



PLEASE START COLLECTING IN AID OF THE VULNERABLE FAMILIES IN FIFE

Dear Members and Staff,

I am organising a collection again this year for Homestart Glenrothes for vulnerable families in Fife. Once again the children of these families will not be having much of a Christmas without donations of presents and treats. There are a lot of vulnerable parents who will not receive anything either unless we can arrange something for them too. Sadly, this year, many families are living in desperate circumstances. We have made a real difference in the past. They are now counting on us. Everything donated is given straight to the families.

WHAT IS NEEDED?

- Toys, books, games, new clothes, pajamas, jewelry etc. or any fun presents for children of all ages (including teenagers);
- Presents for the parents – mainly Mums this year;
- Christmas treats e.g. selection boxes, tins of biscuits, sweets and perhaps savoury treats which are not too perishable;
- Christmas wrapping paper or gift bags ; and
- **Cash donations** – these are used to buy Asda vouchers for food as food banks are under huge pressure and the number of visits is restricted. It also provides an emergency fund to help families who need urgent help. It has been used in the past to buy duvets for children who were sleeping with only a sheet and I am now told that some children do not even have beds. **Members can donate via their Faculty Services Ltd account (just email me with the amount and your code) or anyone can do so via a cheque payable to Faculty Services Ltd. Please complete a gift aid form (<https://intranet.advocates.org.uk/MEMBERS/Pages/MembersHomePage.aspx>) if you have not done so before and send it back to me – this makes a huge difference.**

WHERE, WHEN AND HOW?

Thanks to the Faculty and the unwavering support from Scott and his team we can use storage from the **10 December 2018- 15 December 2018**. You can hand donations in to **Faculty Reception during this period**. If you use the bag service you can send items in with your bag during that week. **Cash – anytime!**

On **Saturday 15 December 2018** you can bring things into Parliament House in the morning (**10am-12noon**) after which the plan is to load up the Faculty van and have the donations driven straight to Fife.

Thank you to everyone who has offered support so far and for the fantastic response in the past years. Homestart Glenrothes and the families are very grateful and relieved that we are going to help them again.

Let's make the season as happy as we can for these families. A little help or small gesture at this stressful time could be enough to make sure a family stays intact.

MARIA MAGUIRE QC (maria.maguire@advocates.org.uk)

