

# PORCH BOXES

England & Wales · Charity number 1089998

## Details

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**Other names** THE PORCH

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 2002-01-09

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** 14 Kenmor Avenue  
Bury  
BL8 2DY

**Phone** 01617643444

**Email** [michaelperrin@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:michaelperrin@tiscali.co.uk)

**Website** [www.porchboxes.org.uk](http://www.porchboxes.org.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE RELIEF OF POVERTY AND DISTRESS PRIMARILY AMONGST PEOPLES LIVING IN THE BURY AND ROCHDALE METROPOLITAN BOROUGHES IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY THE PROVISION OF FOOD, TOILETRIES AND OTHER ESSENTIAL GOODS

**Activities:** Porch Boxes uses gifts from community groups and purchased materials to provide packs of food and basic necessities to vulnerable people in crisis need via their caring referral agencies.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** BURY AND ROCHDALE METROPOLITAN BOROUGHES
- Bury
- Rochdale

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£41,775	£50,744	-	-
2024-12-31	£28,090	£41,962	-	-
2023-12-31	£30,605	£36,581	-	-
2022-12-31	£50,760	£21,236	-	-
2021-12-31	£42,892	£11,004	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>JULIA ELIZABETH ROWLANDS</b>	Chair	
ALAN WOOD		2016-03-14
ANDREW FREDERICK CLARK		2020-03-24
David Archer		2015-04-20
EILEEN SMITH		2016-03-14
Iain Hodcroft		2012-03-24
LAUREL AVERY		2016-03-14
MICHAEL THOMAS PERRIN		

**PORCH BOXES**

England & Wales - Charity number 1089998

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# Accounts

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providing crisis packs for those in need

PORCH BOXES

# ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS



2025

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### ***Cover Photo***

***Some of our volunteers ready for action!***

**Welcome 2026**

Welcome to our twenty sixth Annual Report.

It has been another busy year.

We live in challenging times, with the increases in energy prices, the rise in the cost of living plus extra strain on the benefit system causing so many people to turn to charities like ourselves for help with the basics.

I am proud to report that the team at Porch Boxes continue to work with dedication, enthusiasm and compassion. Offering much needed help to so many people in our area.

Again I would like to thank the countless numbers of people who have contributed to the work of Porch Boxes in so many ways this year.

Our committed team of volunteers meet on Wednesday mornings at the warehouse and last year packed and delivered on average around 62 bags per week. This number continues to fluctuate on a weekly basis.

Increasingly with the pressures of budget cuts affecting statutory services we have seen a change in the agencies using our service. Some continue to work from home and with some services having to make cuts to their operations. This continues to bring difficulties for their service users.

We continue to be a member of the Bury Community Support Network BCSN. All the various food groups working together sharing information, resources and support.

Many regular donors continue to support us financially which allows us the flexibility to purchase many more much needed items which are not usually donated. We have also been able to be more generous in the number of items in each food bag.

We continue with our provision of high calorie nutrition bags to elderly and vulnerable patients on their discharge from Fairfield Hospital. The contents of the bags have been agreed with nutrition experts at the NHS Foundation trust.

These remain tough times and the cost of purchasing pack contents has increased dramatically over the last year and thankfully the kindness and generosity of the people of Bury has also increased.

We are grateful to have the continued support from Bury Council. We could not operate without the use of part of one of their industrial units at Bradley Fold Trading Estate. This is our main distribution and work centre.

Our project 'Beds 4 Bury' which we started in early 2022 has been steadily growing. We have been able to expand this as 'bed poverty' is a real issue here in Bury. We have also been able to fund the purchase of other non food items for families due to the increased financial support we have been fortunate enough to receive.

This increased funding has left us in the fortunate position to continue to offer support for the purchase of food items to our partner food providers in Bury.

Following the rise in energy prices and the cost of living we have found increasing numbers of families and individuals needing help. Many people are finding it difficult to access services and staff able to help them with underlying problems creating a need for help with food provision.

We are often approached by individuals seeking help and we continue to signpost them to relevant agencies and groups offering access to food provision and advice. If they have difficulty accessing further help we will aim to meet their needs directly.

I am immensely proud to work with such an incredible team of volunteers who have continued to go the extra mile during this past year.

As always it remains a tremendous privilege to act as Chair to Porch Boxes and it is an honour to work with such a committed and dedicated group of volunteers who make a difference to the lives of so many people.



**Julia Rowlands**  
**Chair**

# Trustees' annual report for the period 1 January to 31 December 2025

## Reference and administration details

**Charity name:** Porch Boxes

**Other names by which  
Charity is known:** The Porch  
Porch Project

**Registered charity number:** 1089998

**Charity's principal address:** 46 Starling Road, Radcliffe M26 4LN

**Names of the charity trustees  
who manage the charity:** Julia Rowlands Chair  
Michael Perrin Treasurer  
Alan Wood Secretary  
Iain Hodcroft  
David Archer  
Laurel Avery  
Andy Clark  
Eileen Smith

**Website:** [www.porchboxes.org.uk](http://www.porchboxes.org.uk)

**Bank:** Santander UK plc, Bridle Road, Bootle L30 4GB

**Staff:** The charity has no paid staff.

## Structure, governance and management

## Description of the charity's trusts

### Type of governing document:

Constitution amended and adopted 21 May 2002

### How the charity is constituted:

Association consisting of

- individuals (over the age of 18 years) who are interested in furthering the work of the Charity and who have paid any annual subscription laid down from time to time by the Executive Committee [presently set at zero], and
- any body corporate or unincorporated association which is interested in furthering the Charity's work and has paid any annual subscription [presently set at zero] [any such body being called in this constitution a 'member organisation']

Individual members include those who by their presence at meetings or in other ways demonstrate their interest in furthering the work of the charity.

### Trustee selection methods:

Trustees are elected or re-elected annually at the Annual General Meeting held in Spring each year

### Additional governance issues:

- All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits. Agreed expenses incurred are reimbursed.
- In accordance with its Constitution, Porch Boxes co-operates with other agencies locally where they are undertaking work similar to that of Porch Boxes.
- Porch Boxes representatives have attended and are willing to attend meetings and forums as required in order to share information relevant to our users and those with a shared interest in countering food poverty.
- The Trustees have identified major risks to the achievement of the charity's objectives and have put in place insurance, policies or practices to seek to avoid the objectives of the charity being frustrated. Policies include Diversity, Equal Opportunities, Health and Safety, Safeguarding, Confidentiality and Support, Supervision and Training of Volunteers.

## Objectives and activities

### Summary of the objects of Porch Boxes set out in the Constitution:

The Charity's objects are the relief of poverty and distress primarily amongst people living in the Bury and Rochdale Metropolitan Boroughs in particular but not exclusively by the provision of food, toiletries and other essential goods.

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

In planning the activities for the year, the Trustees kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at meetings of the Management Committee.

We continued to promote our service with agencies working with vulnerable people in the areas indicated by our Constitution. We do not turn down occasional requests for assistance from contacts within neighbouring areas.

New agencies are provided with service on request. Our service is available to everyone who falls within our charitable objective, i.e. all vulnerable people in crisis need. Grant applications are made when appropriate.

Operations are massively supported by gifts in kind. The work of the charity is publicised amongst community groups such as Churches and schools whenever possible. Our website has proved to be an invaluable path for many agencies, community groups and others to learn of our work and offer support as financial donors, by offering gifts in-kind, and by volunteering. An on-line donation and gift-aiding capability is available.

A great contribution is made by volunteers who serve as Trustees, as packers, as deliverers of packs, as people who collect donations in kind, as publicists in various ways, as fundraisers and as administrators. We thank all these people, without whom there would be no "Porch Boxes".

We are increasingly being asked to support individuals in crisis need directly, we have experienced a growing number of telephone requests from such people. Where there is a need for a direct access response, we endeavor to signpost individuals to other appropriate agencies. However if this is not possible then Porch Boxes will meet that direct need for help.

**Additional details of objectives and activities**

**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year:**

The following section sets out the Trustees' assessment of the achievement of the charity this year.

The referral agencies through which we support vulnerable people in crisis need continue to report a high degree of satisfaction with the service provided. In particular, they continue to report that Porch Boxes makes a huge difference in the lives of their service users.

Porch Boxes supports many agencies, and assists them in meeting their own objectives. Thus assisting them in encouraging healthy lifestyles, returning vulnerable people to sustainable lifestyles, preventing crime, reducing dependence on drugs and alcohol and avoiding destitution.

Porch Boxes provides an outlet for the spontaneous urge of many in the community to provide practical support to people in crisis.

Throughout the year, Porch Boxes has continued to work closely with other groups who are planning and working to support local vulnerable people in crisis need.

Our partners include local churches, schools, individual teams within Bury Council and local foodbanks via BCSN.

The website is proving valuable and the Trustees are grateful for the work that goes into maintaining this.

## **Financial review**

### **Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves:**

Our reserve policy is always to have sufficient funds for known commitments and to allow for the purchase of items for crisis packs and volunteer expenses. The reserve fund of £60,000 has been put in place to

protect the Charity should the rent free use of the Bradley Fold Unit be withdrawn at any point in the future. It is intended to cover accommodation costs in the short term and has been estimated as 24 months at an assumed monthly rent of £2,500.

#### **Details of any funds materially in deficit:**

Not applicable

#### **Further financial review details:**

The Accounts for 2025 are included in this Report. They have been scrutinised by an Independent Examiner, whose signature is held on the original documents. Further comments on the finances of the charity are included as notes to the Accounts, and a commentary in the Assessment of Achievement section of this Report. Those making financial gifts are listed in the Thanks section of this Report (although individual donors are not named there).

#### **Assessment of achievement**

The Trustees have established a number of measures to assess the success of Porch Boxes' service. Those measures and our assessment against them are set out briefly.

#### **Measure 1: Satisfaction with service provided to be assured, as expressed by referral agencies**

- Unsolicited testimony to the importance of the work of the charity continues to be received.
- Communications with us bear testimony to the responsive nature of the service in providing what customers say they want. They also show that agencies are convinced that the contribution made by Porch Boxes to their work makes a real difference in the lives of their vulnerable clients.

#### **Measure 2: Weekly deliveries**

- The following numbers are for weekly parcels packed and delivered. This doesn't include additional items such as nappies and baby items. The numbers on the chart below for 2025 are purely food parcels/bags.
- The data for the additional items are now collated separately

## **2025**

Date	Numbers		Date	Numbers		Date	Numbers
1 <sup>st</sup> January	Closed		5 <sup>th</sup> February	61		5 <sup>th</sup> March	69
8 <sup>th</sup> January	67		12 <sup>th</sup> February	34		12 <sup>th</sup> March	58
15 <sup>th</sup> January	117		19 <sup>th</sup> February	61		19 <sup>th</sup> March	47
22 <sup>nd</sup> January	56		26 <sup>th</sup> February	68		26 <sup>th</sup> March	59
29 <sup>th</sup> January	67						
<b>Total</b>	<b>307</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>224</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>233</b>

### Easter Eggs 2025

Agency	Number
WOW	21
CAP	Chocs for hampers
Resettlement	165
Travellers Service	8
Lily B	Chocs for hampers
Bury Social Care	95
Spring Lane	110
Plus individual families	49 + Unknown
<b>Total</b>	<b>454</b>

Date	Numbers		Date	Numbers		Date	Numbers
2 <sup>nd</sup> April	47		7 <sup>th</sup> May	57		4 <sup>th</sup> June	72
9 <sup>th</sup> April	53		14 <sup>th</sup> May	32		11 <sup>th</sup> June	23
16 <sup>th</sup> April	37		21 <sup>st</sup> May	57		18 <sup>th</sup> June	67
23 <sup>rd</sup> April	53		28 <sup>th</sup> May	32		25 <sup>th</sup> June	89
30 <sup>th</sup> April	75						
<b>Total</b>	<b>265</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>178</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>251</b>

Date	Numbers		Date	Numbers		Date	Numbers
2 <sup>nd</sup> July	73		6 <sup>th</sup> August	78		3 <sup>rd</sup> September	93
9 <sup>th</sup> July	72		13 <sup>th</sup> August	49		10 <sup>th</sup> September	51
16 <sup>th</sup> July	50		20 <sup>th</sup> August	93		17 <sup>th</sup> September	71
23 <sup>rd</sup> July	49		27 <sup>th</sup> August	49		24 <sup>th</sup> September	52
30 <sup>th</sup> July	66						

<b>Total</b>	<b>310</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>269</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>267</b>

Date	Numbers		Date	Numbers		Date	Numbers
1st October	80		5 <sup>th</sup> November	57		3 <sup>rd</sup> December	47
8 <sup>th</sup> October	58		12 <sup>th</sup> November	79		10 <sup>th</sup> December	89
15 <sup>th</sup> October	51		19 <sup>th</sup> November	62		17 <sup>th</sup> December	123
22 <sup>nd</sup> October	31		26 <sup>th</sup> November	70		24 <sup>th</sup> December	closed
29 <sup>th</sup> October	48						
<b>Total</b>	<b>268</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>268</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>259</b>

**Annual total 3,099**

**Weekly average 62 bags**

### **Christmas Numbers 2025**

Family Hampers	Individual Hampers	Presents Children	Single people Gift Bags
120	324	102 Children gifts	216

**Extra choc and treats to various agencies plus stock for hampers for various groups**

**Individual Selection boxes to children [ 139 ]**

**plus resettlement team [165]**

**All gift bags contained selection boxes [540]**

### **Additional Items Provided 2025**

**From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025 up until December 17<sup>th</sup> 2025**

Item	Numbers 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan to Dec 17 <sup>th</sup>
Nappies	113
Baby Milk	25
Safety Gate	40

Sets of Toys [excluding xmas]	18
Sets of Clothes [excluding xmas]	24
Single Bed Frame	47
Mattress	87
Duvets	70
Bedding sets	75
Pet Food	121
Bunkbed	16
Toiletries/Cleaning	314
Hospital Bags	60

### **Measure 3: Budget to be established and met**

- A budget has been established for 2026 as shown in the Accounts section. Expenditure will be undertaken against that budget.
- We are very grateful again this year for the very generous level of financial support we have received by way of donations from both individuals and corporate bodies.

### **Information from agencies:**

We always ask our agency users for the reasons why their client needs a box from us. This allows us to try and understand the reasons and trends behind the food poverty issue in our locality.

Here are the main reasons:

- Increased energy bills and cost of living increases
- moving to independent living with delays in establishing benefits
- destitute asylum seekers with no recourse to public funds
- Benefit delays following change of circumstance appeals
- Inability to budget and manage income.
- Illness and bereavements
- Addiction issues
- fleeing difficult home circumstances
- ‘sofa surfing’ and ‘rough sleeping’
- Unemployment, loss of hours and changes to contracts

## **User Comments**

I just wanted to express my sincere thanks to yourself, all at porch boxes and the amazing community you all work with who provide donations and support.

I have accessed porch boxes over the recent years more times that i can count on my fingers! The support and donations that we as social workers are able to access, to further support our families experiencing a multitude of difficulties or in times of crisis is invaluable and always received with such gratitude from our families.

Thank you for all that all of you continue to do - It takes a village to raise a family and you are all definitely a part of that village!

***Natasha Social Care Team***

## **Comments From Our Volunteers 2025**

I have been at Porch for yonks and work with a great team. We have a laugh and get to give something back to those in the margins. Julia and Frank are inspirational and very organised. They have the system now so efficient. Even our local friendly robin who comes into the warehouse is gobsmacked.

**Steve**

I've been a volunteer for a while now and there have been changes some obvious and some subtle, in the way we work at Bradley fold in the warehouse. The obvious ones for me are that I still enjoy helping like the first day I started there. I enjoy the interaction with people who drop off donations and those who come to collect donations. I enjoy working with all our volunteers and value their friendship and good humour, which is continuous even when the warehouse is damp, freezing, and it's warmer outside!

The subtle changes are the different people and different kinds of organisations who now need our donations. The amount and type of donations that we receive has also changed. There seems to be less coming in than when I first started to volunteer. I believe that we

have adapted to the changes and the needs in our local community extremely well. We are aware of what the current needs are and always try our best to meet them.

### **Shirley**

What stands out for me working at Porch Box is the sense of community and teamwork. Everyone involved shares the same goal of helping others and that creates a welcoming and supportive environment for both volunteers and those accessing services . It's something I'm really glad to be part of

### **Andrea**

It's still a pleasure to volunteer at Porch Boxes although it's sad that the need for the food bank continues. Our team is as dedicated, enthusiastic & supportive as ever &, apart from having to get up early on Wednesday mornings, the experience remains enjoyable. It's also good to know from the agencies that use Porch Boxes that the items we provide are very much appreciated & make such a difference to the people they support.

### **Diane**

I enjoy the work I do on a Wednesday morning. I am happy to take on whatever task is needed. The team are all of a like mind and we also enjoy sitting down together for a cuppa half way through the sessions.

### **Don**

It is a privilege to be able to provide help for so many people. The people of Bury are incredibly generous. We have developed strong relationships over the years with the professionals supporting families and the lengths these workers go to to help families in need is commendable. I thoroughly enjoy being part of such a dedicated team of volunteers and mid-morning coffee break helps me forget the cold !!

### **Frank**

Another year with a brilliant team of committed volunteers

### **David**

#### **Laurel**

I volunteer at Porch Boxes as I feel I am contributing to a much needed and worthwhile cause. Much

of the work is physical and helps me keep active while helping others. The continuing positive

feedback from the agencies we serve shows that we will make a difference to the people w

#### **Laurel**

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those in the local area who are less fortunate than ourselves and volunteering at Porch Box continues to be an enjoyable

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## **Laurel**

I've been volunteering at Porch for some years now. We are always busy. It's a good team to be a part of but it's sad we exist. We've evolved from just dealing with food poverty to dealing with bed poverty in our Beds 4 Bury initiative the stories we hear are very sad and shocking.

## **Andy**

### **Donations throughout 2024**

Our thanks go to all those many people and organisations who have given gifts of help, food, goods or money. These include;

Ainsworth Parish Church  
Ainsworth Social Club  
Ainsworth Unitarian Chapel  
All Saints Church [St. Francis House]  
Allied Health Professionals @ Fairfield Hospital  
Asda Bury [weekly collection trolley]  
Asda Radcliffe [weekly collection trolley]  
Asda Pilsworth [weekly collection trolley]  
Asda Foundation

Bolton Road Methodist Church  
Bury URC  
Bury College Students  
Bury Veterans Association

Cams Lane Community Primary School  
Canon Lewis Hall  
Chantlers Pre School  
Christ Church Ainsworth Church & School  
Christ Church Ramsbottom  
Christ Church Walmersley  
Christ Church Walshaw Church & School  
Crown Oil

Elton CP School  
Elton High School

Fairfield Community Primary School

GMP via Bernie Kearns  
Greenmount URC  
Greenhill CP School

Higher Lane Community Primary School  
Holcombe Brook CP School  
Holcombe Emmanuel Church & School

Holcombe Brook & Summerseat WI

Lowercroft CP School

Mersey Drive Community Primary School  
Morrisons Whitefield [weekly collection trolley]

Old Hall Community Primary School

Parrenthorn High School  
Prestwich & Whitefield W.I.

Radcliffe Community Primary School  
Radcliffe Parish Church

Seedfield Methodist Church & local Community  
Stables Leisure Club, Walshaw  
St. Andrew's CE Church Radcliffe  
St. Francis House /All Saints  
St. George's Church Simister  
St. John & St. Mark CE Church Seedfield  
St. Margaret's CE Church Prestwich  
St. Margaret's CE Primary School Prestwich  
St. Mary's CE Primary School Prestwich  
St. Mary's Parish Church Radcliffe  
St. Stephen's C.E. Church & School  
St. Thomas C.E. Primary School Bury  
St. Thomas & St. John Church Radcliffe  
Summerseat Methodist Church & School

The Bury Grammar Schools  
The Tottington Centre  
Tottington Methodist Church  
Tower Health Care

Village Greens Community Co-operative Store, Prestwich

Wesley Methodist Church & School  
WHN Solicitors Group  
Whittaker Lane Medical Centre Prestwich  
Whitefield Methodist Church  
Wilds Accountants  
Woodbank Primary School

### **Individuals**

Adrian Smith  
Dayna Smith  
Peter C

### **Financial Donations**

Beechfield

Bury Christian Fellowship  
Kirklees Valley PCC  
PM & M Solutions  
Charities Trust  
Elton High School  
Bury URC  
TUUT Charitable Trust  
St. Thomas & St. John  
Charities Aid Foundation  
D & L Charity  
Tower Family Health Care  
BVCF  
Walshaw Community Choir

### **The Garden Bin collectors**

Diane Gaunt [Greenmount]  
Gill Handley [Holcombe Brook]  
Annette Alderson [Tottington Central]

### **Additional Thank you**

Madeleine Archer for maintaining the website and managing social media

### **Note**

**In addition to these lists there are many individuals who just leave donations with us and no names.**

**Many individuals at local churches regularly send monetary donations. Also some donations are collected from other drop off points various places in the Borough and we do not always have records of who these donors are.**

**Additional financial donations are also recorded in the accounts section.**

### **Packs and stock provided in 2025 to referral agencies**

#### **Bury Metropolitan Borough**

Access and Crisis Team (Mental Health), Fairfield Hospital  
Achieve Bury  
Age UK  
Adullam Homes [ABEN] 2 separate Teams

Blue Cross Radcliffe [Pet food]  
Bolton Road Food Club  
Brandlesholme Foodbank  
Bury Baptists Food Bank  
Bury Out of hours Emergency Social Care Team Bradley Fold  
Bury MBC, housing Resettlement Team.  
Bury MBC housing drop in sessions  
Bury MBC, Adult Services (Social Care)  
Bury MBC, Children's Services Safeguarding Teams @ 3 Knowsley Place

Bury MBC, Community Mental Health Team - Humphrey House  
Bury MBC, Education Department, Parent Support Advisers  
Bury MBC Portage Service  
Bury MBC, Social Services & Rapid Response Textile Hall  
Bury MBC Travellers Service  
Bury Leaving Care Teams and Next chapter  
Bury College  
Bury Veterans Association

Calico Floating Support Housing  
CAP  
Creative Living Centre Prestwich

Early Break, Radcliffe  
Early Intervention Team Humphrey House/3 KP  
Ellen Court, Radcliffe, Great Places Housing Group  
Elton Community Primary School  
Early Help Teams at Redvales, Radcliffe and Whitefield Childrens Centres

Fairfield Community Primary School  
Fairfield Hospital Ward 18 Discharge lounge [Elderly Patients]  
Free Project

Greater Manchester Probation Service, Bury

Hazelwood High School  
Health Visitor Teams, Community Nursery Nurses throughout the Borough  
Heaton Park Community Primary School  
Heaton Park Methodist Food Club  
Holy Trinity RC Primary School  
Home Treatment Team - Irwell Unit, Fairfield Hospital  
Housing First

Irwell Valley Homes  
Ingeus  
Ingeus Restart

Nacros2  
NASS Families

Pennine care - Nursing Teams, Family Practitioners and Health Visitors

Radcliffe Primary Care Centre Health visitors  
Ramy Pantry  
Reddisher Support Services Radcliffe  
Ribble Drive Community Primary School  
Rough Sleepers Team

Safenet  
Smilecare Bury  
Spring Lane School  
St. Stephen's CE Primary School  
Staying Well Team

Topping Fold TRA  
Tottington Primary School  
Trinity Foodbank Radcliffe  
Trusthouse

Unsworth CP School  
Women Of Worth  
Youth Justice Nurse

### **Rochdale Metropolitan Borough**

Rochdale MBC, Children in Care Team  
Rochdale MBC, Social Services, Young People's Support Team  
Watering the soul [Formerly Rose Court]

### **Elsewhere**

Out There (supporting families of prisoners), Hulme  
Afro Caribbean Mental Health Team



Item	2025	2024 (for comparison)	2026 Budget
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Purchase of Items for Packs incl Xmas & Easter Treats	20619.22	19045.22	15000.00
Other Food Bank and Pantry Support [see note below]	6493.73	8951.62	8000.00
Beds for Bury	22358.34	11898.61	15000.00
Insurance	752.67	746.87	800.00
Postage/Stationery etc	0.00	39.55	100.00
Mileage Allowance	0.00	478.80	200.00
Charity Checkout Subscription	359.86	239.99	400.00
Room Hire	0.00	240.00	200.00
Contingency/Sundries	159.98	320.91	300.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50743.80</b>	<b>41961.57</b>	<b>40000.00</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS / [DEFICIT]</b>	<b>[8968.82]</b>	<b>[13871.50]</b>	

#### RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS

	2025	2024 [for comparison]
	£	£
Brought Forward	55505.06	69376.56
Net Surplus [Deficit]	[8968.82]	[13871.50]
<b>Carried Forward</b>	<b>46536.24</b>	<b>55505.06</b>

#### NOTES TO ACCOUNTS

Routine provision of crisis pack contents and the provision of volunteer effort are of a non-monetary value and do not therefore show in the accounts either as income or expenditure.

Support by way of stock purchasing has been given to Pantry at Bury Baptists, Heaton Park Food Pantry, Bolton Road Pantry, Topping Fold Community Centre, Trust House, Kindness Cart at Fairfield CP School, Trinity Food Bank Radcliffe, Brandlesholme Community Centre and Church in Bolton Centre throughout 2025.

**RESERVE FUND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2025 TO 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2025**

<b>BROUGHT FORWARD 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2025</b>	<b>60000.00</b>
No Income	
No Expenditure	
<b>CLOSING BALANCE 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2025</b>	<b>60000.00</b>

**NOTE TO ACCOUNTS**

The reserve fund of £60000 has been put in place to protect the Charity should the rent free use of the Bradley Fold unit be withdrawn at any point in the future. It is intended to cover accommodation costs in the short term and has been estimated as 24 months at an assumed monthly rent of £2500.

**Original Signed by Michael Perrin**

**Date 12<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Porch Boxes**

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025.

## **Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner**

The charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- \* examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- \* to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- \* to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

## **Basis of Independent Examiner's Report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

## **Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- \* to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act
- \* to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Name Claire Sedgwick**

**Relevant professional qualification or body: FCA**

**Original signed by Claire Sedgwick**

**26<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

**STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES**

Charity Law requires the trustees of the Management Committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs for that Charity, and of the results of the Charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonably prudent
- Prepare the financial statements on the 'going concern' basis unless it is inappropriate to presume this charity will continue in business

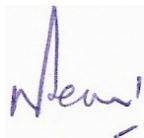
The Trustees are responsible for:

- Keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993.
- The safeguarding of the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention of fraud and detection of other irregularities.

## Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



**Michael Perrin**  
Treasurer

March 2026



**Julia Rowlands**  
Chair

**PORCH BOXES**

England & Wales - Charity number 1089998

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# Accounts

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**PORCH BOXES**

**GENERAL FUND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2024 TO 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

[All funds are restricted]

Item	2024	2023 (for comparison)	2025 Budget
<b>INCOME</b>			
<b>Grants</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Donations</b>			<b>40000.00</b>
Individual Donations	8576.34	8431.60	
Donations via Enthuse	11145.01	13722.06	
Gift Aid Tax Reclaim	2145.17	3012.81	
Kirklees Valley PCC	120.00	120.00	
Benevity Portal	89.18	77.08	
Charities Trust	198.00	100.00	
Christ Church Walmersley	0.00	210.00	
Prestwich & Whitefield WI	0.00	150.00	
Churches Together Radcliffe	100.00	150.00	
Bury Christian Fellowship	960.00	0.00	
Tottington Methodist Church	100.00	0.00	
Fairfield General Hospital	0.00	121.00	
St Georges Simister	70.00	33.00	
Cheetham Hill Construction	0.00	250.00	
Christ Church Walmersley MU	0.00	55.00	
Asda Foundation	0.00	400.00	
Unsworth Centre	0.00	65.91	
Groundwork	0.00	375.00	
PM+M Solutions	1000.00	1000.00	
Lowespark Golf Club	0.00	982.00	
Bury Grammar	1498.58	1350.00	
Bolton Road Methodist	140.70	0.00	
ABC Mum & Baby Group	100.00	0.00	
Seedfield Methodist	50.00	0.00	
Affetside Choir	180.20	0.00	
Walshaw Community Choir	710.00	0.00	
Paypal Giving Fund	106.89	0.00	
Beechfield	800.00	0.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28090.07</b>	<b>30605.46</b>	<b>40000.00</b>

<b>Item</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023 (for comparison)</b>	<b>2025 Budget</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Purchase of Items for Packs incl Xmas & Easter Treats Other Food Bank and Pantry	19045.22	16866.63	17500.00
Support [see note below]	8951.62	9231.02	10000.00
Beds for Bury	11898.61	8738.18	10000.00
Insurance	746.87	704.95	800.00
Postage/Stationery etc	39.55	0.00	100.00
Mileage Allowance	478.80	649.80	800.00
Charity Checkout Subscription	239.99	239.99	300.00
Room Hire	240.00	0.00	200.00
Contingency/Sundries	320.91	150.00	300.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>41961.57</b>	<b>36580.57</b>	<b>40000.00</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS / [DEFICIT]</b>	<b>[13871.50]</b>	<b>[5975.11]</b>	

#### RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023 [for comparison]</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Brought Forward	69376.56	75351.67
Net Surplus [Deficit]	[13871.50]	[5975.11]
<b>Carried Forward</b>	<b>55505.06</b>	<b>69376.56</b>

#### NOTES TO ACCOUNTS

Routine provision of crisis pack contents and the provision of volunteer effort are of a non-monetary value and do not therefore show in the accounts either as income or expenditure.

Support by way of stock purchasing has been given to Bury Baptists, Heaton Park Food Pantry, Bolton Road Pantry, Topping Fold Community Centre, Trust House, Attic Project, Manna House and First Point throughout 2024.

**RESERVE FUND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2024 TO 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

**BROUGHT FORWARD 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2024                      60000.00**

No Income

No Expenditure

**CLOSING BALANCE 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2024                      60000.00**

**NOTE TO ACCOUNTS**

The reserve fund of £60000 has been put in place to protect the Charity should the rent free use of the Bradley Fold unit be withdrawn at any point in the future. It is intended to cover accommodation costs in the short term and has been estimated as 24 months at an assumed monthly rent of £2500.

**Original signed by Michael Perrin**

**31<sup>st</sup> January 2025**

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Porch Boxes**

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024.

### **Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner**

The charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- \* examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- \* to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- \* to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

### **Basis of Independent Examiner's Report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- \* to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act
- \* to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Name Claire Sedgwick**

**Relevant professional qualification or body: FCA**

**Original signed by Claire Sedgwick**

**23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025**

**PORCH BOXES**

**GENERAL FUND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2024 TO 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

[All funds are restricted]

Item	2024	2023 (for comparison)	2025 Budget
<b>INCOME</b>			
<b>Grants</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Donations</b>			<b>40000.00</b>
Individual Donations	8576.34	8431.60	
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Gift Aid Tax Reclaim	2145.17	3012.81	
Kirklees Valley PCC	120.00	120.00	
Benevity Portal	89.18	77.08	
Charities Trust	198.00	100.00	
Christ Church Walmersley	0.00	210.00	
Prestwich & Whitefield WI	0.00	150.00	
Churches Together Radcliffe	100.00	150.00	
Bury Christian Fellowship	960.00	0.00	
Tottington Methodist Church	100.00	0.00	
Fairfield General Hospital	0.00	121.00	
St Georges Simister	70.00	33.00	
Cheetham Hill Construction	0.00	250.00	
Christ Church Walmersley MU	0.00	55.00	
Asda Foundation	0.00	400.00	
Unsworth Centre	0.00	65.91	
Groundwork	0.00	375.00	
PM+M Solutions	1000.00	1000.00	
Lowespark Golf Club	0.00	982.00	
Bury Grammar	1498.58	1350.00	
Bolton Road Methodist	140.70	0.00	
ABC Mum & Baby Group	100.00	0.00	
Seedfield Methodist	50.00	0.00	
Affetside Choir	180.20	0.00	
Walshaw Community Choir	710.00	0.00	
Paypal Giving Fund	106.89	0.00	
Beechfield	800.00	0.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28090.07</b>	<b>30605.46</b>	<b>40000.00</b>

<b>Item</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023 (for comparison)</b>	<b>2025 Budget</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
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Support [see note below]	8951.62	9231.02	10000.00
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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>41961.57</b>	<b>36580.57</b>	<b>40000.00</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS / [DEFICIT]</b>	<b>[13871.50]</b>	<b>[5975.11]</b>	

#### RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023 [for comparison]</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Brought Forward	69376.56	75351.67
Net Surplus [Deficit]	[13871.50]	[5975.11]
<b>Carried Forward</b>	<b>55505.06</b>	<b>69376.56</b>

#### NOTES TO ACCOUNTS

Routine provision of crisis pack contents and the provision of volunteer effort are of a non-monetary value and do not therefore show in the accounts either as income or expenditure.

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**RESERVE FUND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2024 TO 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

**BROUGHT FORWARD 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2024                      60000.00**

No Income

No Expenditure

**CLOSING BALANCE 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2024                      60000.00**

**NOTE TO ACCOUNTS**

The reserve fund of £60000 has been put in place to protect the Charity should the rent free use of the Bradley Fold unit be withdrawn at any point in the future. It is intended to cover accommodation costs in the short term and has been estimated as 24 months at an assumed monthly rent of £2500.

**Original signed by Michael Perrin**

**31<sup>st</sup> January 2025**

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Porch Boxes**

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024.

### **Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner**

The charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

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**Name Claire Sedgwick**

**Relevant professional qualification or body: FCA**

**Original signed by Claire Sedgwick**

**23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025**

**PORCH BOXES**

**GENERAL FUND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS  
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FOR THE YEAR 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2024 TO 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

**BROUGHT FORWARD 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2024                      60000.00**

No Income

No Expenditure

**CLOSING BALANCE 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2024                      60000.00**

**NOTE TO ACCOUNTS**

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**Original signed by Michael Perrin**

**31<sup>st</sup> January 2025**

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Porch Boxes**

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**Name Claire Sedgwick**

**Relevant professional qualification or body: FCA**

**Original signed by Claire Sedgwick**

**23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025**

**PORCH BOXES**

England & Wales - Charity number 1089998

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# Accounts

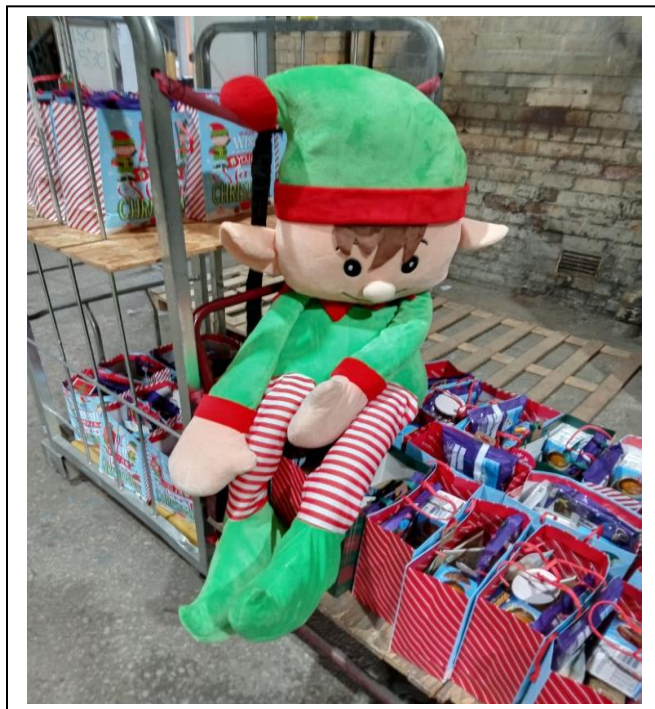
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providing crisis packs for those in need

**PORCH BOXES**

# **ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**



**2023**

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### ***Cover Photo***

***Our 'little helper' sending the Christmas bags safely on their way***

## **Welcome 2024**

Welcome to our twenty fourth Annual Report.

It has been yet another extremely busy year.

We continue to live through challenging times, with the increase in energy prices and the cost of living. I am proud to report that the team at Porch Boxes work with dedication, enthusiasm and compassion. Offering much needed help to so many people in our area.

Again I would like to thank the countless numbers of people who have contributed to the continued success of Porch Boxes in so many ways this year.

Our committed team of volunteers meet on Wednesday mornings at the warehouse and usually pack and deliver on average around 70 bags per week. This number continues to fluctuate on a weekly basis and I see no reason why this will decrease in our current financial climate.

Since the pandemic and increasingly with budget cuts affecting statutory services we have seen a change in the agencies using our service. Some continue to work from home and with some services having to make cuts to their operations. This continues to bring difficulties for their service users.

We continue to be a member of the Bury Community Support Network BCSN. All the various food groups working together sharing information, resources and support.

Many regular donors continue to support us financially which allows us the flexibility to purchase many more much needed items which are not usually donated. We have also been able to be more generous in the number of items in each food bag.

We continue with our provision of high calorie nutrition bags to elderly and vulnerable patients on their discharge from Fairfield Hospital. The contents of the bags have been agreed with nutrition experts at the NHS Foundation trust.

These continue to be tough times and the cost of purchasing pack contents has increased dramatically over the last year and thankfully the kindness and generosity of the people of Bury has also increased.

We are grateful to have the continued support from Bury Council. We could not operate without the use of part of one of their industrial units at Bradley Fold Trading Estate. This is our main distribution and work centre.

We began the new project 'Beds For Bury' in early 2022 and this has been steadily growing. We have been able to expand this and also to fund the purchase of other non food items for families due to the increased financial support we have been fortunate enough to receive.

This increased funding has left us in the fortunate position to continue to offer support for the purchase of food items to our partner food providers in Bury.

Following the rise in energy prices and the cost of living we have found increasing numbers of families and individuals needing help. Many people are finding it difficult to access services and staff able to help them with underlying problems creating a need for help with food provision.

We are often approached by individuals seeking help and we continue to signpost them to relevant agencies and groups offering access to food provision and advice. If they have difficulty accessing further help we will aim to meet their needs directly.

I am immensely proud to work with such an incredible team of volunteers who have continued to go the extra mile during this past year.

As always it remains a tremendous privilege to act as Chair to Porch Boxes and it is an honour to work with such a committed and dedicated group of volunteers who make a difference to the lives of so many people.



**Julia Rowlands**  
Chair

## **Trustees' annual report for the period 1 January to 31 December 2023**

### **Reference and administration details**

**Charity name:** Porch Boxes

**Other names by which  
Charity is known:** The Porch  
Porch Project

**Registered charity number:** 1089998

**Charity's principal address:** 46 Starling Road, Radcliffe M26 4LN

**Names of the charity trustees  
who manage the charity:** Julia Rowlands Chair  
Michael Perrin Treasurer  
Alan Wood Secretary  
Iain Hodcroft  
David Archer  
Laurel Avery  
Andy Clark  
Eileen Smith

**Website:** [www.porchboxes.org.uk](http://www.porchboxes.org.uk)

**Bank:** Santander UK plc, Bridle Road, Bootle L30 4GB

**Staff:** The charity has no paid staff.

### **Structure, governance and management**

## **Description of the charity's trusts**

### **Type of governing document:**

Constitution amended and adopted 21 May 2002

### **How the charity is constituted:**

Association consisting of

- individuals (over the age of 18 years) who are interested in furthering the work of the Charity and who have paid any annual subscription laid down from time to time by the Executive Committee [presently set at zero], and
- any body corporate or unincorporated association which is interested in furthering the Charity's work and has paid any annual subscription [presently set at zero] [any such body being called in this constitution a 'member organisation']

Individual members include those who by their presence at meetings or in other ways demonstrate their interest in furthering the work of the charity.

### **Trustee selection methods:**

Trustees are elected or re-elected annually at the Annual General Meeting held in Spring each year

### **Additional governance issues:**

- All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits. Agreed expenses incurred are reimbursed.
- In accordance with its Constitution, Porch Boxes co-operates with other agencies locally where they are undertaking work similar to that of Porch Boxes.
- Porch Boxes representatives have attended and are willing to attend meetings and forums as required in order to share information relevant to our users and those with a shared interest in countering food poverty.
- The Trustees have identified major risks to the achievement of the charity's objectives and have put in place insurance, policies or practices to seek to avoid the objectives of the charity being frustrated. Policies include Diversity, Equal Opportunities, Health and Safety, Safeguarding, Confidentiality and Support, Supervision and Training of Volunteers.

## **Objectives and activities**

### **Summary of the objects of Porch Boxes set out in the Constitution:**

The Charity's objects are the relief of poverty and distress primarily amongst people living in the Bury and Rochdale Metropolitan Boroughs in particular but not exclusively by the provision of food, toiletries and other essential goods.

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

In planning the activities for the year, the Trustees kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at meetings of the Management Committee.

We continued to promote our service with agencies working with vulnerable people in the areas indicated by our Constitution. We do not turn down occasional requests for assistance from contacts within neighbouring areas.

New agencies are provided with service on request. Our service is available to everyone who falls within our charitable objective, i.e. all vulnerable people in crisis need. Grant applications are made when appropriate.

Operations are massively supported by gifts in kind. The work of the charity is publicised amongst community groups such as Churches and schools whenever possible. Our website has proved to be an invaluable path for many agencies, community groups and others to learn of our work and offer support as financial donors, by offering gifts in-kind, and by volunteering. An on-line donation and gift-aiding capability is available.

A great contribution is made by volunteers who serve as Trustees, as packers, as deliverers of packs, as people who collect donations in kind, as publicists in various ways, as fundraisers and as administrators. We thank all these people, without whom there would be no "Porch Boxes".

We are increasingly being asked to support individuals in crisis need directly, we have experienced a growing number of telephone requests from such people. Where there is a need for a direct access response, we endeavor to signpost individuals to other appropriate agencies. However if this is not possible then Porch Boxes will meet that direct need for help.

**Additional details of objectives and activities**

**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year:**

The following section sets out the Trustees' assessment of the achievement of the charity this year.

The referral agencies through which we support vulnerable people in crisis need continue to report a very high degree of satisfaction with the service provided. In particular, they continue to report that Porch Boxes makes a huge difference in the lives of their service users.

Porch Boxes supports many agencies, and assists them in meeting their own objectives. Thus assisting them in encouraging healthy lifestyles, returning vulnerable people to sustainable lifestyles, preventing crime, reducing dependence on drugs and alcohol and avoiding destitution.

Porch Boxes provides an outlet for the spontaneous urge of many in the community to provide practical support to people in crisis.

Throughout the year, Porch Boxes has continued to work closely with other groups who are planning and working to support local vulnerable people in crisis need.

Our partners include local churches, schools, individual teams within Bury Council and local foodbanks via BCSN.

The website is proving valuable and the Trustees are grateful for the work that goes into maintaining this.

## **Financial review**

### **Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves:**

Our reserve policy is always to have sufficient funds for known commitments and to allow for the purchase of items for crisis packs and volunteer expenses. The reserve fund of £60,000 has been put in place to protect the Charity should the rent free use of the Bradley Fold Unit be withdrawn at any point in the future. It is intended to cover accommodation costs in the short term and has been estimated as 24 months at an assumed monthly rent of £2,500.

### **Details of any funds materially in deficit:**

Not applicable

### **Further financial review details:**

The Accounts for 2023 are included in this Report. They have been scrutinised by an Independent Examiner, whose signature is held on the original documents. Further comments on the finances of the charity are included as notes to the Accounts, and a commentary in the Assessment of Achievement section of this Report. Those making financial gifts are listed in the Thanks section of this Report (although individual donors are not named there).

### **Assessment of achievement**

The Trustees have established a number of measures to assess the success of Porch Boxes' service. Those measures and our assessment against them are set out briefly.

#### **Measure 1: Satisfaction with service provided to be assured, as expressed by referral agencies**

- Unsolicited testimony to the importance of the work of the charity continues to be received.
- Communications with us bear testimony to the responsive nature of the service in providing what customers say they want. They also show that agencies are convinced that the contribution made by Porch Boxes to their work makes a real difference in the lives of their vulnerable clients.

#### **Measure 2: Weekly deliveries**

- The following numbers are for weekly parcels packed and delivered. This doesn't include additional items such as nappies and baby items. The numbers on the chart below for 2023 are purely food parcels/bags.
- The data for the additional items are now collated separately

### **Pack Totals for 2023**

Date	Numbers		Date	Numbers		Date	Numbers
4 <sup>th</sup> January	93		1 <sup>st</sup> February	97		1 <sup>st</sup> March	98
11 <sup>th</sup> January	92		8 <sup>th</sup> February	104		8 <sup>th</sup> March	117
18 <sup>th</sup> January	109		15 <sup>th</sup> February	95		15 <sup>th</sup> March	63
25 <sup>th</sup> January	111		22 <sup>nd</sup> February	75		22 <sup>nd</sup> March	42
						29 <sup>th</sup> March	53

<b>Total</b>	<b>405</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>371</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>373</b>
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## Easter Eggs 2023

Agency	Number
WOW	30
CAP	20 eggs and chocs for 11 hampers
Resettlement	95
Redvales Early Help	40
Phillips High	12
Care Leavers	20
Parkview	26
Ingeus	100
Travellers Service	23
Topping Fold	48
Bury Social Care	133
Benjamin Court	85
Milltown House	130
Attic FB	50
Brandlesholme FB	30
Trinity FB	40
Castlecroft	27
Early Help Radcliffe	50
Bolton Rd foodclub	20
Plus individual families	Unknown
<b>Total</b>	<b>979+</b>

Date	Numbers		Date	Numbers		Date	Numbers
<b>5<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>73</b>		<b>3<sup>rd</sup> May</b>	<b>61</b>		<b>7<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>12<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>14</b>		<b>10<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>34</b>		<b>14<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>96</b>
<b>19<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>81</b>		<b>17<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>78</b>		<b>21<sup>st</sup> June</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>26<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>90</b>		<b>24<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>41</b>		<b>28<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>88</b>
			<b>31<sup>st</sup> May</b>	<b>62</b>			
<b>Total</b>	<b>258</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>276</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>264</b>

Date	Numbers		Date	Numbers		Date	Numbers
<b>5<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>54</b>		<b>2<sup>nd</sup> August</b>	<b>57</b>		<b>6<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>12<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>82</b>		<b>9<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>63</b>		<b>13<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>19<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>54</b>		<b>16<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>63</b>		<b>20<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>75</b>

26 <sup>th</sup> July	49	23 <sup>rd</sup> August	73	27 <sup>th</sup> September	51
		30 <sup>th</sup> August	72		
<b>Total</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>261</b>

Date	Numbers	Date	Numbers	Date	Numbers
4 <sup>th</sup> October	98	1 <sup>st</sup> November	37	6 <sup>th</sup> December	75
11 <sup>th</sup> October	47	8 <sup>th</sup> November	72	13 <sup>th</sup> December	65
18 <sup>th</sup> October	60	15 <sup>th</sup> November	59	20 <sup>th</sup> December	86
25 <sup>th</sup> October	61	22 <sup>nd</sup> November	75	27 <sup>th</sup> December	20
		29 <sup>th</sup> November	64		
<b>Total</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>246 Plus 480 Xmas hampers</b>

**In addition all the hampers with gifts for children contained a new pair of pyjamas for each child in the family.**

**The number of high nutrition bags for elderly patients sent to the discharge ward at Fairfield General hospital was 65 for 2023**

### **Christmas Numbers 2023**

Family Hampers	Individual Hampers	Presents
120	360	Children & young people 134 Adults 19 & 90

Extra choc and treats to various agencies plus stock for hampers at various groups  
Selection boxes to all children [243] plus resettlement team [75], Spring Lane School [120]

**Annual total 3,594**

**Weekly average 69.15 bags**

### **Additional Items Provided 2023**

Item	Number
Nappies	187
Baby Milk	56

Safety Gate	9
Sets of Toys [excluding xmas]	19
Sets of Clothes	31
Bunk beds	11
Single Bed Frame	15
Mattress	47
Duvet/Pillows/Bedding sets	14
Pet Food	124
Toiletries/Cleaning	377

### **Measure 3: Budget to be established and met**

- A budget has been established for 2024 as shown in the Accounts section. Expenditure will be undertaken against that budget.
- We are very grateful again this year for the very generous level of financial support we have received by way of donations from both individuals and corporate bodies.

### **Information from agencies:**

We always ask our agency users for the reasons why their client needs a box from us. This allows us to try and understand the reasons and trends behind the food poverty issue in our locality.

Here are the main reasons:

- Increased energy bills and cost of living increases
- moving to independent living with delays in establishing benefits
- destitute asylum seekers with no recourse to public funds
- Benefit delays following change of circumstance appeals
- Inability to budget and manage income.
- Illness and bereavements
- Addiction issues
- fleeing difficult home circumstances
- Benefits sanctions/suspension or disallowance
- ‘sofa surfing’ and ‘rough sleeping’

- Unemployment, loss of hours and changes to contracts

## **Thoughts from our volunteers 2023**

It's sad that the need for Porch Boxes continues but I am proud & pleased to still be part of the great supportive & caring volunteer team. It's also lifting to see the donations still coming in when so many people in our community are in need. A big thank you to everyone who has donated & supports us in any other way.

### **Diane**

Working in a cold, damp warehouse is never a problem when the outcome is genuine relief from food poverty for many local people. It would be hard to find a more dedicated and hard-working team of volunteers with whom it is a pleasure to work.

### **David**

I have been part of the team of volunteers at Porch for quite a few years now and love how we are able to help those who find themselves in the margins.

We have a good laugh on our Wednesday packing/sorting days, the group are a really friendly and caring lot. It's nice at sometimes we get to hear feedback for the end users, which just puts the cherry on the cake.

### **Steve**

Why do I volunteer at Porch Boxes? It's usually very cold in the warehouse house building, all year round, my face is cold, my nose runs, my multiple layers of clothing don't keep me warm, my hands are freezing. Why do I volunteer at porch boxes because when you first arrive it lifts your spirits. You start working together like a well oiled machine we all have our jobs to do and we help each other out - with one aim in mind - to get the job done. Helping those people, families, in immediate need, ensuring they have food. Deliveries of food bags and other items are not always easy, traffic conditions, weather conditions and awkward access. All that is forgotten when you know that you have made someone's life that little bit easier. That is why I volunteer at porch boxes.

### **Shirley**

Another year on and poverty austerity recession and inflation continue to affect many in our communities - I feel very fortunate to be able to contribute back via Porch Boxes and to do so in the company of such a supportive and committed group of fellow volunteers

### **Andy**

Most of the people at porch box have been volunteering regularly for a number of years and we are a friendly, enthusiastic and efficient team.

We still feel that Porch boxes is having a positive impact with the feedback received from the agencies giving us the incentive to turn up every week. For me, volunteering at Porch Box continues to be an enjoyable experience

## **Laurel**

I find it very satisfying to volunteer with Porch Boxes. In theory it would be good all round if our services were not needed at all....but they are.

I am very happy with my contribution of collecting donations from the different places, as available, then being part of the delivery team delivering to agencies as needed. The team are all of a like mind and we also enjoy sitting down together for a cuppa half way through the sessions.

## **Don**

It is a privilege to be able to provide help for so many people. The generosity of the people who provide donations for us never ceases to amaze me. The relationships we have developed over the years with the professionals supporting families and the lengths they go to to ease their difficulties is heart warming. I thoroughly enjoy being part of such a dedicated team of volunteers and the bacon butties help me forget the cold !!

## **Frank**

### **Donations 2023**

Our thanks go to all those many people and organisations who have given gifts of help, food, goods or money. These include;

Ainsworth Unitarian Chapel  
All Saints Church [St. Francis House]  
Allied Health Professionals @ Fairfield Hospital  
Asda Bury [weekly collection trolley]  
Asda Radcliffe [weekly collection trolley]  
Asda Pilsworth [weekly collection trolley]  
Asda Foundation

Bolton Road Methodist Church  
Bury URC  
Bury Church High School [Easter Collection]  
Bury College Students  
Bury Veterans Association

Cams Lane Community Primary School  
Christ Church Ainsworth  
Christ Church Ramsbottom  
Christ Church Walmersley  
Christ Church Walshaw Church  
Crown Energy

Elton CP School  
Emmanuel Church Holcombe  
Emmanuel Church Canon Lewis Hall

Fairfield community Primary School  
Four Lane Ends Congregation

Greenmount URC  
Greenhill CP School

Holcombe Brook CP School  
Holcombe Emmanuel Church  
Holcombe Brook & Summerseat WI  
Horsfield & Smith Accountants

Lowercroft CP School  
Lowespark Golf Club

Manchester City Supporters Bury  
Morrisons Whitefield [weekly collection trolley]

Old Hall Community Primary School

Radcliffe URC  
Radcliffe Parish Church

Parrenthorn High School  
Prestwich & Whitefield W.I.

Sambro International Dumers Lane  
Seedfield Methodist Church & local Community  
Stables Leisure Club, Walshaw  
Stand URC

St. Andrews CE Church Ramsbottom  
St. George's Church Simister  
St Hilda's CE Church Prestwich  
St. John with St. Mark CE Primary School  
St. John & St. Mark CE Church Seedfield  
St. Margaret's CE Church Prestwich  
St. Margaret's CE Primary School Prestwich  
St. Mary's Church Radcliffe  
St. Mary's Church Prestwich  
St. Mary's CE Primary School Prestwich  
St. Michael's RC Primary School  
St. Peter's CE Primary School  
St. Stephen's CE Primary School  
St. Stephen's Church  
St. Thomas C.E. Primary School Bury  
St. Thomas & St. John Church Radcliffe  
Summerseat Methodist Church

The Bury Grammar Schools  
The Tottington Centre  
Tottington Methodist Church

Village Greens Community Co-operative Store, Prestwich

Wesley Methodist Church  
WHN Solicitors Group  
Whittaker Lane Medical Centre Prestwich  
Whitefield Methodist Church  
Woodbank Primary School

## **Individuals**

Gaynor Smith  
Sharon Clegg  
Adrian Smith  
Mark & Sharlene Hodder

## **Financial Donations**

Churches Together Radcliffe  
Christ Church Walmsley  
Christ Church Walmsley MU  
Prestwich and Whitefield WI  
Phil & Ann Cook  
Kirklees Valley PCC  
St. Georges Church Simister  
Unsworth Centre  
PMM Solutions  
The Bury Grammar Schools  
Cheetham Hill Construction  
Asda Foundation  
Fairfield General Hospital  
Groundwork

## **The Garden Bin collectors**

Diane Gaunt [Greenmount]  
Gill Handley [Holcombe Brook]  
Annette Alderson [Tottington Central]

## **Additional Thank you**

Madeleine Archer for maintaining the website and managing social media

## **Note**

**In addition to these lists there are many individuals who just leave donations with us and no names.**

**Many individuals at local churches regularly send monetary donations.**

**Also some donations are collected from other drop off points various places in the Borough and we do not always have records of who these donors are.**

**Additional financial donations are also recorded in the accounts section.**

### **Referral agencies 2023**

We have provided packs/stock to the following agencies during 2023.

#### **Bury Metropolitan Borough**

Access and Crisis Team (Mental Health), Fairfield Hospital

Achieve Bury formerly Bury Drug and Alcohol Team

Age UK

Attic Project

Adullam Homes [ABEN]

Beacon VCFA

Bolton Road Food Club

Brandlesholme Foodbank

Bury Baptists Food Bank

Bury Stroke Association

Bury Out of hours Emergency Social Care Team Bradley Fold

Bury MBC, housing Resettlement Team.

Bury MBC, Adult Services (Social Care)

Bury MBC, Children's Services Safeguarding Team 3 Knowsley Place

Bury MBC, Community Mental Health Team - Humphrey House

Bury MBC, Education Department, Parent Support Advisers

Bury MBC, School Attendance Teams

Bury MBC, Social Services & Rapid Response Textile Hall

Bury MBC Travellers Service

Bury Care Leavers [The Through Care Team] Now CASS

Bury Young Carers

Bury College

Bury Veterans Association

Calico Floating Support Housing

CAP

Castlecroft House & Peel Lodge [Bury young People]  
Creative Living Centre

Early Break, Radcliffe  
Early Intervention Team Humphrey House  
Eastward Community Primary School  
Ellen Court, Radcliffe, Great Places Housing Group  
Elton Community Primary School  
Early Help Teams at Redvales & Radcliffe Childrens Centres

Fairfield Community Primary School  
Fairfield Hospital Ward 18 Discharge lounge [Elderly Patients]  
Free Project

Greater Manchester Probation Service, Bury  
Gorsefield Community Primary School

Hazelwood High School  
Health Visitor Teams, Community Nursery Nurses throughout the Borough  
Heaton Park Methodist Food Club  
Holy Trinity RC Primary School  
Home Treatment Team - Irwell Unit, Fairfield Hospital  
Housing First

Irwell Valley Homes  
Ingeus  
Ingeus Restart

Manna House  
Milltown House

Nacros2  
NASS Families

Park View Community Primary School  
Pennine care - Nursing Teams, Family Practitioners and Health Visitors Various  
Prestwich Job centre

Radcliffe Primary Care Centre Health visitors  
Radcliffe Hall Community Primary School  
Ramsbottom GP's  
Rammy Pantry  
Ribble Drive Community Primary School  
Rossendale Food Box Scheme

Safenet  
Spring Lane School  
Springs TRA  
St. Andrew's Pantry Whitefield  
St. Stephen's CE Primary School  
Staying Well Team

Topping Fold TRA  
Tottington Primary School  
Trinity Foodbank Radcliffe  
Trusthouse

Women Of Worth

Youth Justice Nurse

**Rochdale Metropolitan Borough**

Greater Manchester Probation Service, Rochdale

Rochdale MBC, Children in Care Team

Rochdale MBC, Social Services, Young People's Support Team

Women's Housing Action Group, Rochdale (Refuge, Rose Court and Tenancy Support)

**Elsewhere**

Afro-Caribbean Mental Health Team

Benjamin court

Out There (supporting families of prisoners), Hulme

## PORCH BOXES - ACCOUNTS

### GENERAL FUND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2023 TO 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2023

[All funds are restricted]

Item	2023	2022 (for comparison)	2024 Budget
<b>INCOME</b>			
<b>Grants</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Donations</b>			<b>40000.00</b>
Individual Donations	8431.60	10285.70	
Donations via Enthuse	13722.06	11517.41	
Gift Aid Tax Reclaim	3012.81	2705.74	
Kirklees Valley PCC	120.00	120.00	
Benevity Portal	77.08	199.29	
Charities Trust	100.00	49.87	
Christ Church Walmersley	210.00	280.00	
Prestwich & Whitefield WI	150.00	230.50	
Churches Together Radcliffe	150.00	150.00	
Bury Christian Fellowship	0.00	500.04	
Joseph Holt	0.00	21619.86	
WHN Solicitors	0.00	1462.50	
Amicus	0.00	200.00	
PCC of St Thomas & St John	0.00	500.00	
Tottington Methodist Church	0.00	100.00	
Blackford Bridge URC	0.00	100.00	
The Monday Singers	0.00	700.00	
Achieve	0.00	38.85	
Fairfield General Hospital	121.00	0.00	
St Georges Simister	33.00	0.00	
Cheetham Hill Construction	250.00	0.00	
Christ Church Walmersley MU	55.00	0.00	
Asda Foundation	400.00	0.00	
Unsworth Centre	65.91	0.00	
Groundwork	375.00	0.00	
PMM Solutions	1000.00	0.00	
Lowespark Golf Club	982.00	0.00	
Bury Grammar	1350.00	0.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30605.46</b>	<b>50759.76</b>	<b>40000.00</b>

Item	2023	2022 (for comparison)	2024 Budget
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Purchase of Items for Packs incl Xmas & Easter Treats	16866.63	14326.89	17500.00
Other Food Bank and Pantry Support [see note below]	9231.02	0.00	10000.00
Beds for Bury	8738.18	5112.65	10000.00
Insurance	704.95	674.95	800.00
Postage/Stationery etc	0.00	96.98	100.00
Mileage Allowance	649.80	171.00	800.00
Charity Checkout Subscription	239.99	239.99	300.00
Room Hire	0.00	280.00	200.00
Contingency/Sundries	150.00	334.00	300.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>36580.57</b>	<b>21236.46</b>	<b>40000.00</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS/ [DEFICIT]</b>	<b>[5975.11]</b>	<b>29523.30</b>	

## RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS

	2023	2022 [for comparison]
	£	£
Brought Forward	75351.67	45828.37
Net Surplus [Deficit]	[5975.11]	29523.30
<b>Carried Forward</b>	<b>69376.56</b>	<b>75351.67</b>

## NOTES TO ACCOUNTS

Routine provision of crisis pack contents and the provision of volunteer effort are of a non-monetary value and do not therefore show in the accounts either as income or expenditure.

Support by way of stock purchasing has been given to Bury Baptists, Heaton Park Food Pantry, Bolton Road Pantry, Topping Fold Community Centre, Trust House, Attic Project, Manna House and First Point throughout 2023.

**RESERVE FUND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS FOR  
THE YEAR 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2023 TO 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

<b>BROUGHT FORWARD 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2023</b>	<b>60000.00</b>
--	-----------------

No

Income No

Expenditure

<b>CLOSING BALANCE 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2023</b>	<b>60000.00</b>
--	-----------------

**NOTE TO ACCOUNTS**

The reserve fund of £60000 has been put in place to protect the Charity should the rent free use of the Bradley Fold unit be withdrawn at any point in the future. It is intended to cover accommodation costs in the short term and has been estimated as 24 months at an assumed monthly rent of £2500.

**Original Signed by Michael Perrin 31<sup>st</sup>**

**January 2024**

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Porch Boxes**

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023.

### **Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner**

The charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- \* examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- \* to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- \* to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

### **Basis of Independent Examiner's Report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- \* to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 Of the 2011 Act
- \* to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Name Claire Sedgwick**

**Relevant professional qualification or body: FCA**

**Original signed by Claire Sedgwick**

**18<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

## **STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES**

Charity Law requires the trustees of the Management Committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs for that Charity, and of the results of the Charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonably prudent
- Prepare the financial statements on the 'going concern' basis unless it is inappropriate to presume this charity will continue in business

The Trustees are responsible for:

- Keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993.
- The safeguarding of the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention of fraud and detection of other irregularities.

### **Declaration**

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



**Michael Perrin**  
Treasurer



**Julia Rowlands**  
Chair

March 2024

**PORCH BOXES**

England & Wales - Charity number 1089998

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# Accounts

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providing crisis packs for those in need

**PORCH BOXES**

# **ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**



**2022**

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## ***Cover Photo***

***Amazing donations ready for packing 2022***

## **Welcome 2023**

Welcome to our twenty third Annual Report.

It has been yet another extremely busy year.

We have all lived through unprecedented times in recent years and these challenges continue with the increase in energy prices and the cost of living crisis. I am proud to report that the team at Porch Boxes continue to work with dedication, enthusiasm and compassion, offering much needed help to so many people in our area.

Once again I would like to thank the countless numbers of people who have contributed to the continued success of Porch Boxes in so many ways this year.

Our committed team of volunteers meet on Wednesday mornings at the warehouse and usually pack and deliver on average 80 to 100 bags/boxes per week. This number continues to fluctuate on a weekly basis and I see no reason why this will decrease in our current financial climate.

Over the last three years we have seen a change in the agencies using our service. Some continue to work from home and have not returned to their offices. This continues to bring difficulties for their service users.

We remain a member of the Bury Community Support Network BCSN which was one positive outcome of the pandemic. All food groups now work together sharing information, resources and support.

Many regular donors continue to support us financially as opposed to gifts of goods. This allows us extra flexibility as we can purchase many more much needed items which are not usually donated e.g. UHT milk which can now be given weekly with most orders. We have also been able to be more generous in the number of items in each food bag.

We launched the new service providing high calorie nutrition bags to elderly and vulnerable patients on their discharge from Fairfield Hospital last year and this has continued throughout this year. The contents of the bags have been agreed with nutrition experts at the NHS Foundation trust.

These continue to be tough times and the need for help and support continues to increase year on year. The cost of purchasing pack contents has increased dramatically over the last year and thankfully the kindness and generosity of the people of Bury has also increased.

We are grateful to have the continued support from Bury Council. We could not operate without the use of part of one of their industrial units at Bradley Fold Trading Estate. This is our main distribution and work centre.

We began the new project 'Beds For Bury' in early 2022 and which has been steadily growing as the year has progressed. We have been able to expand this and also to fund

the purchase of other non food items for families due to the increased financial support we have been fortunate enough to receive this last year.

This increased funding has left us in the fortunate position to offer support for the purchase of food items to our partner food providers in Bury

Following the recent rise in energy prices and the cost of living crisis we have found increasing numbers of families and individuals needing help. Many people are finding it difficult to access services and staff able to help them with underlying problems creating a need for help with food provision.

We continue to be approached by individuals seeking help and we continue to signpost them to relevant agencies and groups offering access to food provision and advice. If they have difficulty accessing further help we will continue to meet their needs directly.

I am immensely proud to work with such an incredible team of volunteers who have continued to go the extra mile during this past year.

As always it remains a tremendous privilege to act as Chair to Porch Boxes and it is an honour to work with such a committed and dedicated group of volunteers who make a difference to the lives of so many people.



**Julia Rowlands**  
Chair

# Trustees' annual report for the period 1 January to 31 December 2022

## Reference and administration details

**Charity name:** Porch Boxes

**Other names by which  
Charity is known:** The Porch  
Porch Project

**Registered charity number:** 1089998

**Charity's principal address:** 46 Starling Road, Radcliffe M26 4LN

**Names of the charity trustees  
who manage the charity:** Julia Rowlands Chair  
Michael Perrin Treasurer  
Alan Wood Secretary  
Iain Hodcroft  
David Archer  
Laurel Avery  
Andy Clark  
Eileen Smith

**Website:** [www.porchboxes.org.uk](http://www.porchboxes.org.uk)

**Bank:** Santander UK plc, Bridle Road, Bootle L30 4GB

**Staff:** The charity has no paid staff.

## **Structure, governance and management**

### **Description of the charity's trusts**

#### **Type of governing document:**

Constitution amended and adopted 21 May 2002

#### **How the charity is constituted:**

Association consisting of

- individuals (over the age of 18 years) who are interested in furthering the work of the Charity and who have paid any annual subscription laid down from time to time by the Executive Committee [presently set at zero], and
- any body corporate or unincorporated association which is interested in furthering the Charity's work and has paid any annual subscription [presently set at zero] [any such body being called in this constitution a 'member organisation']

Individual members include those who by their presence at meetings or in other ways demonstrate their interest in furthering the work of the charity.

#### **Trustee selection methods:**

Trustees are elected or re-elected annually at the Annual General Meeting held in Spring each year

#### **Additional governance issues:**

- All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits. Agreed expenses incurred are reimbursed.
- In accordance with its Constitution, Porch Boxes co-operates with other agencies locally where they are undertaking work similar to that of Porch Boxes.
- Porch Boxes representatives have attended and are willing to attend meetings and forums as required in order to share information relevant to our users and those with a shared interest in countering food poverty.
- The Trustees have identified major risks to the achievement of the charity's objectives and have put in place insurance, policies or practices to seek to avoid the objectives of the charity being frustrated. Policies include Diversity, Equal Opportunities, Health and Safety, Safeguarding, Confidentiality and Support, Supervision and Training of Volunteers.

## **Objectives and activities**

### **Summary of the objects of Porch Boxes set out in the Constitution:**

The Charity's objects are the relief of poverty and distress primarily amongst people living in the Bury and Rochdale Metropolitan Boroughs in particular but not exclusively by the provision of food, toiletries and other essential goods.

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

In planning the activities for the year, the Trustees kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at meetings of the Management Committee.

We continued to promote our service with agencies working with vulnerable people in the areas indicated by our Constitution. We do not turn down occasional requests for assistance from contacts within neighbouring areas.

New agencies are provided with service on request. Our service is available to everyone who falls within our charitable objective, i.e. all vulnerable people in crisis need. Grant applications are made when appropriate.

Operations are massively supported by gifts in kind. The work of the charity is publicised amongst community groups such as Churches and schools whenever possible. Our website has proved to be an invaluable path for many agencies, community groups and others to learn of our work and offer support as financial donors, by offering gifts in-kind, and by volunteering. An on-line donation and gift-aiding capability is available.

A great contribution is made by volunteers who serve as Trustees, as packers, as deliverers of packs, as people who collect donations in kind, as publicists in various ways, as fundraisers and as administrators. We thank all these people, without whom there would be no "Porch Boxes".

We are increasingly being asked to support individuals in crisis need directly, we have experienced a growing number of telephone requests from such people. Where there is a need for a direct access response, we endeavor to signpost individuals to other appropriate agencies. However if this is not possible then Porch Boxes will meet that direct need for help.

## **Additional details of objectives and activities**

### **Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year:**

The following section sets out the Trustees' assessment of the achievement of the charity this year.

The referral agencies through which we support vulnerable people in crisis need continue to report a very high degree of satisfaction with the service provided. In particular, they continue to report that Porch Boxes makes a huge difference in the lives of their service users.

Porch Boxes supports many agencies, and assists them in meeting their own objectives. Thus assisting them in encouraging healthy lifestyles, returning vulnerable people to sustainable lifestyles, preventing crime, reducing dependence on drugs and alcohol and avoiding destitution.

Porch Boxes provides an outlet for the spontaneous urge of many in the community to provide practical support to people in crisis.

Throughout the year, Porch Boxes has continued to work closely with other groups who are planning and working to support local vulnerable people in crisis need.

Our partners include local churches, schools, individual teams within Bury Council and local foodbanks via BCSN.

The website is proving valuable and the Trustees are grateful for the work that goes into maintaining this.

## **Financial review**

### **Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves:**

Our reserve policy is always to have sufficient funds for known commitments and to allow for the purchase of items for crisis packs and volunteer expenses. The reserve fund of £60,000 has been put in place to protect the Charity should the rent free use of the Bradley Fold Unit be withdrawn at any point in the future. It is intended to cover accommodation costs in the short term and has been estimated as 24 months at an assumed monthly rent of £2,500.

### **Details of any funds materially in deficit:**

Not applicable

### **Further financial review details:**

The Accounts for 2022 are included in this Report. They have been scrutinised by an Independent Examiner, whose signature is held on the original documents. Further comments on the finances of the charity are included as notes to the Accounts, and a commentary in the Assessment of Achievement section of this Report. Those making financial gifts are listed in the Thanks section of this Report (although individual donors are not named there).

### **Assessment of achievement**

The Trustees have established a number of measures to assess the success of Porch Boxes' service. Those measures and our assessment against them are set out briefly.

#### **Measure 1: Satisfaction with service provided to be assured, as expressed by referral agencies**

- Unsolicited testimony to the importance of the work of the charity continues to be received.
- Communications with us bear testimony to the responsive nature of the service in providing what customers say they want. They also show that agencies are convinced that the contribution made by Porch Boxes to their work makes a real difference in the lives of their vulnerable clients.

## Measure 2: Weekly deliveries

- The following numbers are for weekly parcels packed and delivered. This doesn't include additional items such as nappies and baby items. The numbers on the chart below for 2022 are purely food parcels/bags.

**2022**

Date	Numbers	Date	Numbers	Date	Numbers
5 <sup>th</sup> January	47	2 <sup>nd</sup> February	92	2 <sup>nd</sup> March	119
12 <sup>th</sup> January	92	9 <sup>th</sup> February	70	9 <sup>th</sup> March	106
19 <sup>th</sup> January	111	16 <sup>th</sup> February	103	16 <sup>th</sup> March	63
26 <sup>th</sup> January	83	23 <sup>rd</sup> February	89	23 <sup>rd</sup> March	84
				30 <sup>th</sup> March	58
<b>Total</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>430</b>

## Easter Eggs 2022

Agency	Number
WOW	61
CAP	20 eggs and 27 chocs for hampers
Resettlement	103
First Point	75
Phillips High	10
Care Leavers	40
Parkview	21
Ingeus	60
Travellers Service	35
Topping Fold	20
Bury Social Care	142
Benjamin Court	60
WHAG Rosecourt	18
Plus individual families	Unknown
<b>Total</b>	<b>665 +</b>

Date	Numbers	Date	Numbers	Date	Numbers
6 <sup>th</sup> April	115	4 <sup>th</sup> May	64	1 <sup>st</sup> June	81
13 <sup>th</sup> April	93	11 <sup>th</sup> May	83	8 <sup>th</sup> June	57
20 <sup>th</sup> April	71	18 <sup>th</sup> May	64	15 <sup>th</sup> June	84
27 <sup>th</sup> April	89	25 <sup>th</sup> May	76	22 <sup>nd</sup> June	110
				29 <sup>th</sup> June	53
<b>Total</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>385</b>

Date	Numbers		Date	Numbers		Date	Numbers
6 <sup>th</sup> July	111		3 <sup>rd</sup> August	88		7 <sup>th</sup> September	55
13 <sup>th</sup> July	78		10 <sup>th</sup> August	90		14 <sup>th</sup> September	123
20 <sup>th</sup> July	83		17 <sup>th</sup> August	101		21 <sup>st</sup> September	81
27 <sup>th</sup> July	95		24 <sup>th</sup> August	73		28 <sup>th</sup> September	113
			31 <sup>st</sup> August	81			
<b>Total</b>	<b>367</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>436</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>372</b>

Date	Numbers		Date	Numbers		Date	Numbers
5 <sup>th</sup> October	100		2 <sup>nd</sup> November	111		7 <sup>th</sup> December	88
12 <sup>th</sup> October	133		9 <sup>th</sup> November	108		14 <sup>th</sup> December	99
19 <sup>th</sup> October	96		16 <sup>th</sup> November	102		21 <sup>st</sup> December	97
26 <sup>th</sup> October	131		23 <sup>rd</sup> November	118		28 <sup>th</sup> December	35
			30 <sup>th</sup> November	106			
<b>Total</b>	<b>460</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>545</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>319 Plus 300 Xmas hampers</b>

### Christmas Deliveries 2022

Family Hampers	Individual Hampers	Presents
132	168	149 children 44 adults

### Plus

Extra chocs and treats to various agencies

Selection boxes to all children plus stock for agencies and 137 resettlement team

Stock for hampers

## **Additional Items not included in the chart above**

**deliveries of nappies and/or toiletries**

**cots**

**prams**

**high chairs**

**safety gates**

**fresh food, cleaning materials baby milk and baby food**

**toys, books and clothes**

**Beds, mattresses, bedding**

### **Measure 3: Budget to be established and met**

- A budget has been established for 2023 as shown in the Accounts section. Expenditure will be undertaken against that budget.
- We are very grateful again this year for the very generous level of financial support we have received by way of donations from both individuals and corporate bodies.

### **Information from agencies:**

We always ask our agency users for the reasons why their client needs a box from us. This allows us to try and understand the reasons and trends behind the food poverty issue in our locality.

Here are the main reasons:

- Increased energy bills and cost of living increases
- Difficulties encountered with the universal credit system
- moving to independent living with delays in establishing benefits
- destitute asylum seekers with no recourse to public funds
- Benefit delays following change of circumstance appeals
- Inability to budget and manage income.
- Illness and bereavements
- Addiction issues
- fleeing difficult home circumstances
- Benefits sanctions/suspension or disallowance
- ‘sofa surfing’ and ‘rough sleeping’
- Unemployment, loss of hours and changes to contracts

## Thoughts from our volunteers 2022

I have been volunteering at Porch for a good few years now, and we all get along great and have a good laugh and work fabulously as a team. The workload varies, but tends to get busier as the need increases.

Whilst we deal mainly with the caring agencies, I also liaise with the Bury Veterans Association, and count it as a privilege to help our vets where needed.

I am in awe how many people supply us with food and other necessary items bearing mind that everyone's budgets are stretched these days. I think we all dream of a time when our services will no longer be needed, but until then, we will carry on.

The wages are brilliant ( a brew and a bacon butty 😊).

*Steve*

I'm in my tenth year of volunteering for Porch Boxes. It continues to be a rewarding and inspiring experience, working with a great team.

There's always plenty to do with lots of friendly banter to keep up spirits!

*David*

Seven years on & still enjoying being part of the great team of volunteers at Porch Boxes. Almost feel like family now! And it's good to see that people are kind enough to continue donating despite the hard financial times we're living in. Thanks again to them.

*Diane*

It is such a shame food banks such as porch have to exist - our society should do better - but I do draw encouragement from the generosity of spirit of our donors and my fellow volunteers and from the reports of the impacts which our work has on people's lives

*Andy*

Most of the people at porch box have been volunteering regularly for a number of years and we are a friendly, enthusiastic and efficient team.

We still feel that Porch boxes is having a positive impact with the feedback received from the agencies giving us the incentive to turn up every week. For me, volunteering at Porch Box continues to be an enjoyable experience

### *Laurel*

I find it very satisfying to volunteer with Porch Boxes. In theory it would be good all round if their services were not needed at all....but they are.

I am very happy with my contribution of collecting donations from the different places, as available, then packing the bags and delivering them directly to the houses or agencies as needed.

The team are all of a like mind and we also enjoy sitting down together for a cuppa half way through the sessions.

### *Don*

I enjoy working at Bradley Fold as I find it very rewarding knowing that my efforts no matter how small will enable someone to have food during difficult times.

This is especially true for people who are on the discharge ward at Fairfield Hospital especially the ones who don't have anyone who can do their shopping for them when they leave hospital. These people are now going home with a bag of essential high nutrition groceries. This provides them with an emergency stop gap until family or other services can provide further help.

Every one of us who work in our cold warehouse packing, sorting, and delivering much needed items do this with the same goal in mind... to help those in immediate need.

### *Shirley*

## **Donations 2022**

Our thanks go to all those many people and organisations who have given gifts of help, food, goods or money. These include;

Ainsworth Unitarian Chapel  
All Saints Church [St. Francis House]  
Asda Bury [weekly collection trolley]  
Asda Radcliffe [weekly collection trolley]  
Asda Pilsworth [weekly collection trolley]  
Asda Foundation

Bolton Road Methodist Church  
Bury URC  
Bury Church High School [Easter Collection]  
Bury College Students

Cams Lane Community Primary School  
Christ Church Ainsworth  
Christ Church Ainsworth CE Primary School  
Christ Church Ramsbottom  
Christ Church Walmersley  
Christ Church Walshaw Church  
Christ Church Walshaw CE Primary School

Elton CP School  
Emmanuel Church Holcombe  
Emmanuel Church Canon Lewis Hall

Fairfield community Primary School  
Four Lane Ends Congregation

Gorsefield CP School  
Greenmount URC  
Guardian Angels RC Church

Holcombe Brook CP School  
Holcombe Emmanuel Church  
Holcombe Brook & Summerseat WI

Manchester City Supporters Bury  
Mersey Drive Community Primary School  
Morrisons Whitefield [weekly collection trolley]  
Morrisons Ramsbottom [weekly collection trolley]

Old Hall Community Primary School

Radcliffe URC  
Radcliffe Parish Church  
Rakem.co.uk  
Ramsbottom Soroptomists

Prestwich & Whitefield W.I.

Seedfield Methodist Church & local Community  
Stand URC

St. Andrews CE Church Ramsbottom

St. George's Church Simister

St. Hilda's CE Primary School Prestwich

St Hilda's CE Church Prestwich

St. James' Parish Church Elton

St. John with St. Mark CE Primary School

St. John & St. Mark CE Church Seedfield

St. Margaret's CE Church Prestwich

St. Margaret's CE Primary School Prestwich

St. Mary's Church Radcliffe

St. Mary's Church Prestwich

St. Mary's CE Primary School Prestwich

St. Mary's Church Hawkshaw

St. Stephen's CE Primary School

St. Stephen's Church

St. Thomas Church

St. Thomas C.E. Primary School Bury

St. Thomas & St. John Church Radcliffe

Summerseat Methodist Church

Summerseat Players Ramsbottom

Sunnybank Community Primary School

The Tottington Centre

Tottington Methodist Church

Village Greens Community Co-operative Store, Prestwich

Wesley Methodist Church

Whittaker Lane Medical Centre Prestwich

Woodbank Primary School

## **Individuals**

Martha Lance

Peter Cole

Mrs. Dorothy Heaton

Sharlene Hodder

Gordon Pinder

Andrew Taylor

## **Christmas Donors 2022**

Ainsworth Village Christmas Lights Switch on

Horsefield & Smith Accountants Bury

Crown Energy

St. Michael's RC Primary School Whitefield

Lowercroft Community Primary School

Tottington Methodist Church & Tottington Centre and community

Church of Latter Day Saints

Natwest Bank  
Tottington Community Primary School  
Repic @ Waterfold Business Park  
Elton Community Primary School  
Sambro on Dumers Lane  
Occupational Therapy Dept @ Fairfield General Hospital  
Bam Nuttall  
Baum Trading  
Bury Grammar Schools  
Keeley @ Crown Energy  
Bury FC U11 girls  
Rowlands Road Methodist Church  
Seedfield Methodist Church and the local community  
Arvind Shori and supporters  
Bury College student donations  
Bolton Road Methodist Church  
Whitefield and Prestwich WI  
Walmer Tennis Club Walmersley  
Bury Veterans Association  
Windsor House Staff

### **Financial Donations**

Achieve  
Amicus  
Blackford Bridge URC  
Bury Christian Fellowship  
Churches Together Radcliffe  
Joseph Holt Foundation  
Prestwich & whitefield WI  
Phil & Ann Cook  
Bury Christian Fellowship  
Monday Singers  
Kiklees Valley PCC  
WHN Solicitors

### **The Garden Bin collectors**

Diane Gaunt [Greenmount]  
Gill Handley [Holcombe Brook]  
Annette Alderson [Tottington Central]

### **Additional Thank you**

Madeleine Archer for maintaining the website and managing social media

### **Note**

**In addition to these lists there are many individuals who just leave donations with us and no names.**

**Many individuals at local churches regularly send monetary donations.**

**Also some donations are collected from other drop off points various places in the Borough and we do not always have records of who these donors are**

**Additional financial donations are also recorded in the accounts section.**

## **Referral agencies 2022**

We have provided packs/stock to the following agencies during 2022.

### **Bury Metropolitan Borough**

Access and Crisis Team (Mental Health), Fairfield Hospital  
Achieve Bury formerly Bury Drug and Alcohol Team  
Attic

Beacon VCFA  
Bethany Project (Adullam Homes)  
Brandlesholme Foodbank  
Bolton Road Food Club  
Bury Out of hours Emergency Social Care Team Bradley Fold  
Bury MBC, housing Resettlement Team, Town Hall  
Bury MBC, Adult Services (Social Care)  
Bury MBC, Children's Services Advice and Assessment now IRT  
Bury MBC, Children's Services Safeguarding Team 3 Knowsley Place  
Bury MBC, Community Mental Health Team - Humphrey House  
Bury MBC, Education Department, Parent Support Advisers  
Bury MBC, School Attendance Teams  
Bury MBC, Social Services Textile Hall  
Bury MBC Travellers Service  
Bury MBC Rapid Response Team Textile Hall  
Bury Care Leavers [The Through Care Team] Now CASS  
Bury Young Carers  
Bury College  
Bury Veterans Association

Calico Floating Support Housing  
CAP  
Castlecroft House & Peel Lodge [Bury young People]  
Creative Support Limited  
Creative Living Centre

Early Break, Radcliffe  
Early Intervention Team Humphrey House  
Eastward Community Primary School  
Ellen Court, Radcliffe, Great Places Housing Group  
Elton Community Primary School  
Early Help Teams at Redvales & Radcliffe Childrens Centres

Fairfield Community Primary School  
Fairfield Hospital Ward 18 Discharge lounge [Elderly Patients]  
First Point Families Radcliffe

Greater Manchester Probation Service, Bury  
Gorsefield Community Primary School

Health Visitor Teams, Community Nursery Nurses throughout the Borough  
Heaton Park Community Primary School  
Heaton Park Methodist Food Club  
Home Treatment Team - Irwell Unit, Fairfield Hospital  
Housing First  
Irwell Valley Homes  
Ingeus  
Ingeus Restart

Manna House  
Milltown House  
Motiv8te

NASS Families

Park View Community Primary School  
Pennine care - Nursing Teams, Family Practitioners and Health Visitors Various  
Phillips High School  
Prestwich Jobcentre  
Prosupport

Rachel House (Barnardos)  
Radcliffe Primary Care Centre Health visitors  
Ramsbottom GP's  
Rammy Pantry  
Ribble Drive Community Primary School  
Rossendale Food Box Scheme

Safenet  
Spring Lane School  
Springs TRA  
St. Andrew's Pantry Whitefield  
St. Joseph & St. Bede's RC Primary School  
St. Margaret's Church Prestwich  
St. Paul's CE Primary School  
St. Stephen's CE Primary School  
Staying Well Team

Topping Fold TRA  
Trinity Foodbank Radcliffe  
Trusthouse

Women Of Worth

Youth Justice Nurse

## **Rochdale Metropolitan Borough**

Gabriel Court Rochdale (Barnardos)  
Greater Manchester Probation Service, Rochdale  
Langley Children Centre  
Rochdale MBC, Children in Care Team  
Rochdale MBC, Social Services, Young People's Support Team  
Women's Housing Action Group, Rochdale (Refuge, Rose Court and Tenancy Support)

## **Elsewhere**

Back up [Bolton Young People]  
Out There (supporting families of prisoners), Hulme  
Refugee Action

## Accounts pages

### PORCH BOXES

#### GENERAL FUND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2022 TO 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2022

[All funds are restricted]

Item	2022	2021 (for comparison)	2023 Budget
<b>INCOME</b>			
<b>Grants</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Donations</b>			<b>25000.00</b>
Individual Donations	10285.70	11269.21	
Donations via Enthuse	11517.41	19081.27	
Gift Aid Tax Reclaim	2705.74	4091.08	
Bury Christian Fellowship	500.04	500.04	
Kirklees Valley PCC	120.00	120.00	
Benevity Portal	199.29	52.12	
Charities Trust	49.87	0.00	
Joseph Holt	21619.86	0.00	
WHN Solicitors	1462.50	0.00	
Amicus	200.00	0.00	
PCC of St Thomas & St John	500.00	100.00	
Christ Church Walmersley	280.00	0.00	
Tottington Methodist Church	100.00	0.00	
Prestwich & Whitefield WI	230.50	0.00	
Blackford Bridge URC	100.00	0.00	
Churches Together Radcliffe	150.00	0.00	
The Monday Singers	700.00	500.00	
Achieve	38.85	0.00	
BAM Nuttall	0.00	500.00	
St Margarets	0.00	605.00	
Healthy Investment	0.00	2000.00	
Groundwork	0.00	1125.00	
Tottington Centre	0.00	2000.00	
Skipton Building Society	0.00	60.00	
St Georges Simister	0.00	50.00	
Bury Lodge of Relief	0.00	150.00	
Fairfield Primary School	0.00	168.61	
Chapter of Beauty	0.00	150.00	
Asda Foundation	0.00	200.00	
Fairfield General Hospital	0.00	170.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50759.76</b>	<b>42892.33</b>	<b>25000.00</b>

<b>Item</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>(for comparison)</b>		<b>Budget</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Purchase of Items for Packs	12103.45	5193.37	12500.00
Xmas & Easter Treats	2223.44	3791.53	5000.00
Beds for Bury	5112.65	0.00	5000.00
Insurance	674.95	663.92	800.00
Postage/Stationery etc	96.98	36.24	200.00
Mileage Allowance	171.00	0.00	400.00
Charity Checkout Subscription	239.99	239.99	300.00
Room Hire	280.00	500.00	300.00
Contingency/Sundries	334.00	579.39	500.00
Transfer to Reserve Fund	0.00	60000.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21236.46</b>	<b>71004.44</b>	<b>25000.00</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS /</b>	<b>29523.30</b>	<b>[28112.11]</b>	
<b>[DEFICIT]</b>			

#### RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
		<b>[for comparison]</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Brought Forward	45828.37	73940.48
Net Surplus [Deficit]	29523.30	[28112.11]
<b>Carried Forward</b>	<b>75351.67</b>	<b>45828.37</b>

#### NOTE TO ACCOUNTS

1. Routine provision of crisis pack contents and the provision of volunteer effort are of a non-monetary value and do not therefore show in the accounts either as income or expenditure.

**RESERVE FUND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2022 TO 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

**BROUGHT FORWARD 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2022                      60000.00**

No Income

No Expenditure

**CLOSING BALANCE 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2022                      60000.00**

**NOTE TO ACCOUNTS**

The reserve fund of £60000 has been put in place to protect the Charity should the rent free use of the Bradley Fold unit be withdrawn at any point in the future. It is intended to cover accommodation costs in the short term and has been estimated as 24 months at an assumed monthly rent of £2500.

**RING FENCED FUNDS [BURY MBC] INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2022 TO 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

**BROUGHT FORWARD 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2022                      6364.85**

Cancellation of unrepresented cheque no.000467                      £1000.00

**EXPENDITURE**

Payment to Bury VCFA                      7364.85

**CLOSING BALANCE 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2022                      0.00**

**NOTE TO ACCOUNTS**

The ring-fenced funds are now exhausted.

**Original Signed by Michael Perrin**

**31<sup>st</sup> January 2023**

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Porch Boxes**

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022.

### **Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner**

The charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- \* examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- \* to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- \* to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

### **Basis of Independent Examiner's Report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- \* to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 Of the 2011 Act
- \* to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Name Claire Sedgwick**

**Relevant professional qualification or body: FCA**

**Original signed by Claire Sedgwick**

**25<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

## **STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES**

Charity Law requires the trustees of the Management Committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs for that Charity, and of the results of the Charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonably prudent
- Prepare the financial statements on the 'going concern' basis unless it is inappropriate to presume this charity will continue in business

The Trustees are responsible for:

- Keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993.
- The safeguarding of the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention of fraud and detection of other irregularities.

### **Declaration**

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



**Michael Perrin**  
Treasurer



**Julia Rowlands**  
Chair

March 2023

**PORCH BOXES**

England & Wales - Charity number 1089998

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# Accounts

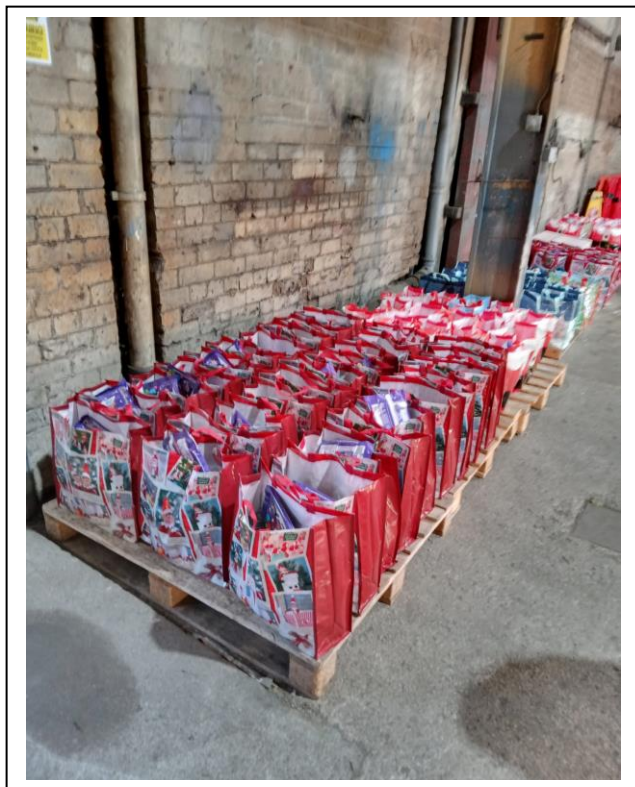
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providing crisis packs for those in need

**PORCH BOXES**

# **ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**



**2021**

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## ***Cover Photo***

***Christmas Bags ready for delivery December 2021***

## **Welcome 2022**

Welcome to our twenty second Annual Report.

It has been yet another extremely busy year.

The pandemic brought about changes in our operating system at Porch Boxes and we have continued with these as the virus situation has altered throughout the last year. As stated in the last report the new system has proved to be more efficient than our previous operation so it continues.

We have all lived through unprecedented times. I am proud to report that the team at Porch Boxes continue to work with dedication, enthusiasm and compassion. Offering much needed help to so many people in our area.

Once again I would like to thank the countless numbers of people who have contributed to the continued success of Porch Boxes in so many ways this year.

Our committed team of volunteers meet on Wednesday mornings at the warehouse and usually pack and deliver on average 80 to 100 bags/boxes per week. This number continues to fluctuate on a weekly basis and I see no reason why this will decrease in our current financial climate.

Over the last two years we have seen a change in the agencies using our service. Some continue to work from home and have not returned to their offices. This continues to bring difficulties for their service users.

We remain a member of the Bury Community Support Network BCSN which was one positive outcome of the pandemic. All food groups now work together sharing information, resources and support.

Many regular donors have altered their way of giving with a number now opting to support us financially as opposed to gifts of goods. This has added extra flexibility for us as we can purchase many more much needed items which are not usually donated e.g. UHT milk which can now be given weekly with most orders. We have also been able to be more generous in the number of items in each food bag.

This year also saw the start of a new service we are able to offer. We now provide high calorie nutrition bags to elderly and vulnerable patients on their discharge from Fairfield Hospital. The contents of the bags have been agreed with nutrition experts at the NHS Foundation trust. We were thrilled to win the Tesco blue token scheme which gave us some funds to start this system up.

These continue to be tough times and the need for help and support continues to increase year on year. Thankfully the kindness and generosity of the people of Bury has also increased.

We are grateful to have the continued support from Bury Council. We could not operate without the use of part of one of their industrial units at Bradley Fold Trading Estate. This is our main distribution and work centre.

We have also invested in a new sign which we have outside the unit when we are in operation making us easier to find!! Many thanks to the team at Bury Signs Ltd who provided us with the sign at cost and donated the design and artwork for free.

In the coming months we have another exciting new 'Beds For Bury' project which we are in the process of setting up.

Following the pandemic and the rise in foodbank usage we have been regularly approached for help by individuals and continue to signpost them to relevant agencies and groups offering access to food provision and advice. If they have difficulty accessing further help we will continue to meet their needs directly.

I am immensely proud to work with such an incredible team of volunteers who have gone the extra mile during this past year and continue to do so.

As always it remains a tremendous privilege to act as Chair to Porch Boxes and it is an honour to work with such a committed and dedicated group of volunteers who make a difference to the lives of so many people.



**Julia Rowlands**  
Chair

# Trustees' annual report for the period 1 January to 31 December 2021

## Reference and administration details

**Charity name:** Porch Boxes

**Other names by which  
Charity is known:** The Porch  
Porch Project

**Registered charity number:** 1089998

**Charity's principal address:** 46 Starling Road, Radcliffe M26 4LN

**Names of the charity trustees  
who manage the charity:** Julia Rowlands Chair  
Michael Perrin Treasurer  
Alan Wood Secretary  
Iain Hodcroft  
David Archer  
Laurel Avery  
Andy Clark  
Eileen Smith

**Website:** [www.porchboxes.org.uk](http://www.porchboxes.org.uk)

**Bank:** Santander UK plc, Bridle Road, Bootle L30 4GB

**Staff:** The charity has no paid staff.

## **Structure, governance and management**

### **Description of the charity's trusts**

#### **Type of governing document:**

Constitution amended and adopted 21 May 2002

#### **How the charity is constituted:**

Association consisting of

- individuals (over the age of 18 years) who are interested in furthering the work of the Charity and who have paid any annual subscription laid down from time to time by the Executive Committee [presently set at zero], and
- any body corporate or unincorporated association which is interested in furthering the Charity's work and has paid any annual subscription [presently set at zero] [any such body being called in this constitution a 'member organisation']

Individual members include those who by their presence at meetings or in other ways demonstrate their interest in furthering the work of the charity.

#### **Trustee selection methods:**

Trustees are elected or re-elected annually at the Annual General Meeting held in Spring each year

#### **Additional governance issues:**

- All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits. Agreed expenses incurred are reimbursed.
- In accordance with its Constitution, Porch Boxes co-operates with other agencies locally where they are undertaking work similar to that of Porch Boxes.
- Porch Boxes representatives have attended and are willing to attend meetings and forums as required in order to share information relevant to our users and those with a shared interest in countering food poverty.
- The Trustees have identified major risks to the achievement of the charity's objectives and have put in place insurance, policies or practices to seek to avoid the objectives of the charity being frustrated. Policies include Diversity, Equal Opportunities, Health and Safety, Safeguarding, Confidentiality and Support, Supervision and Training of Volunteers.

## **Objectives and activities**

### **Summary of the objects of Porch Boxes set out in the Constitution:**

The Charity's objects are the relief of poverty and distress primarily amongst people living in the Bury and Rochdale Metropolitan Boroughs in particular but not exclusively by the provision of food, toiletries and other essential goods.

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

In planning the activities for the year, the Trustees kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at meetings of the Management Committee.

We continued to promote our service with agencies working with vulnerable people in the areas indicated by our Constitution. We do not turn down occasional requests for assistance from contacts within neighbouring areas.

New agencies are provided with service on request. Our service is available to everyone who falls within our charitable objective, i.e. all vulnerable people in crisis need. Grant applications are made when appropriate.

Operations are massively supported by gifts in kind. The work of the charity is publicised amongst community groups such as Churches and schools whenever possible. Our website has proved to be an invaluable path for many agencies, community groups and others to learn of our work and offer support as financial donors, by offering gifts in-kind, and by volunteering. An on-line donation and gift-aiding capability is available.

A great contribution is made by volunteers who serve as Trustees, as packers, as deliverers of packs, as people who collect donations in kind, as publicists in various ways, as fundraisers and as administrators. We thank all these people, without whom there would be no "Porch Boxes".

We are increasingly being asked to support individuals in crisis need directly, we have experienced a growing number of telephone requests from such people. Where there is a need for a direct access response, we endeavor to signpost individuals to other appropriate agencies. However if this is not possible then Porch Boxes will meet that direct need for help.

## **Additional details of objectives and activities**

### **Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year:**

The following section sets out the Trustees' assessment of the achievement of the charity this year.

The referral agencies through which we support vulnerable people in crisis need continue to report a very high degree of satisfaction with the service provided. In particular, they continue to report that Porch Boxes makes a huge difference in the lives of their service users.

Porch Boxes supports many agencies, and assists them in meeting their own objectives. Thus assisting them in encouraging healthy lifestyles, returning vulnerable people to sustainable lifestyles, preventing crime, reducing dependence on drugs and alcohol and avoiding destitution.

Porch Boxes provides an outlet for the spontaneous urge of many in the community to provide practical support to people in crisis.

Throughout the year, Porch Boxes has continued to work closely with other groups who are planning and working to support local vulnerable people in crisis need.

Our partners include local churches, schools, individual teams within Bury Council and local foodbanks via BCSN.

The website is proving valuable and the Trustees are grateful for the work that goes into maintaining this.

## **Financial review**

### **Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves:**

Our reserve policy is always to have sufficient funds for known commitments and to allow for the purchase of items for crisis packs and volunteer expenses. The reserve fund of £60,000 has been put in place to protect the Charity should the rent free use of the Bradley Fold Unit be withdrawn at any point in the future. It is intended to cover accommodation costs in the short term and has been estimated as 24 months at an assumed monthly rent of £2,500.

### **Details of any funds materially in deficit:**

Not applicable

### **Further financial review details:**

The Accounts for 2021 are included in this Report. They have been scrutinised by an Independent Examiner, whose signature is held on the original documents. Further comments on the finances of the charity are included as notes to the Accounts, and a commentary in the Assessment of Achievement section of this Report. Those making financial gifts are listed in the Thanks section of this Report (although individual donors are not named there).

### **Assessment of achievement**

The Trustees have established a number of measures to assess the success of Porch Boxes' service. Those measures and our assessment against them are set out briefly.

#### **Measure 1: Satisfaction with service provided to be assured, as expressed by referral agencies**

- Unsolicited testimony to the importance of the work of the charity continues to be received.
- Communications with us bear testimony to the responsive nature of the service in providing what customers say they want. They also show that agencies are convinced that the contribution made by Porch Boxes to their work makes a real difference in the lives of their vulnerable clients.

#### **Measure 2: Weekly deliveries**

- The following numbers are for weekly parcels packed and delivered. This doesn't include additional items such as nappies and baby items. The numbers on the chart below for 2021 are purely food parcels/bags.

## 2021

Date	Numbers	Date	Numbers	Date	Numbers
6 <sup>th</sup> January	126	3 <sup>rd</sup> February	159	3 <sup>rd</sup> March	162
13 <sup>th</sup> January	199	10 <sup>th</sup> February	159	10 <sup>th</sup> March	175
20 <sup>th</sup> January	171	17 <sup>th</sup> February	180	17 <sup>th</sup> March	186
27 <sup>th</sup> January	201	24 <sup>th</sup> February	144	24 <sup>th</sup> March	118
				31 <sup>st</sup> March	119
<b>Total</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>642</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>602</b>

## Easter 2021

Agency	Number
WOW	44
CAP	25
Resettlement	50
First Point	30
Young Carers	75
Care Leavers	86
Parkview	21
Maximus	36
Travellers Service	60
Ellen Court	20
Safenet	30
Topping Fold	20
Castlecroft	25
Radcliffe Road	25

Date	Numbers	Date	Numbers	Date	Numbers
7 <sup>th</sup> April	87	5 <sup>th</sup> May	108	2 <sup>nd</sup> June	68
14 <sup>th</sup> April	132	12 <sup>th</sup> May	135	9 <sup>th</sup> June	116
21 <sup>st</sup> April	133	19 <sup>th</sup> May	74	16 <sup>th</sup> June	81
28 <sup>th</sup> April	134	26 <sup>th</sup> May	128	23 <sup>rd</sup> June	142
				30 <sup>th</sup> June	70
<b>Total</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>477</b>

Date	Numbers	Date	Numbers	Date	Numbers
7 <sup>th</sup> July	134	4 <sup>th</sup> August	84	1 <sup>st</sup> September	57
14 <sup>th</sup> July	78	11 <sup>th</sup> August	81	8 <sup>th</sup> September	81
21 <sup>st</sup> July	111	18 <sup>th</sup> August	110	15 <sup>th</sup> September	62
28 <sup>th</sup> July	103	25 <sup>th</sup> August	19	22 <sup>nd</sup> September	66
				29 <sup>th</sup> September	96
<b>Total</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>362</b>

Date	Numbers	Date	Numbers	Date	Numbers
6 <sup>th</sup> October	88	3 <sup>rd</sup> November	81	1 <sup>st</sup> December	72
13 <sup>th</sup> October	136	10 <sup>th</sup> November	72	8 <sup>th</sup> December	75
20 <sup>th</sup> October	52	17 <sup>th</sup> November	95	15 <sup>th</sup> December	101
27 <sup>th</sup> October	86	24 <sup>th</sup> November	76	22 <sup>nd</sup> December	120
				29 <sup>th</sup> December	63
<b>Total</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>431</b>

### Christmas Deliveries 2021

Family Hampers	Individual Hampers	Presents
<b>101</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>307</b>

**Plus supplies for veterans breakfast held over the Christmas period**

**Extra chocolates and treats to various agencies**

**Additional Items not included in the chart above**

**deliveries of nappies and/or toiletries**

**cots**

**prams**

**high chairs**

**safety gates**

**fresh food, cleaning materials, bedding, baby milk and baby food**

**toys, books and clothes**

### **Measure 3: Budget to be established and met**

- A budget has been established for 2022 as shown in the Accounts section. Expenditure will be undertaken against that budget.
- We are very grateful again this year for the very generous level of financial support we have received by way of donations from both individuals and corporate bodies.

### **Information from agencies:**

We always ask our agency users for the reasons why their client needs a box from us. This allows us to try and understand the reasons and trends behind the food poverty issue in our locality.

Here are the main reasons:

- Difficulties encountered with the universal credit system
- moving to independent living with delays in establishing benefits
- destitute asylum seekers with no recourse to public funds
- Benefit delays following change of circumstance appeals
- Inability to budget and manage income.
- Illness and bereavements
- Addiction issues
- fleeing difficult home circumstances
- Benefits sanctions/suspension or disallowance
- ‘sofa surfing’ and ‘rough sleeping’
- Unemployment, loss of hours and changes to contracts

### **Thoughts from our volunteers**

Once again I have seen the Porch Boxes volunteers work cheerfully and hard to keep the food parcels flowing to those in need. It is a privilege to be a part of such a dedicated and positive team.

*David*

Volunteering at Porch is a fulfilling and therapeutic way to spend a couple of hours on a Wednesday morning. To arrive first thing in the morning to see a stack of full crates to be dated and then at the end of shift those crates stacked empty is very rewarding. The continuing positive feedback from the

agencies we serve provides the motivation and justification to continue to do this each week. The continuing generosity of the individuals, groups, and churches, who donate never ceases to amaze me. Also, it is good to be part of a friendly, enthusiastic, and efficient team.

*Laurel*

I have been a volunteer team member now for approx 5 years and am very happy to continue doing so. It is only once a week for a couple of hours or so, and it is easy and satisfying 'work' to do. The benefits we provide affect a lot of people in a very positive way, as they do *need* the food packages we provide and they are appreciative of what we do for them. Gives a 'Feel-Good' factor all round....

*Don*

I've enjoyed yet another year volunteering with Porch Boxes. Still a great, well managed team who pull together & provide support where it's needed. Knowing that help is going directly to local people in need makes the work worthwhile. It's also great to see the generosity of the people of Bury many of whom donate week on week. A big thank you to them.

*Diane*

It's been another strange year – I feel very lucky for me and my family to have survived relatively unscathed. Porch Boxes and other foodbanks should not be necessary in this day and age but instead meet an essential need for others not so fortunate

*Andy*

I have been volunteering at Porch for a number of years now, and enjoy working with a really friendly, like minded, crew. The work we do is sadly essential and I count it a privilege to be involved. Our Covid working practices are much more efficient and effective which is brilliant.

*Steve*

I have been a volunteer with porch boxes for about 8 years now and still amazed by the work they do and the amount of people that are helped . All the volunteers are still protected from covid 19 by the continued use of separate work stations and a 2 shift system. Everyone at Porch Boxes works extremely hard, we are a fabulous team. and I am very happy to be part of it .

*Andrea*

**Harvest Donations 2021**

Our thanks go to all those many people and organisations who have given gifts of help, food, goods or money. These include;

All Saints Church [St. Francis House] & St.Francis Ladies Club  
Asda Bury [weekly collection trolley]  
Asda Radcliffe [weekly collection trolley]  
Asda Pilsworth [weekly collection trolley]  
Asda Foundation

Bolton Road Methodist & Playgroup  
Brandlesholme Methodist Church  
Bury URC  
Bury Church High School

Cams Lane Community Primary School  
Chesham Community Primary School  
Christ Church Ainsworth  
Christ Church Ainsworth CE Primary School  
Christ Church Walmersley  
Christ Church Walshaw Church  
Christ Church Walshaw CE Primary School  
Church of the Latter Day Saints Sunnybank

Dundee URC

Elton CP School  
Elms Bank School  
Emmanuel Church Holcombe

Fairfield community Primary School

Gorsefield CP School  
Greenhill Community Primary School  
Greenmount URC  
Greenmount Old School

Holcombe Brook CP School  
Holcombe Emmanuel Church  
Holcombe Emmanuel CE Primary School  
Hoyle Nursery School

Mersey Drive Community Primary School  
Millwood School  
Morrisons Whitefield [weekly collection trolley]  
Morrisons Ramsbottom [weekly collection trolley]

Old Hall Community Primary School

Radcliffe URC

Parrenthorn High School

Prestwich & Whitefield W.I.  
Prestwich Methodist Church

Seedfield Methodist Church & local Community  
Stand URC

St. Andrews CE Primary Radcliffe  
St. Andrew's Church Radcliffe  
St. George's Church Simister  
St. Hilda's CE Primary School Prestwich  
St Hilda's CE Church Prestwich  
St. John with St. Mark CE Primary School  
St. John & St. Mark CE Church Seedfield  
St. Marie's RC Primary School  
St. Margaret's CE Church Prestwich  
St. Margaret's CE Primary School Prestwich  
St. Mary's Church Hawkshaw  
St. Mary's Church Radcliffe  
St. Mary's RC Primary School Radcliffe  
St. Mary's Church Prestwich  
St. Mary's CE Primary School Prestwich  
St. Mary's C.E. Primary School Hawkshaw  
St. Paul's Church Ramsbottom  
St. Stephen's CE Primary School  
St. Stephen's Church  
St. Thomas Church  
St. Thomas C.E. Primary School Bury  
St. Thomas & St. John Church Radcliffe  
Summerseat Methodist Church  
Sunnybank Community Primary School

The Tottington Centre  
Tottington Methodist Church

Village Greens Community Co-operative Store, Prestwich

Wesley Methodist Church  
Whitefield Methodist Church  
Woodbank Primary School

### **Christmas Donors 2021**

Argos Bury  
DTE Business advisors Bury  
Horsefield & Smith Accountants Bury  
St. Michael's RC Primary School Whitefield  
Lowercroft Community Primary School  
Tottington High School via Jackie Postle  
Tottington Methodist Church & Tottington Centre and community  
Church of Latter Day Saints

Nationwide Building Society  
Brett Nelson Prestwich Family Martial Arts Club  
The stable Leisure Club Lavender Hotels [The Bolholt]  
Tottington Community Primary School  
Heaton Park Community Primary School  
Ramsbottom Tesco via Tracey community champion  
Sambro on Dumers Lane via Clare Ward  
Occupational Therapy Dept @ Fairfield General Hospital  
Bam Nuttall  
Sai Organisation  
Keeley @ Crown Energy  
Whittaker Lane Medical Centre Prestwich  
The Monday singers via Mildred D'Amore Besses URC  
Seedfield Methodist Church and the local community  
St. Mary's CE Primary School Prestwich  
St. Mary's RC Primary School Radcliffe  
Arvind Shori and supporters  
Bury College student donations via Dave mottishead and Tammy Davies  
Bolton Road Methodist Church & the playgroup located in the building  
Whitefield and Prestwich WI  
Valley Blinds Bradley Fold  
Victoria Hotel Walshaw  
Wilds Ltd Accountants Radcliffe  
Bury Veterans Association  
KSD Martial Arts Prestwich  
Ramsbottom Soroptomists  
Wednesday Art Group  
Ainsworth Friends of the Delph

### **Financial Donations**

Bury Christian Fellowship  
Bury Lodge of Relief  
Chapter of Beauty  
Fairfield General Hospital  
Groundwork [Tesco]  
Healthy Investment  
Kiklees Valley PCC  
Skipton Building Society

### **The Garden Bin collectors**

Diane Gaunt [Greenmount]  
Hayley Pendlebury [Woolfold]  
Joanne Trueman [Tottington South]  
Gill Handley [Holcombe Brook]  
Annette Alderson [Tottington Central]

Pam Martin [woolfold]

### **Additional Thank you**

Bury Signs Ltd  
Madeleine Archer for maintaining the website and managing social media

### **Note**

**In addition to these lists there are many individuals who just leave donations with us and no names.**

**Also some donations are collected from other drop off points various places in the Borough and we do not always have records of who these donors are**

**Additional financial donations are also recorded in the accounts section.**

### **Referral agencies 2021**

We have provided packs/stock to the following agencies during 2021.

#### **Bury Metropolitan Borough**

Access and Crisis Team (Mental Health), Fairfield Hospital  
Achieve Bury formerly Bury Drug and Alcohol Team  
Attic

BAWCS  
Beacon VCFA  
Bethany Project (Adullam Homes)  
Brandlesholme Foodbank  
Bury Out of hours Emergency Social Care Team Bradley Fold  
Bury Drug and Alcohol Team - now called Achieve  
Bury MBC, housing Resettlement Team, Town Hall  
Bury MBC, Adult Services (Social Care)  
Bury MBC, Bury Community Support Fund  
Bury MBC, Children's Services Advice and Assessment now IAT  
Bury MBC, Children's Services Safeguarding Team  
Bury MBC, Community Mental Health Team - Humphrey House

Bury MBC, Education Department, Parent Support Advisers  
Bury MBC, School Attendance Team  
Bury MBC, Social Services Textile Hall  
Bury MBC Travellers Service  
Bury MBC Rapid Response Team Textile Hall  
Bury Care Leavers [The Through Care Team] Now CASS  
Bury Young Carers  
Bury College

Calico Floating Support Housing  
CAP  
Castlecroft House & Peel Lodge [Bury young People]  
Chesham TRA  
Chesham Foodbank  
Creative Support Limited, Ormrod Court  
Creative Living Centre

Early Break, Radcliffe  
Eastward Community Primary School  
Ellen Court, Radcliffe, Great Places Housing Group  
Elton Community Primary School  
Early Help Teams at Redvales Children Centre

Fairfield Community Primary School  
Fairfield Hospital Ward 18 Discharge lounge [Elderly Patients]  
First Point Families Radcliffe  
Fusion Care

Greater Manchester Probation Service, Bury  
Gorsefield Community Primary School

Health Visitor Teams, Community Nursery Nurses throughout the Borough  
Home Treatment Team - Irwell Unit, Fairfield Hospital  
Housing First  
Irwell Valley Homes  
Ingeus

Manna House  
Milltown House

NASS Families

Park View Community Primary School  
Pennine care - Nursing Teams, Family Practitioners and Health Visitors Various  
Phillips High School  
Prestwich Jobcentre  
Prosupport

Rachel House (Barnardos)  
Radcliffe Primary Care Centre Health visitors  
Ramsbottom GP's  
Rammy Pantry  
Rossendale Food Box Scheme

Safenet  
Spring Lane School  
Springs TRA  
St. Andrew's Pantry Whitefield  
St. Margaret's Church Prestwich  
St. Paul's CE Primary School  
St. Stephen's CE Primary School  
Staying Well Team

Topping Fold TRA  
Tottington High School  
Trusthouse

Women's Housing Action Group, Bury  
Women Of Worth

Youth Justice Nurse

### **Rochdale Metropolitan Borough**

Gabriel Court Rochdale (Barnardos)  
Greater Manchester Probation Service, Rochdale  
Langley Children Centre  
Petrus Floating Support  
Rochdale MBC, Children in Care Team  
Rochdale MBC, Social Services, Young People's Support Team  
Rochdale and Oldham Probation Service  
Stepping Stones, Ashburn House - Heywood  
Stepping Stones, Redfern House Rochdale  
Women's Housing Action Group, Rochdale (Refuge, Rose Court and Tenancy Support)

### **Elsewhere**

Back up [Bolton Young People]  
Bolton Social Services, Homelessness Unit, Benjamin Court  
City Heart  
Out There (supporting families of prisoners), Hulme  
P3  
Rochdale Road, Bolton Caritas  
Refugee Action

## PORCH BOXES

### GENERAL FUND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2021 TO 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2021

[All funds are restricted]

Item	2021	2020 (for comparison)	2022 Budget
<b>INCOME</b>			
<b>Grants</b>			<b>0.00</b>
Bury Council	0.00	10000.00	
Ring-Fenced Funds transfer	0.00	1000.00	
<b>Donations</b>			<b>20000.00</b>
Individual Donations	11269.21	11476.50	
Donations via Enthuse	19081.27	18072.56	
Gift Aid Tax Reclaim	4091.08	3043.82	
Bury Christian Fellowship	500.04	500.04	
Kirklees Valley PCC	120.00	760.62	
Benevity Portal	52.12	57.69	
BAM Nuttall	500.00	0.00	
St Margarets	605.00	0.00	
Healthy Investment	2000.00	500.00	
Groundwork	1125.00	0.00	
Tottington Centre	2000.00	235.00	
Skipton Building Society	60.00	0.00	
St Georges Simister	50.00	0.00	
St Thomas & St John	100.00	200.00	
Bury Lodge of Relief	150.00	0.00	
Fairfield Primary School	168.61	0.00	
Chapter of Beauty	150.00	0.00	
Asda Foundation	200.00	300.00	
The Monday Singers	500.00	0.00	
Fairfield General Hospital	170.00	0.00	
CJP Financial Services Ltd	0.00	4400.00	
Rowlands Methodist Church	0.00	1000.00	
WHN Solicitors	0.00	2000.00	
Fragrance Oils	0.00	1000.00	
Bury North Constituency	0.00	100.00	
PM&M Solutions	0.00	280.00	
Hazelhurst CPS	0.00	21.00	
Places for People	0.00	500.00	
Brambles Collection	0.00	63.51	
Antioch Christian Bookshop	0.00	500.00	
Radcliffe & Prestwich Synod	0.00	30.68	
Parish of Holcombe & Hawkshaw	0.00	243.00	
Christ Church Walmersley	0.00	50.00	
Education Welfare Team	0.00	90.00	
Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent	0.00	1500.00	
Manchester Guardian Society	0.00	1000.00	
St Marie's Primary School	0.00	300.01	
Bolton Road Methodist Church	0.00	310.00	
St Mary's C of E Primary	0.00	179.80	
St Paul's CE Primary School	0.00	48.00	
Lowercroft Primary School	0.00	552.84	
Old Hall Primary School	0.00	433.31	
Millwood Special School	0.00	35.50	
Ramsbottom Children's Centre	0.00	60.00	
D & E Motors	0.00	100.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>42892.33</b>	<b>60943.88</b>	<b>20000.00</b>

<b>Item</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020 (for comparison)</b>	<b>2022 Budget</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Purchase of Items for Packs	5193.37	9855.54	12000.00
Purchase of items for Xmas	3791.53	741.70	5000.00
Insurance	663.92	646.00	1000.00
Postage/Stationery etc	36.24	66.48	200.00
Charity Checkout Subscription	239.99	239.99	300.00
Rent	500.00	500.00	0.00
Contingency/Sundries	579.39	758.44	1500.00
Transfer to Reserve Fund	60000.00	0.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>71004.44</b>	<b>12808.15</b>	<b>20000.00</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS / [DEFICIT]</b>	<b>[28112.11]</b>	<b>48135.73</b>	

#### RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020 [for comparison]</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Brought Forward	73940.48	25804.75
Net Surplus [Deficit]	[28112.11]	48135.73
<b>Carried Forward</b>	<b>45828.37</b>	<b>73940.48</b>

#### NOTE TO ACCOUNTS

1. Routine provision of crisis pack contents and the provision of volunteer effort are of a non-monetary value and do not therefore show in the accounts either as income or expenditure.

**RESERVE FUND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2021 TO 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2021**

<b>OPENING BALANCE 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2021</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>INCOME</b>	
Transfer from General Fund	60000.00
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	
NO ACTIVITY	
<b>CLOSING BALANCE 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2021</b>	<b>60000.00</b>

**NOTE TO ACCOUNTS**

The reserve fund of £60000 has been put in place to protect the Charity should the rent free use of the Bradley Fold unit be withdrawn at any point in the future. It is intended to cover accommodation costs in the short term and has been estimated as 24 months at an assumed monthly rent of £2500.

**RING FENCED FUNDS [BURY MBC] INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2021 TO 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2021**

<b>INCOME</b>	
<b>OPENING BALANCE 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2021</b>	<b>6364.85</b>
NO ACTIVITY	
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	
NO ACTIVITY	
<b>CLOSING BALANCE 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2021</b>	<b>6364.85</b>

**NOTE TO ACCOUNTS**

The use of this remaining ring fenced money is to be determined by Bury MBC. Porch Boxes are merely acting as custodians

**Original signed by Michael Perrin**

**Date 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022**

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Porch Boxes**

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.

### **Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner**

The charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- \* examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act

- \* to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act

- \* to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

### **Basis of Independent Examiner's Report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- \* to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act

- \* to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

### **Original Signed by Harold Baxter**

**Relevant professional qualification or body: None**

**9<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

### **STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES**

Charity Law requires the trustees of the Management Committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs for that Charity, and of the results of the Charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonably prudent
- Prepare the financial statements on the ‘going concern’ basis unless it is inappropriate to presume this charity will continue in business

The Trustees are responsible for:

- Keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993.
- The safeguarding of the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention of fraud and detection of other irregularities.

## Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees’ report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity’s trustees



**Treasurer**

March 2022



**Julia Rowlands**  
**Chair**

**Michael Perrin**