

On Wednesday 23 December Francis Maude Minister for the Cabinet Office visited The Passage he is pictured below serving a homeless person in our day centre.

Message from Francis Maude

I know this Christmas many of you will be working hard to bring a bit of cheer to those people who might otherwise be left out of the celebrations.



Nick Hurd and I have both been enormously impressed with what your organisations have achieved in every part of the country – often stepping in and quite literally changing lives where the state has tried and failed. This kind of social action, the culture of volunteerism and philanthropy are at the very heart of the Big Society, and next year we will continue to do everything we can to support your hard work and make sure your efforts don't go unnoticed.



Francis Maude with Roger Clark deputy CEO of The Passage

Roger Clark said of the visit "Francis and his colleagues at the Cabinet Office were incredibly generous with the donation of gifts for our clients for Christmas as well as Francis getting stuck into helping with in our breakfast service and the associated mountain of washing up!

We believe here at The Passage that we reflect the 'Big Society' in its purest form with a ratio of 3:1 volunteers to staff supporting some of the most vulnerable people in society so it was appropriate that one of the government's biggest advocates spent some time in the lead up to the festive period with us."