Commission** is backing the "**The No Child Left Behind**" Campaign to extend **free school meals** to every child in primary school.

### Upcoming Events:

**Give in Lent:** From **18 Feb - 2 Apr**, make a small daily sacrifice that can make a big difference. Put aside **40p a day for 40 days** or donate **an item a day for 40 days from our shortage list** and donate at the end of Lent. [Learn more](#)

**Food Summit - 14 Mar:** **Beyond Food Banks** launches the third course of their **Beyond Food Banks Menu** with the **Food Summit** at the **Sjovoll Centre**. Join workshops and Q&As with Trussell Trust, Feeding Britain, Food Durham, and many more. [Find out more.](#)

### Additional News:

Alongside food provision, our foodbanks offer wider practical support, including debt advice and income maximisation. **FISCUS** works directly with clients accessing our foodbanks to provide this specialist help. In 2025, FISCUS managed debts of **£248,334** and confirmed increased additional income for families within our communities of **£798,943** with a further expected amount of **£327,500** to be confirmed.

**Household Support Fund**, will be changing to **Crisis and Resilience Fund** in **April 2026**. The CRF will provide **grant funding** to local authorities in England to help prevent hardship and support people during financial crisis, with funding available until **31 March 2029**.



### SHORTAGE ITEMS:

Long Life Fruit Juice, Tinned Fruit, Long Life Milk, Coffee, Tinned Tomatoes, Shampoo and Deodorant.

**THANK YOU, AS ALWAYS FOR YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT. IT REALLY DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**