



Dear Friends at Horsham Churches Together,

We are grateful for the opportunity to share our monthly update, and to reflect on the work we continue to do together in serving our local community.

We have started the year with a tremendous amount of planning as we prepare for our new financial year, running from 1 April to 31 March. As part of this process, we have been carefully reviewing our sustainability and future funding needs. Like many charities, we anticipate increasing financial pressures ahead. We are already seeing that both corporate supporters and loyal individual donors are having to reduce budgets, and unfortunately charitable giving is often one of the first areas to be cut. In response, we recognise the need to cast our net wider. Over the coming months, we will be increasing our marketing and fundraising appeals to reach new individual donors and corporate partners. This will be essential in enabling us to continue our work across our 16 weekly food banks, as well as our outreach and support services.

Our 16 weekly food banks continue to provide vital support to those in need, and we are pleased to share that we have recently started a Tuesday evening food bank at Lifespring Church, meaning we now operate two food banks each week from that site. We also continue to run food banks at United Reformed Church, Holy Innocents, and Horsham Kingdom Faith Church. As you can see, the churches remain absolutely central to our ability to support clients across the town, and we are deeply thankful for this partnership.

Alongside this, our outreach and support services continue to assist clients facing a wide range of challenges, including debt, unemployment, domestic violence, and mental or physical health issues that affect daily living. We also support individuals and families who are simply struggling to make ends meet during the ongoing cost of living crisis.

Our two Connecting Cafés continue to provide a vital and welcoming space for members of the community who are experiencing financial hardship or are at risk of crisis. These cafés offer not just practical help, but a warm home cooked meal, fellowship, connection, dignity, and hope.



This year is also a significant milestone for us, as we are delighted to be celebrating our 20th anniversary. While Horsham Matters was officially registered as a charity in April 2006, the work began many years earlier when the churches came together to serve those in hardship. Horsham Matters was born out of the initiatives, care, and compassion shown by the churches, and for twenty years we have continued that mission of serving our neighbours in times of need. We will be holding several celebrations and events throughout the year to mark this special anniversary.

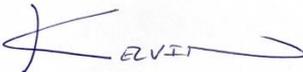
Our appeal to the Forum is to encourage your congregations to continue supporting us in our shared mission. This could be through:

- \* A small regular monthly financial gift
- \* Donating food through collections at your church or local supermarkets
- \* Communicating and promoting the support we offer, as someone within your congregation may know an individual or family who is struggling and in need of support

We very much look forward to another year of working together with Horsham Churches Together, serving our community side by side. We will aim to share more information and resources with you that can be passed on to your congregations.

Thank you for your continued partnership, encouragement, and support.

With grateful thanks,



Kelvin Glen

30 January 2026

*Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labour: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up... A cord of three strands is not quickly broken. (Ecclesiastes 4:9–12)*