

IMPACT ON USE OF EPSOM & EWELL FOODBANK

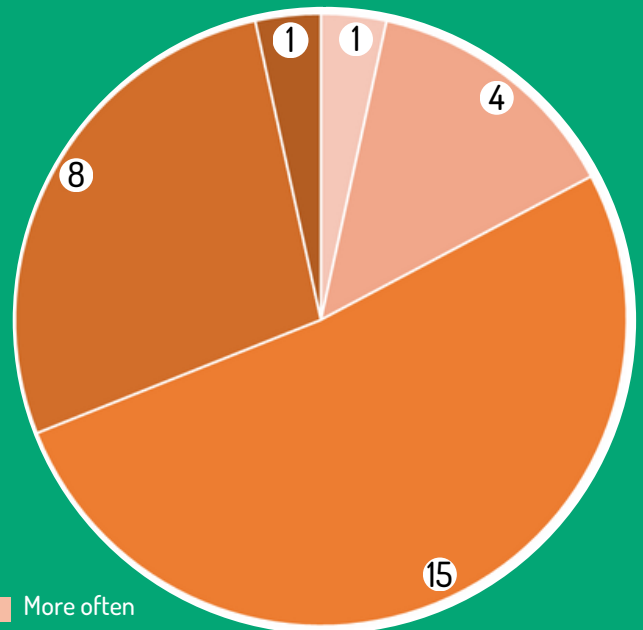
One of the aims of the Pantry is to provide a low-cost and more dignified alternative to Epsom & Ewell Foodbank, thereby reducing dependence on food banks.

We asked members if they had visited Epsom & Ewell Foodbank in the previous year – and, if so, whether they have used it more or less often since joining the Pantry.

Just under half of Pantry members (45%) said they had visited the food bank in the past year. Of these, only 1 person said they were now using the food bank more often than before joining the Pantry and 4 said their use was about the same as before. By contrast, 15 respondents said they were using the food bank less than before and 8 said they hadn't used it at all since becoming a member.

This supports our previous analysis, which found that food bank clients who were also Pantry members had reduced the number of times they visited the food bank from 1.4 to 0.9, on average, over the three-month period since joining the Pantry.

Foodbank use since joining Epsom Pantry*



- More often
- About the same
- Less often
- Haven't used it
- Don't know

**Only includes the responses of members who have visited the Foodbank in the last year.*



There is, therefore, consistent early evidence that Epsom Pantry is reducing use of the Foodbank among members who have previously visited the Foodbank.

Most of the members who had not used the Foodbank in the previous year said they would have considered using it, if needed. The fact that they have not had to use the Foodbank, in spite of the current economic climate, suggests that the Pantry may be playing a preventative role, supporting households so they do not need to go to the Foodbank