



# Impact report 2024

How your support is helping us  
make a difference

[www.periodfriendlyplaces.org](http://www.periodfriendlyplaces.org)

**Our mission:** Our mission is to eradicate period poverty and for Bristol to be a city of period dignity, where nobody is held back or stigmatised against simply for having a period.

We're aiming to achieve this through a donation and distribution network across Bristol to make period products available for free in community venues, so they can be accessed by people who need them most.

We're also combatting outdated societal attitudes to menstruation and tackling period stigma through education.

## Our focus in 2024:

**Distribution network** - A priority for us over the past year has been testing and growing our distribution network to get more free products to more people.

We now have **13 donation bins** in public locations (including supermarkets, community centres, activity and religious venues) and our corporate partners' offices. We rely on the generosity of the public and corporate partner employees to donate period products for us to distribute. These donations are vital and reduce our need to buy as much supply. This means we can focus our funding on other areas.

**Website and marketing** - in line with our strategy, we've gone through a rebrand with a new logo and brand identity. We've also refreshed our website and are continuing to increase our marketing and social media presence.



Photo: A donation box for public donations in the Bedminster Aldi store.



Photo: A donation box in the Sikh Temple in Easton.

## Community venues:

We now provide free period products in **26 community venues** across Bristol. This us up from 20 venues in 2023. A map of where these can be found is on our website: [www.periodfriendlyplaces.org/period-boxes](http://www.periodfriendlyplaces.org/period-boxes).

These include libraries, community centres, youth clubs, health centres, places of worship, activity venues and food banks.

We've continued to build strong relationships with our community venues and look forward to helping more as our network grows.

While we're meeting current demand for the existing venues, we have a growing waiting list of community venues who have asked for our help. We'll need more donations and funding to allow us to continue strengthening and growing our network to help more people.

“ We're delighted to be working with Period Friendly Places - it's a fantastic scheme that has been great to have at our centre. Our users say how great is it to have period products available in the toilets to use for free. St Werburgh's Community Centre



Photo: A box of free period products available for people to use in the Trinity Centre.

## Did you know...

Bristol has the **3<sup>rd</sup>** highest rate of period poverty in England, Scotland and Wales

**41%**

of women and girls in Bristol have been unable to afford period products (higher than the national average of 27%).

**40%**

of Bristol students have missed school due to difficulties accessing period products.

### Corporate partners:

We're currently working with **3 corporate partners**: Hargreaves Lansdown, Burges Salmon and WSP. This year we've established more efficient ways of working together – their employees donate products and volunteer to help us distribute them.

Following our corporate breakfast event in November, we're thrilled Evelyn Partners will be joining as a new partner from January 2025. We also have others in the pipeline and look forward to working with more partners in 2025. They're an essential part of our network, providing us with volunteers to help distribute products, and a source of products through their employee donations.

*Photo: Donation box at Hargreaves Lansdown*



*Photo: Period products being distributed through the FareShare South West Christmas hamper campaign.*

### Other highlights:

**Education** – we've established a connection with Bristol City Council's Healthy Schools initiative who are sharing our details and raising awareness with pupils. There is more work in progress around this as we continue to scope out ways to tackle period stigma through education.

We welcomed **3 new trustees** in summer 2024, taking us up to **8**. They all bring specialist skills, knowledge and passion for the cause. We also have **2 part-time co-ordinators**.

We partnered with the FareShare South West Christmas hamper campaign which provided period products to **600 families** in need over Christmas.

**Bristol's City Girl network** – we've established a connection with their community group who support and empower women in Bristol.

### Looking forward to 2025:

#### • Broadening our network

- Corporate partner growth - Evelyn Partners are joining us, and Bristol's City Girl network have teamed up to support us. We also have others in the pipeline and look forward to working with more partners in 2025.
- Pilot with FareShare South West – beginning in January 2025, this will allow us to reach different areas of Bristol by testing the supply of products through their existing distribution network.
- Increase our community venues – to help more people in need by supplying more venues with free products.

#### • Increase awareness – implementing new social media and marketing strategy for better online awareness

• **Operations** – we're in the process of securing more storage space in central Bristol which will improve our distribution efficiency and costs. We'll be advertising and asking for more ongoing volunteering opportunities to help with our distribution network as well as other tasks.

• **Education** – we're continuing to scope out ways to tackle period stigma through education. We'll be working with schools and the council for feedback on our previous education programme with the aim to improve and redeliver.

• **Fundraising** – we're continuing to look for more ways of raising money to cover our core costs and buy product for distribution. Raising more money will allow us to make a bigger impact to people in need.

**Thank you!** Together with the help of our volunteers, corporate partners, donors and supporters we're helping those who need it most. If you're interested in getting involved or have any questions, please email us:

**[periodfriendlyplaces@gmail.com](mailto:periodfriendlyplaces@gmail.com)**