



Y Parchediacaf | The Most Revd Andrew John

Archegob Cymru ac Esgob Bangor | Archbishop of Wales and Bishop of Bangor

Tŷ'r Esgob, Ffordd Garth Uchaf | Upper Garth Road, Bangor LL57 2SS

01248 362895

esgob.bangor@eglwysyngnghymru.org.uk | bishop.bangor@churchinwales.org.uk

6th January 2023

Dear Bishop Gregory,

I am writing to you early in the New Year to update you on the Food & Fuel campaign, which we have now operated for approximately 12 weeks to thank you for your support which I have appreciated enormously.

At the beginning of our campaign, we wrote to the main supermarkets operating in Wales urging them to extend their range of foods and goods which we usually describe as 'essentials' or basic range.

Immediately before Christmas, five of these supermarkets indicated they would further be reducing or freezing the prices of their food and goods, up to and including the Christmas period. It is of course difficult to know if our voice was a factor in their decision, but we received responses from all of the supermarkets (bar one) and our social media campaign offered them an opportunity to respond to a national crisis.

We also identified hygiene poverty as one of the most pernicious yet invisible aspects of general poverty. Our Churches responded with generosity and commitment to our call to make Christmas gifts consisting of toiletries and basic health items.

I would be grateful if you could convey my deep thanks to those churches and groups who responded.

I am particularly grateful to the RB who funded this initiative by providing funding for a Communications Officer two days a week, alongside some advertising costs.

Our aim is that the campaign should now taper off as we move from Winter season to Spring. We will continue to make the Food & Fuel information available on the Church in Wales website with the prayers which were provided before Christmas alongside occasional updates.

Our hope is that a legacy of ongoing conversation about the shape and content of national life will develop beyond the campaign itself.

I will be writing to all of our subscribers via next weeks' Food & Fuel newsletter and provide a report to the Governing Body in April, but I want to emphasize my gratitude for your support. It has made a difference.

Yours sincerely,

+Andrew Cambrensis