



The Trussell Trust has responded to the latest data from the Households Below Average Income Survey, which measures poverty before and after housing costs.

David McAuley, Chief Executive of The Trussell Trust, said:

“We welcome the news that, according to the latest figures published by the Department for Work and Pensions, there has been a slight fall in the number of children in relative poverty, although absolute child poverty remains flat year on year. With households in poverty remaining static overall there is clearly still much more to do. Hundreds of thousands of children are still falling into food poverty, triggered by their parents facing financial hardship. Nearly 400,000 children were given 3 days emergency food by a Trussell Trust foodbank between April 2014 and March 2015, up 70,000 from the year before.

“As we enter the school holiday period it is a particularly tough time for families and single parents. Many of the people with children we meet in foodbanks face additional pressures ranging from disability, mental health issues, family tragedy and domestic violence. They need to be supported and prevented from reaching crisis point.

“The Trussell Trust is doing more than ever before to support people in crisis. But this job cannot rest solely with charities and foodbank volunteers.

“Simple changes to the way benefits are administered, raising the minimum wage, and more employers moving to a living wage would help provide solutions to poverty that we could all get behind.”

ENDS

Notes to Editors

Contact

Andy May / andy.may@trusselltrust.org / 020 3745 5979

- Key findings and recommendations on improving benefits administration can be found in [Emergency Use Only](#). Research was jointly conducted by The Trussell Trust, alongside Oxfam, Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG) and the Church of England
- Raising the minimum wage and increasing take up of the living wage was one of the central solutions detailed in the [Feeding Britain](#) report commissioned by the All-Party Parliamentary Inquiry into Hunger in the United Kingdom

Number of people provided with 3 days' emergency food by TT foodbank in 2014-15:

Region	Adults	Children	Total
Scotland	81,575	36,114	117,689
Wales	55,739	30,136	85,875
N Ireland	9,854	7,571	17,425
North East	52,447	35,246	87,693
North West	97,850	59,398	157,248
Yorks and Humber	38,989	21,197	60,186
West Mids	64,433	39,867	104,300
East Mids	27,126	16,055	43,181
East	64,972	35,936	100,908
London	64,756	40,043	104,799
South West	67,858	38,434	106,292
South East	62,008	37,000	99,008
Total	687,607	396,997	1,084,604