

Dorchester - Food Banks

If you are struggling and need the support of our local food banks, please ask for a referral by phoning Citizens Advice on the Dorset Adviceline: 0344 411 1444.

Or you can self-refer to the Dorchester Community Kitchen – more information below.

In the current emergency demand is much increased on the local food banks and they are struggling to maintain sufficient stocks. They are now needing to purchase vital items for their parcels from suppliers. They would welcome donations towards these purchases; details below. All are registered charities and donations can therefore be Gift Aided.

Dorchester Food Bank

- Run from the Dorford Centre, Bridport Road, DT1 1RR
- Contact: Tracy Hughes - 07554 983978
- Website: <http://dorchesterbc.org.uk/food-bank>
- Email: foodbank@dorchesterbc.org.uk
- Referrals - Professional referral only – via health visitors, social workers, Citizens Advice and other local organisations. If you were a previous voucher holder and have not been contacted by the Foodbank, please let them know.
- Non-perishable/longlife food and essential items can be donated by leaving in the porch of the Dorford Centre whilst the Foodbank is open.
- Opening times for the Foodbank are Mon 12pm-2pm, Weds 10.30am-12.30pm, Fri 10.30am-12.30pm.
- Food may be collected from the centre by recipient or on their behalf. They can deliver as last resort.
- To make a financial donation by cheque please send them a cheque made out to Dorchester's Foodbank. For details on how to make a direct payment to them, please check the website for details (soon to be added).

Food Share

- Run from the Dorchester Community Church, Liscombe Street, Poundbury, DT1 3DF
- Contact: Liz Meech: 07798 586116
- Email: contact@dorchestercommunitychurch.org.uk
- Website: www.dorchestercommunitychurch.org.uk/ministries/food-share
- Referrals - Professional referral only – via health visitors, social workers, Citizens Advice and other local organisations. Referrals can be made over the phone to Liz 01305 267171 or to her mobile.
- Details of how to donate fresh and non-perishable food and essential items can be found on their website.
- Food will be delivered to recipients.
- To make a financial donation by cheque, please post it to them with 'Food Share' marked clearly on the back. To make a donation via bank transfer or Paypal, please go to their website page.

Dorchester Community Kitchen

- Run from the Storehouse Church, Cambridge Road, Dorchester DT1 2LR
- Details on their website www.dorchestercommunitykitchen.org
- Email: dorchestercommunitykitchen@gmail.com
- No referral necessary. This service is aimed primarily at carers & people in acute need. Please complete a form to sign up for support – which can be found on their website. They will then schedule a delivery to you.
- To make a donation of fresh, refrigerated/frozen, or non-perishable food or essential items, go to the Storehouse 10am-2pm daily Mon-Sat to leave an item on the donation table, or go onto to the website to donate financially.
- If you are able to volunteer, please let them know via the website.
- Information and updates from the group can also be found on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/DorchesterCommunityKitchen

Please read below for suggestions of items to donate

Suggested items to donate:

(All Foodbanks are unable to accept donations of homemade food)

Tins of:

- meat – corned beef
- cooked mince
- hot dogs
- fish - tuna, sardines, pilchards
- vegetables
- peas
- carrots
- sweetcorn
- lentils
- whole tomatoes
- baked beans
- spaghetti fruit
- peaches
- fruit salad
- pears
- rice pudding
- custard including packets of instant powder.
- sponge pudding

Packets/jars or cartons of:

- UHT or powdered milk (Dorchester Foodbank does not currently require this)
- Cereals
- fruit juice
- pasta
- pasta sauce
- rice
- instant mashed potato
- coffee
- tea bags
- sugar (small bags preferred)
- biscuits or snack bars
- tomato ketchup
- brown sauce
- cooking oil
- Marmite

Other items/toiletries

- Soap
- toothpaste and brushes
- razors & shaving foam
- toilet rolls
- washing powder
- dishwasher tablets
- women's sanitary products
- hand sanitiser

Fresh fruit and vegetables

In addition, the Food Share project and the Dorchester Community Kitchen are keen to receive fresh fruit and vegetables.

Refrigerated and frozen items

The Dorchester Community Kitchen are also able to accept refrigerated and frozen goods and would particularly like protein items such as sausages, bacon and cheese.

Additional items the Dorchester Community Kitchen would like to receive:

- Dried/formula baby milk
- Children's nappies – all sizes
- Women's sanitary items
- Disposable incontinence pads – all sizes

Government support for clinically extremely vulnerable people.

In addition, the Government have announced that very vulnerable people who have been advised to shield themselves for 12 weeks and who do not have family, friends or neighbours who can support them, can apply for Government assistance to include help with food, shopping or deliveries and additional care. To register for support please go to:

www.gov.uk/coronavirus-extremely-vulnerable

Please note that any support offered through this service may take time to arrive.