

BABY BASICS MK

England & Wales · Charity number 1064952

Details

Other names	MILTON KEYNES PREGNANCY CRISIS CENTRE
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1997-10-21
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Kings Church Community Centre Creed Street Wolverton Milton Keynes MK12 5LY
Phone	01908 411300
Website	http://www.babybasicsmk.org.uk

Activities

Objects: 1.THE PREVENTION OR RELIEF OF FINANCIAL HARDSHIP, POVERTY OR DISTRESS, AMONG PEOPLE LIVING OR WORKING IN MILTON KEYNES AND THE SURROUNDING AREAS, BY PROVIDING SUCH PERSONS WITH CHILDREN'S CLOTHING, TOYS AND RELATED CHILDREN'S FURNITURE WHICH THEY COULD NOT OTHERWISE AFFORD THROUGH LACK OF MEANS AND BY THE RECYCLING AND PROVISION OF FURNITURE, CLOTHES AND OTHER ITEMS SPECIFICALLY RELATED TO THE NEEDS OF YOUNG CHILDREN. 2.THE PROMOTION OF SUCH OTHER CHARITABLE PURPOSES WHICH MAY CONVENIENTLY BE CARRIED ON IN CONNECTION WITH THE ABOVE OBJECTS.

Activities: Offers non-judgemental support to women and men in Milton Keynes and surrounding areas by providing used baby cloths and equipment to those in need.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** MILTON KEYNES
- Bedford
- Buckinghamshire
- Central Bedfordshire
- Milton Keynes
- Northamptonshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£40,141	£29,882	-	-
2024-03-31	£43,973	£26,527	-	-
2023-03-31	£34,461	£26,437	-	-
2022-03-31	£38,279	£20,917	-	-
2021-03-31	£19,625	£15,187	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
SHAARON LORRAINE FORBES	Chair	2013-08-08
Louise Julia Cusdin		2016-01-01
Philip Andrew Verity		2025-05-06
Sarah Elizabeth McGrory		2018-12-13

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1064952

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025
FOR
BABY BASICS MK

Rawlinson Pryde & Partners
Chartered Certified Accountants
Argent House
5 Goldington Road
Bedford
Bedfordshire
MK40 3JY

BABY BASICS MK

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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BABY BASICS MK

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2005.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1064952

Principal address

MK Charity Hub
Barford, Galley Hill,
Milton Keynes
MK11 1PE

Trustees

S L Forbes - Chair
S E McGrory - Trustee
P A Verity – Trustee

Volunteers

E Amartey - Treasurer

Independent examiner

Rawlinson Pryde & Partners
Chartered Certified Accountants
Argent House
5 Goldington Road
Bedford
Bedfordshire, MK40 3JY

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust (resolution and amended deed adopted February 2017) and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are appointed after being interviewed by the panel of trustees then voted upon and appointed.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

Baby Basics MK receives donations, sorts and prepares these donations into gift packages, and gives these to those in need.

Network of Referrals

All of this is done through referrals from Health Professionals, Children Centres, Nurseries, Churches, Social Services, MK University Hospital and General Practitioners and the like across Milton Keynes.

MK Charity Hub

Baby Basics MK is situated in the Milton Keynes Charity Hub, alongside Foodbank MK and Girl Pack, which is sponsored by Milton Keynes Council.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Summary of the objectives of the charity set out in its document

a) The prevention of relief of financial hardship, poverty or distress, among people living or working in Milton Keynes and the surrounding areas, by providing such persons with children's clothing, toys and related children's furniture which they could not otherwise afford through lack of means and by the recycling and provision of furniture, clothes and other items specifically related to the needs of young people.

b) The promotion of such other charitable purposes which may conveniently be carried on in connection with the above objectives.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objectives

What a year it has been for **Baby Basics MK!**

From our early days as a small, volunteer-led project, the charity has grown into a vibrant, community-driven organisation. A pivotal grant of **£18,563** from the **Milton Keynes Community Foundation** enabled us to secure a part-time paid role as demand increased, providing stability and professional oversight. Today, our work continues to be powered by the generosity of individuals, companies and local businesses who believe passionately in our mission.

At the heart of Baby Basics MK is an extraordinary team of volunteers. Their passion, dedication and diverse skills make everything we do possible. Thanks to them, our reach has expanded, our services have strengthened and our impact across Milton Keynes continues to grow in remarkable ways.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

The year **2024-25** has been one of our most dynamic, demanding and impactful to date. The ongoing financial crisis has placed immense strain on families – rising living costs and unaffordable bills have pushed more people into hardship. Against this backdrop, Baby Basics MK has stepped up with determination and compassion, ensuring families receive the support they urgently need.

Leadership Transition

This year marked a major milestone in our journey. We extend our deepest appreciation to **Melanie Lewis**, who led Baby Basics MK 2014/15 to 2023/24, laying exceptional foundations and raising the charity profile across the Milton Keynes.

In 2024 we were thrilled to welcome **Hannah Forbes** as our new project manager. With her background as a former community mobiliser, Hannah brings fresh energy, vision and an exciting drive for the next chapter of the charity.

Our Impact at a Glance (2024/25)

- **3117 children supported** through our core services
- Powerful feedback from families, NHS professionals and Family Centre, reinforcing the essential role we play in alleviating poverty and supporting child wellbeing
- A major move into **new premises** alongside the Charity Hub, provided by Milton Keynes Council – an exciting step securing our long term future and enhancing how we serve families.

Top Up Shop: Continued Growth

Launched in September 2021 in partnership with **King's Community Centre**, the top up shop has become a lifeline for families. For a small donation, parents can access 10-20 essential baby items including nappies, wipes and food – support that has never been more needed.

In 2024/25 the Top Up Shop supported:

- **1281 children**

With the cost-of-living crisis continuing to tighten its grip, the Top Up Shop has proven invaluable, offering dignity, choice and practical help to families navigating enormous financial pressure.

Looking Ahead

This year has been transformative for Baby Basics MK – marked by leadership renewal, strengthened partnership with Family Centres, the move into new premises and continued growth in the number of families we support.

As we look to the future we are *delighted* to announce the creation of a **salaried Warehouse Lead** role. This new position will support our Project Manager and help steer the charity into its next phase of development – ensuring we remain resilient, responsive and ready to meet rising community need.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

The trustees seek to keep 2 months reserves.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 13-12-2025 and signed on its behalf by:


.....

S L Forbes – Chair of Trustees

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

BABY BASICS MK

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages five to seven.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I have examined your charity's accounts as required under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. that accounting records were not kept as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. that the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. that the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; or
4. that there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Tracey Walker

T J Walker (Mrs)
Rawlinson Pryde & Partners
Chartered Certified Accountants
Argent House
5 Goldington Road
Bedford
Bedfordshire
MK40 3JY

Date: 13 December 2025

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AT 31 MARCH 2025

	31.3.25 Unrestricted Funds £	31.3.24 Unrestricted Funds £
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>76,336</u>	<u>66,077</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS	<u>76,336</u>	<u>66,077</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>76,336</u>	<u>66,077</u>
FUNDS		
Unrestricted funds	<u>76,336</u>	<u>66,077</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>76,336</u>	<u>66,077</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 13/12/2025 and were signed on its behalf by:



S L Forbes -Chair of Trustees



S E McGrory -Trustee

BABY BASICS MK

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
RECEIPTS		
Donations	35,735	37,678
Top up shop sales	3,235	3,159
Clothes recycling and cash fundraising	<u>1,071</u>	<u>2,386</u>
	40,041	43,223
Grant	<u>100</u>	<u>750</u>
Total receipts	<u>40,141</u>	<u>43,973</u>
PAYMENTS		
Wages	20,001	19,250
Training	342	-
Insurance	700	668
Telephone	391	389
Sundries	410	77
Information technology	852	601
Accountancy	-	1,212
Bank charges	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>
	22,703	22,202
Costs of charitable activities		
Supplies – general, mattresses, milk powder and	2,259	250
nappies Supplies – toys and gifts for referrals christmas	840	-
hampers Supplies – top up shop	<u>4,080</u>	<u>4,075</u>
Total payments	<u>29,882</u>	<u>26,527</u>
Net receipts	<u>10,259</u>	<u>17,446</u>
Cash Funds last year	66,077	48,631
Cash Funds this year	<u>76,336</u>	<u>66,077</u>

Accounts

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024
FOR
BABY BASICS MK

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BABY BASICS MK

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1064952

Principal address

C/O Kings Church Community Centre
Creed Street
Wolverton
Milton Keynes
MK12 5LY

Trustees

S L Forbes - Chair
S E McGrory - Trustee
L J Cusdin – Trustee

Volunteers

D Parker - Treasurer

Independent examiner

Rawlinson Pryde & Partners
Chartered Certified Accountants
Argent House
5 Goldington Road
Bedford
Bedfordshire, MK40 3JY

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

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Trustees are appointed after being interviewed by the panel of trustees then voted upon and appointed.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

Baby Basics MK receives donations, sorts and prepares these donations into gift packages, and gives these to those in need.

Network of Referrals:

All of this is done through referrals from Health Professionals, Children Centres, Nurseries, Churches, Social Services, MK University Hospital and General Practitioners and the like across Milton Keynes.

MK Charity Hub:

Baby Basics MK is situated in the Milton Keynes Charity Hub, alongside Foodbank MK, Xtra Project, St Marks Meals, which is sponsored by Milton Keynes Council.

King's Church MK/King's Community Centre:

King's Church give free office space to Baby Basics MK for daily use and work together supporting the local community.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Summary of the objectives of the charity set out in its document

a) The prevention of relief of financial hardship, poverty or distress, among people living or working in Milton Keynes and the surrounding areas, by providing such persons with children's clothing, toys and related children's furniture which they could not otherwise afford through lack of means and by the recycling and provision of furniture, clothes and other items specifically related to the needs of young people.

b) The promotion of such other charitable purposes which may conveniently be carried on in connection with the above objects.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objectives

Baby Basics MK was first established and funded on a voluntary by a dedicated project manager who played a pivotal role in establishing the charity's core operations and services. The voluntary nature of this role reflected our early stage and resource constraints. As the need for Baby Basics MK services expanded it became apparent that we needed to ensure consistent and professional oversight. We applied for a grant from Milton Keynes Community Foundation as a paid part-time role was necessary to keep pace with the increasing demand. This was particularly critical as our operations grew and we sought to ensure that the charity could continue to effectively meet the needs of families across Milton Keynes.

Baby Basics continues now funded via regular financial donations from individuals and companies/businesses of varying sizes.

The success of the charity is deeply intertwined with the dedication and passion of our volunteers, whose unwavering commitment to helping families across Milton Keynes continues to drive our mission forward. Their enthusiasm, selflessness and invaluable contribution have been integral to the services we provide.

Over the course of the past year our volunteer base has expanded allowing us to reach more families and create a more resilient support network within our community. As we continue to grow we are grateful for the diverse skills and backgrounds that our hard working volunteers bring, enriching Baby Basics Mk and its impact.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

2023-24 has been another exceptionally busy and challenging year for Baby Basics MK. The ongoing financial crisis has pushed many more families into poverty, increasing the demand for our services. As living costs soar and essential bills, such as utilities, become unaffordable the need for support has never been more pressing. Despite these challenges we are proud to report that Baby Basics MK has continued to make a significant and positive impact on the lives of families across Milton Keynes. We remain committed to providing vital services and support, helping those who are most vulnerable to navigate through these difficult times.

The following précis of the numbers of babies and children up to the age of 6 that we have helped since 2014 will best demonstrate this:

- 2014 - gave out 64 parcels to babies/children
- 2015 - gave out 486 parcels
- 2016 - gave out 650 parcels
- 2017 - 2019 gave an average of 1200 parcels each year
- 2020 - gave out 1600 parcels (start of lock down)
- 2021 - gave out 1931 parcels (start of Charity Hub)
- 2022 - gave out 2987 parcels
- 2023 - gave out 3711 parcels
- 2024 - figures exceeding last year and this Christmas looks to be our biggest yet with 288 parcels requested for Christmas referrals.

Baby Basics MK in the Charity Hub

Baby Basics MK foundational and ongoing role within the Milton Keynes Charity Hub has enabled us to provide and increase access for families in need. The integration of our services into this larger collaborative framework has been invaluable in reaching more families across the city.

The recognition and feedback we have received about our unique service from families and services/agencies: NHS, Family-Centres, etc, underscores the critical role Baby Basics MK plays within Milton Keynes and we are proud to continue being a lifeline for those who need our support.

Launch and Growth of Top Up Shop

Baby Basics MK launched a Top Up Shop in September 2021, in conjunction with King's Community Centre. A unique initiative designed to help families struggling to meet the basic needs of their children. Families are invited to give a small donation for a bag of 10 to 20 essential baby items, such as nappies, formula, wipes, food and other necessities. This service has been invaluable.

In the current financial crisis where the likes of utility bills have been devastating famines the demand for this Top Up Shop is substantial.

Top Up Shop has proven to be an incredibly popular and much needed service with the rising cost of living and utility bills taking a devastating toll on family budgets. In response we have worked tirelessly to ensure that we can meet the demand, adapting our operations to provide as much support as possible.

2022; 1202 top up bags were taken.

2023: 1801 top up bags were taken.

2024: 1203 top up bags taken to date

Conclusion

The persistent financial crisis is driving a constantly changing future, therefore Baby Basic MK is constantly changing to meet these needs. We are committed to expanding our services and adapting to the changing needs of families during these times. We will continue to rely on the generosity of our supporters, volunteers and staff to ensure that we can provide the vital help that families need to survive and thrive.

Awards

February 16th 2023 - Shaaron Forbes, Chair of Trustees, and a Baby Basics MK volunteer were presented to King Charles at the Charity Hub in recognition of the work Baby Basics MK does for the people of Milton Keynes. This was a part of King Charles visit to Milton Keynes in recognizing its new City status.

March 22nd 2023 - Shaaron Forbes, Chair of Trustees, and her husband were invited to 10 Downing Street for a Community Champions Reception in recognition of their charity work.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

The trustees seek to keep 2 months reserves.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on22/12/2024.....and signed on its behalf by:

SL Forbes
.....

S L Forbes – Chair of Trustees

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

BABY BASICS MK

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages five to ten.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I have examined your charity's accounts as required under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

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2. that the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. that the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; or
4. that there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Tracey Walker

T J Walker (Mrs)
Rawlinson Pryde & Partners
Chartered Certified Accountants
Argent House
5 Goldington Road
Bedford
Bedfordshire
MK40 3JY

Date: 22nd December 2024

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AT 31 MARCH 2024

	31.3.24 Unrestricted funds £	31.3.23 Unrestricted £
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>66,077</u>	<u>48,631</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS	<u>66,077</u>	<u>48,631</u>
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NET ASSETS	<u>66,077</u>	<u>48,631</u>
FUNDS		
Unrestricted funds	<u>66,077</u>	<u>48,631</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>66,077</u>	<u>48,631</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on.....^{22/12/2024}..... and were signed on its behalf by:

SL Forbes

.....

S L Forbes -Chair of Trustees

S E McGrory

.....

S E McGrory -Trustee

BABY BASICS MK

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
RECEIPTS		
Donations	37,678	28,985
Top up shop sales	3,159	2,253
Clothes recycling and cash fundraising	<u>2,386</u>	<u>2,723</u>
	43,223	33,961
Grant	750	500
	<u>43,973</u>	<u>34,461</u>
Total receipts	43,973	34,461
PAYMENTS		
Wages	19,250	19,250
Insurance	668	577
Advertising	-	325
Telephone	389	365
Sundries	77	740
Information technology	601	960
Accountancy	1,212	1,074
Bank charges	5	5
	<u>22,202</u>	<u>23,296</u>
Costs of charitable activities		
Supplies – general and mattresses	250	248
Supplies – top up shop	4,075	2,893
	<u>26,527</u>	<u>26,437</u>
Total payments	26,527	26,437
Net receipts	<u>17,446</u>	<u>8,024</u>
Cash Funds last year	48,631	40,607
Cash Funds this year	66,077	48,631

Accounts

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023FOR
BABY BASICS MK

Rawlinson Pryde & Partners
Chartered Certified Accountants
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BABY BASICS MK

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1064952

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C/O Kings Church Community Centre
Creed Street
Wolverton
Milton Keynes
MK12 5LY

Trustees

S L Forbes - Chair

S E McGrory - Trustee

L J Cusdin – Trustee

Volunteers

D Parker - Treasurer

Independent examiner Rawlinson
Pryde & Partners Chartered Certified
Accountants
Argent House
5 Goldington Road
Bedford, MK40 3JY

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

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Baby Basics MK receives donations, sorts and prepares these donations into gift packages, and gives these to those in need.

BABY BASICS MK

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Network of Referrals:

All of this is done through referrals from Health Professionals, Children Centres, Nurseries, Churches, Social Services, MK University Hospital and General Practitioners and the like across Milton Keynes.

MK Charity Hub:

Baby Basics MK is situated in the Milton Keynes Charity Hub, alongside Foodbank MK, Xtra Project, St Marks Meals, which is sponsored by Milton Keynes Council.

King's Church MK/King's Community Centre:

King's Church give free office space to Baby Basics MK for daily use and work together supporting the local community.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Summary of the objectives of the charity set out its governing document

a) The prevention of relief of financial hardship, poverty or distress, among people living or working in Milton Keynes and the surrounding areas, by providing such persons with children's clothing, toys and related children's furniture which they could not otherwise afford through lack of means and by the recycling and provision of furniture, clothes and other items specifically related to the needs of young people.

b) The promotion of such other charitable purposes which may conveniently be carried on in connection with the above objects.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objectives

GIVING OUR BABYS THE BASICS FOR THE BEST START IN LIFE

Baby Basics MK is a non-profit charity dedicated to supporting families living in Milton Keynes and the immediate surrounding area who are in financial hardship.

All families can experience times of difficulty.

For some families, these times can be overcome by the support of friends, wider family and access to services. For others they see no way out of the situation and the weight of their problems cause them to feel: Frustrated, afraid, not good enough, overwhelmed, isolated etc.

Our team work tirelessly with the community and local businesses to re-use excellent condition second hand and new items that are donated to create gift packages that give families everything they need to start life with a new-born or support families with children from 0-6 years. We offer a wide range of essential items, some examples are; clothing, toys, sleeping equipment, feeding equipment, toiletries, and baby food/formula.

Individuals and or families are referred to Baby Basics MK by professionals and we provide free of charge with the items they need. This may be a one-off gift or continued support with clothing etc. until their situation changes and improves.

Baby Basics MK also works with many other agencies across Milton Keynes, regularly referring our clients to these agencies for further support needed.

BABY BASICS MK

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Baby Basics MK has a part-time Project Manager initially via a grant from Milton Keynes Community Foundation and now continuing from donations.

There are many regular financial donations from individuals and companies/businesses of varying sizes that help to fund all of Baby Basics MK activities.

Baby Basics MK is planning to extend its fundraising events next year in 2024.

Baby Basics MK success is in no small part due to its enthusiastic volunteers who give their time and energy freely to help families across Milton Keynes. Our volunteer base has grown substantially in the past year, which has also involved training and support.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

2023 has been another very busy year with the financial crisis bringing so many into the realms of poverty and need. The following précis of the numbers of babies and children up to the age of 6 that we have helped since 2014 will best demonstrate this:

- 2014 - gave out 64 parcels to babies/children
- 2015 - gave out 486 parcels
- 2016 - gave out 650 parcels
- 2017 - 2019 gave an average of 1200 parcels each year
- 2020 - gave out 1600 parcels (start of lock down)
- 2021 - gave out 1931 parcels (start of Charity Hub)
- 2022 - gave out 2987 parcels
- 2023 - year to date 3389 parcels. Expected to finish at over 3500 plus parcels as we already have around 200 Christmas referrals.

Baby Basics MK central and foundation role in the Milton Keynes Charity Hub has continued to grow and widen the use of Baby Basics across Milton Keynes with NHS midwives quoting "The families could not survive without this service; it is the only charity of its kind in the City".

Baby Basic MK launched a Top Up Shop in September 2021, where families give a small donation for a bag of 10 or 20 additional baby items to top up their needs.

In the current financial crisis where the likes of utility bills have been devastating families the demand for this Top Up Shop is substantial.

2022; 1202 top up bags were taken, and in

2023; 1723 top up bags have been taken to date.

AWARDS:

February 16th 2023 - Shaaron Forbes, Chair of Trustees, and a Baby Basics MK volunteer were presented to King Charles III at the Charity Hub in recognition of the work Baby Basics MK does for the people of Milton Keynes. This was a part of King Charles III visit to Milton Keynes in recognizing its new City status.

March 22nd 2023 - Shaaron Forbes, Chair of Trustees, and her husband were invited to 10 Downing Street for a Community Champions Reception in recognition of their charity work.

BABY BASICS MK

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

The trustees seek to keep 2 months reserves.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 12th January 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

SL Forbes

.....

S L Forbes – Chair of Trustees

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
BABY BASICS MK

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages five to ten.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I have examined your charity's accounts as required under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. that accounting records were not kept as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. that the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. that the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; or
4. that there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Tracey Walker

T J Walker (Mrs)
Rawlinson Pryde & Partners
Chartered Certified Accountants
Argent House
5 Goldington Road
Bedford Bedfordshire
MK40 3JY

Date: 12th January 2024

BABY BASICS MK

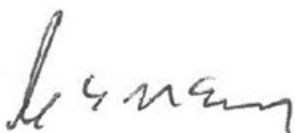
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31
MARCH 2023

		31.3.23	31.3.22
		Unrestricted	Unrestricted
		funds	funds
	Notes	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank and in hand		48,631	40,607
NET CURRENT ASSETS		48,631	40,607
NET ASSETS		48,631	40,607
FUNDS	8		
Unrestricted funds		48,631	40,607
TOTAL FUNDS		48,631	40,607

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 12th January 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

SL Forbes

.....
S L Forbes - Chair of Trustees



.....
S E McGrory -Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

BABY BASICS MK

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
RECEIPTS		
Donations	28,985	18,347
Clothes recycling and cash fundraising	2,723	3,566
Top up shop sales	2,253	1,366
	33,961	23,279
Grant	500	15,000
Total receipts	34,461	38,279
PAYMENTS		
Wages	19,250	17,500
Insurance	577	505
Advertising	325	-
Telephone	365	437
Sundries	740	692
Information technology	960	571
Costs of charitable activities	23,296	19,709
Costs of the year	1,074	-
Bank charges	245	364
Supplies - general	5	4
Supplies - mattresses	-	97
Supplies - milk powder	-	401
Supplies - top up shop	2,893	347
	3,141	1,208
Total payments	26,437	20,917
Net receipts	8,024	17,362
Cash Funds last year	40,607	23,245
Cash funds this year	48,631	40,607

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1064952

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022
FOR
BABY BASICS MK

BABY BASICS MK

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

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Report of the Trustees	1 to 4
Independent Examiner's Report	5
Receipts and payments account	6
Statement of assets and liabilities	7

BABY BASICS MK

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2005.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1064952

Principal address

C/O Kings Church Community Centre
Creed Street
Wolverton
Milton Keynes
MK12 5LY

Trustees

S L Forbes – Chair
S E McGrory – Trustee
L J Cusdin - Trustee

Volunteers

D Parker - Treasurer

Independent examiner

Rawlinson Pryde & Partners
Chartered Certified Accountants
Argent House
5 Goldington Road
Bedford
Bedfordshire
MK40 3JY

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust (resolution and amended deed adopted February 2017) and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are appointed after being interviewed by the panel of trustees then voted upon and appointed.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

BABY BASICS MK

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

Baby Basics MK receives donations, sorts and prepares these donations into gift packages, and gives these to those in need.

Network of Referrals:

All of this is done through referrals from Health Professionals, Children Centres, Nurseries, Churches, Social Services, MK University Hospital and General Practitioners and the like across Milton Keynes.

MK Charity Hub:

Baby Basics MK is situated in the Milton Keynes Charity Hub, alongside Foodbank MK, Xtra Project, St Marks Meals, which is sponsored by Milton Keynes Council.

King's Church MK/King's Community Centre:

King's Church give free office space to Baby Basics MK for daily use and work together supporting the local community.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Summary of the object of the charity set out in its governing document

a) The prevention of relief of financial hardship, poverty or distress, among people living or working in Milton Keynes and the surrounding areas, by providing such persons with children's clothing, toys and related children's furniture which they could not otherwise afford through lack of means and by the recycling and provision of furniture, clothes and other items specifically related to the needs of young people.

b) The promotion of such other charitable purposes which may conveniently be carried on in connection with the above objects.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects

GIVING OUR BABIES THE BASICS FOR THE BEST START IN LIFE

Baby Basics MK is a non-profit charity dedicated to supporting families living in Milton Keynes and the immediate surrounding area who are in financial hardship.

All families can experience times of difficulty.

For some families, these times can be overcome by the support of friends, wider family and access to services.

For others they see no way out of the situation and the weight of their problems cause them to feel:

Frustrated, afraid, not good enough, overwhelmed, isolated etc.

Our team work tirelessly with the community and local businesses to re-use excellent condition second hand and new items that are donated to create gift packages that give families everything they need to start life with a new-born or support families with children from 0-6 years. We offer a wide range of essential items, some examples are; clothing, toys, sleeping equipment, feeding equipment, toiletries, and baby food/formula.

BABY BASICS MK

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

Individuals and or families are referred to Baby Basics MK by professionals and we provide free of charge with the items they need. This may be a one-off gift or continued support with clothing etc. until their situation changes and improves.

Baby Basics MK also works with many other agencies across Milton Keynes, regularly referring our clients to these agencies for further support needed.

Baby Basics MK has been able to employ a part-time Project Manager through a grant from Milton Keynes Community Foundation.

There are also many regular financial donations from individuals and companies/businesses of varying sizes.

Baby Basics MK has also arranged various fundraising events prior to Covid lockdown, but none since. We plan to start some of these again in the future.

Baby Basics MK success is in no small part due to its enthusiastic volunteers who give their time and energy freely to help families across Milton Keynes. During Covid Baby Basics lost a number of its regular volunteers (like all charities) and has had to recruit and retrain new volunteers to meet the ever-increasing demand.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

2022 has been an exceptionally busy year and the following brief precis of the numbers of babies and children up to the age of 6 that we have helped since 2014 will best demonstrate this:

- 2014 - gave out 64 parcels to babies/children
- 2015 - gave out 486 parcels
- 2016 - gave out 650 parcels
- 2017 - 2019 gave an average of 1200 each year
- 2020 - gave out 1600 parcels (start of lock down)
- 2021 - gave out 1931 parcels (start of Charity Hub)
- 2022 - gave out 2987 parcels

As lockdown started in March 2020 Baby Basics and Foodbank came together with Milton Keynes Council to form a central Charity Hub, providing for all those in ever increasing need across the City. This involved Baby Basics and the other charities involved, eventually moving into a large single warehouse provided by Milton Keynes Council. Milton Keynes Council also helped with all the moving of racking and stocks etc.

This has further widened the use of Baby Basics across Milton Keynes with NHS Midwives quoting "The families could not survive without this service, it is the only charity of its kind in the City"

2021 Milton Keynes became one of Britain's first centres for receiving refugees from Afghanistan. In that year we clothed 368 Afghanistan children.

2022 As the financial crisis has hit Britain and the rest of the world, along with the many Ukrainian Refugees that have come into Milton Keynes, Baby Basics has jumped again in size to giving parcels to a massive 2987.

BABY BASICS MK

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

AWARDS:

In June 2021 Shaaron Forbes, Chair of Trustees, was awarded a British Empire Medal for her charity works, of which Baby Basics was a large part.

In the same year Baby Basics was also given a Charity award presented by the Mayor of Milton Keynes.

2022 Shaaron was invited to Buckingham Palace Garden Party by Her Majesty the Queen, in recognition of her charity works.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

The trustees seek to keep 2 months reserves.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 24th March 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

SL Forbes

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S L Forbes – Chair of Trustees



.....

S E McGrory -Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
BABY BASICS MK

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022, which are set out on pages five to nine.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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Tracey Walker

T J Walker (Mrs)
Rawlinson Pryde & Partners
Chartered Certified Accountants
Argent House
5 Goldington Road
Bedford
Bedfordshire
MK40 3JY

Date: 24th March 2023

BABY BASICS MK

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AT 31 MARCH 2022

**UNRESTRICTED
FUNDS**
£

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash at bank and in hand

40,607

40,607

NET CURRENT ASSETS

40,607

NET ASSETS

40,607

FUNDS

Unrestricted funds

40,607

TOTAL FUNDS

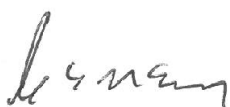
40,607

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 24th March 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

SL Forbes

.....

S L Forbes - Chair of Trustees



.....

S E McGrory -Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

BABY BASICS MK

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENT ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

**UNRESTRICTED
FUNDS
£**

RECEIPTS

Donations	18,347
Clothes recycling and cash fundraising	3,566
Top up shop sales	1,366
	23,279

Grant	15,000

Total receipts	38,279

PAYMENTS

Wages	17,500
Insurance	505
Telephone	437
Sundries	692
Information technology	571
Bank charges	4
	19,709

Costs of charitable activities

Supplies – general	363
Supplies – mattresses	97
Supplies – milk powder	401
Supplies – top up shop	347
	1,208

Total payments	20,917

Net receipts	17,362
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Cash funds last year	23,245

Cash funds this year	40,607

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