

FramFridge CIC – Food Access Policy

1. Policy Statement

FramFridge CIC is committed to ensuring that everyone in our community has fair and dignified access to food. We believe no one should go hungry or face stigma when seeking support. Through this policy, we aim to provide short-term assistance to those experiencing food insecurity, promote responsible use of shared resources, and encourage long-term wellbeing and self-sufficiency.

2. Purpose

- The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all individuals and families experiencing food insecurity have **fair, dignified, and equitable access** to food through FramFridge CIC.
 - The project provides **short-term support** while promoting **self-sufficiency** and helping to **reduce food waste** within the community.
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3. Eligibility and Access

- Access to food through FramFridge CIC is **open to anyone in need**.
 - There is **no means testing** and no requirement to provide **proof of income or personal circumstances**.
 - Access is based on **trust and mutual respect**, recognising that individuals are best placed to assess their own needs.
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4. Responsible Use

To ensure food remains available for everyone who requires it, all participants are asked to:

- Take or request **only the amount of food genuinely needed**.
 - **Share fairly** and use food responsibly to minimise waste.
 - Uphold the project's **values of honesty and community spirit** to maintain fair distribution.
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5. Preventing Over-Reliance

- The FramFridge CIC food project is designed to offer **short-term or occasional assistance** during times of need.
 - Participants are encouraged to view the service as **temporary support**, not as a primary or ongoing source of food.
 - Where appropriate, the project team may **signpost individuals** to other community services and support programmes that promote:
 - Financial stability
 - Employment opportunities
 - Long-term food security
 - The project will **monitor usage patterns** to ensure the service remains sustainable and accessible to all.
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6. Dignity, Respect, and Inclusion

- FramFridge CIC is committed to fostering an environment of **dignity, respect, and inclusion** for all participants, volunteers, and staff.
 - The project will operate in a way that promotes:
 - **Confidentiality**
 - **Equal treatment**
 - **A sense of community care and belonging**
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7. Policy Review

- This policy will be **reviewed annually** or sooner if required by changes in operational practice or community needs.

Last reviewed: 01/10/2025

Next review due: 01/10/2026

Approved by: Ruth Ditchburn & Lauren Ramsay