

Dover Outreach Centre

Judith Shilling

Chair of Trustees, Dover Outreach Centre

The aim of Dover Outreach Centre is to support people on their journey to a better life. We believe in giving people in need a hand up rather than a hand out, and we offer this in a number of ways.

Drop in Centre

The centre is open five days a week and has a range of facilities for anyone who visits. These range from showers and a laundry service to access to computers and phones, as well as several health services. We have recently engaged a resettlement support worker who helps foreign nationals return to their country.

Winter Night Shelter

The night shelter operates from December to March in a ten-bedroomed property in Dover. Meals are prepared and delivered by teams of volunteers. Most residents are found somewhere to live before they leave. Outside the night shelter months, the rooms are used by DDC for emergency accommodation.

Accommodation

We lease three properties in addition to the one running the night shelter, which offer a total of forty-four beds. Victory House and Roman Quay are for those with high support needs, and Oban House is for those with medium/low support needs. We are actively looking to find properties that our residents can move on to where they can thrive, living independently, with minimal support being the goal.

Sunrise Café

The Café has been open since 2022 and operates a “pay what you can afford” approach. It is open to all, and we have a

good number of loyal customers as well as those who have no way of paying for food.

Foodbank

We've recently brought the Dover Foodbank under our umbrella. It continues to provide food for those in an emergency, and last year it moved into permanent premises at the Charlton Centre.

The Bridge

On Sunday afternoons, this group meets at Victory House to share faith stories and discuss Christianity. It is currently running an Alpha Course.

Personnel

We have nineteen employees (fifteen full time) across the organisation and governance is offered by seven trustees along with our Chief Executive Officer.



Some of the volunteers at Dover Foodbank