



March 2016

The Trussell Trust supports a network of 420 foodbanks in the UK. It has been voted Britain's most admired charity for its work relating to food poverty and its assistance to providing emergency food support to people living in crisis. In the last 12 months the Trussell Trust provided 1,084,604 three day emergency food supplies to people in crisis. It also tackles the root causes of poverty through advocacy and the provision of a range of services beyond the emergency food provision.

In mid-2014 Trussell Trust started a strategic development process to engage with its foodbank network partners to provide services that go beyond the initial food intervention; this is called '*More Than Food*'. Caplor Horizons initially facilitated a six month process with senior people from across the Trussell Trust. This was intended to bring people together from different parts of the organisation to develop team-working and strategy. Different people from Caplor Horizons contributed: for instance, John Berry led a day to increase organisational effectiveness; John White ran a session to improve communication, Lord Paul Tyler and Lorna Pearcey met with people involved with initiatives to change policy to strengthen advocacy, including working with the media.

In early 2015 the contribution of Caplor Horizons shifted to focussing on the Social Enterprise team. An outline annual plan was established involving engagements approximately every month through to early 2016. This commenced with Richard Harvey delivering a session on strategy and communications. Important input was provided on a number of inter-related fronts. For instance: a small group from Caplor Horizons, including Gareth Williams, provided entrepreneurial advice; Simon and Ben Oldroyd assisted with marketing; various team members benefited from mentoring and attending wider Caplor Horizons events on leadership development (for instance, a session on collaboration and learning attended by two of the team in March 2016).

The contribution of Caplor Horizons has proved extremely beneficial to the senior team, especially towards the renewal of strategy, leadership and team development. It has been highly successful in helping accelerate progress on multiple fronts. Trussell Trust believes it has gained great value from its engagement with Caplor Horizons. One dimension of this is that a significant number of very experienced and skilled people from Caplor Horizons have contributed their time on a voluntary basis. Throughout the working relationship, Caplor Horizons has brought a focus on the many important issues around sustainability at foodbank, community shop and Trussell Trust organisational levels. The Caplor House model has been integrated into the work-streams and this has been inspirational, enjoyable and very useful.

In March 2016, Ben and Simon Oldroyd completed the creation of a rich picture and infographic. This converted the strategy (that Caplor Horizons had facilitated the development of) into compelling communication formats. It was an inspiring and exceptional piece of work. It will really help Trussell Trust bring its work and plans to life for the many stakeholders that it comes into contact with.

The important collaboration with Caplor Horizons has helped to enable and unlock the wider potential that Trussell Trust and its partners can offer people living in crisis in the UK.

Dan Bishop
Leader of the Social Enterprise Team