



**Penrith Town Council**

Date: Wednesday 20 December 2023  
Contact: [cs@penrithtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cs@penrithtowncouncil.gov.uk)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Penrith Mayor & Deputy Mayor donate to the Penrith Salvation Army**

The Mayor & Deputy Mayor of Penrith have agreed to donate their annual allowance to support the Penrith Salvation Army's food bank service this Christmas. The Mayor & Deputy Mayor of Penrith's allowance amounts to £1,000 in total.

The Penrith Salvation Army food bank service provides an essential lifeline for many families and individuals in Penrith struggling to feed themselves and their families.

This Christmas, the Penrith Salvation Army will be supporting more than 300 families in Penrith and the surrounding area with food and toys over the Christmas period.

### **Doug Lawson, Penrith Town Council Chair and Mayor of Penrith said:**

*"Unfortunately, the demand for help from food banks has increased exponentially over the past few years.*

*"This increased need was reported in last week's Cumberland and Westmorland Herald where I was shocked to read just how many families would be reliant on the Penrith Salvation Army's food bank service – which prompted Mark and I to take action.*

*"I am proud we have been able to make this donation which will go a long way in supporting a much-needed cause.*

### **Mark Rudhall, Penrith Town Council Deputy Chair and Deputy Mayor of Penrith said:**

*"We're seeing first-hand the devastating impact the rising cost of living is having on our most vulnerable residents.*

*"Donating £1,000 will enable the Penrith Salvation Army's food bank service to increase their capacity, enabling more people and families to get the support they need.*

*"I am proud that we have been able to donate this money to a worthy cause, and in our positions as Deputy Mayor and Mayor, Doug and I felt this was the least we could do to support those most in need in the community over the festive period."*

If you are struggling with the Cost of Living, please visit the Westmorland & Furness Council website which provides local information for Cumbrian residents on a range of helpful topics including food banks:

[Cost of living support | Westmorland and Furness Council](#)