



The  
Multibank

Our country is facing a deepening poverty crisis, with 15 million people living in poverty in 2022, including one million destitute children.

Vital lifelines are food banks, baby banks and now multibanks. These community donations hubs collect essentials – bedding, baby and hygiene products – donated by businesses or funded by foundations, and supply charities that serve the poor.

The Big House Project is the first multibank in Fife, where close to 600 entities identify those most in need. The multibank in Wigan serves Greater Manchester, and the third will be in Wales. Amazon is an anchor funder and donor for all three. To date, 1.5 million products have reached close to 150,000 beneficiaries, but much larger supplies are needed – greatly exceeding those provided by Amazon and our business partners, or than we can purchase as a result of contributions.

I am asking all our companies, big or small, to join a new and stronger UK-wide coalition of compassion to meet our target of distributing 20 million goods from this winter through 2024.

Three ways you can help:

1. Donate goods
2. Contribute funds: the more we raise, the more Multibanks can be created and sustained
3. Sell us essential products at cost



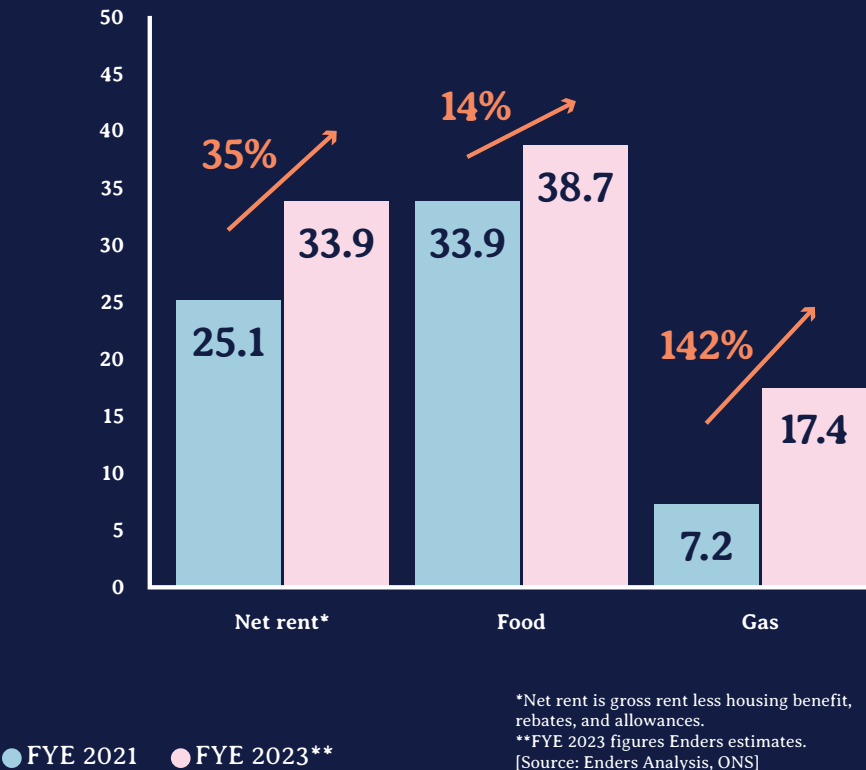
— Gordon Brown, patron of the Big House Project in Fife, and Honorary President of the National Family Centre to expand the multibank initiative

# Multibanks serve the needs of the most vulnerable and the poor.

Too many families are having to make the heart-breaking choices between eating and heating, feeding themselves or their children, buying school clothes or buying soap. The poorest families are struggling to pay much higher costs of renting (net of support), food and gas bills. Many families face an escalating gap between monthly spend and earnings from work and/or benefits. Universal Credit has increased slightly during this cost-of-living crisis and will meet just 78% of expected spending on essentials in FYE 2023.



## Average monthly household expenditure Lowest Decile, FYE 2021-2023 (£)



# The Big House Multibank in Fife — a massive community effort.

## Funding partners & donors



THE OFFICE OF  
GORDON AND  
SARAH BROWN



amazon



Ajaz.org | supporting children  
and families in need



Fife  
COUNCIL



COMIC  
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The  
ROBERTSON  
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## Contributors



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Premier Inn



(semichem)



UK  
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COSTAIN



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Wincanton



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& ROSE  
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THE  
PURVIS  
GROUP



SCOTMID



WHITBREAD



palletline



OHS  
ONLINE HOME SHOP



ACCROL  
GROUP



## How It Works









# Businesses are at the heart of multibanks.

Amazon is an anchor partner of this initiative, helping set up warehouse operations in our Multibank locations with a contribution of pro bono staffing, operations advice, cash grants, delivery support, and the donation of goods. Amazon has encouraged many other businesses to become funders and suppliers to the multibanks.

## Three exemplary case studies:

1. Accrol, the UK's leading independent tissue converter, has both donated its products and supplied them at cost.
2. PepsiCo provided surplus tins of porridge oats for schools and handed to people queuing at local food banks.
3. A coalition of laundry companies including Fishers Laundry Services and the UK-wide Textile Services Association, has relaunched thousands of duvets, blankets and linen used in hotels to meet the needs of those in need.





We continue to have an acute need for many core essentials, despite the generosity of many businesses to date.

Core essentials we especially need include tinned food, bedding, home furnishings, baby products, and basic toiletries.

How you can help:

1. Donate surplus goods instead of wasting them – we welcome all useable goods whether surplus, split packaged or slightly damaged
2. Contribute funds to The Multibank Fund: managed by Comic Relief's expert funding team, this will establish and grow a network of Multibanks, helping scale this vital service across the UK
3. To address the immediate shortage this winter, sell us essentials at cost

Value to businesses:

1. Reduce inventory costs and prevent waste
2. One-stop-shop for donations that go to those most in need
3. Contribute to the local community





If you can help us with surplus or reduced  
priced products, please contact  
[info.multibank@gordonandsarahbrown.com](mailto:info.multibank@gordonandsarahbrown.com)

If you want to donate to Comic Relief's  
Multibank Fund, please contact  
[partnerships@comicrelief.com](mailto:partnerships@comicrelief.com)