



PROSHANTI UK

Company limited by guarantee

Trustees' report and financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

Charity information

Trustees' who served during the year

Lilu Ahmed (Chair of Trustees)
Dr Rebecca Scott
Dr Jaha Afroze Momena
Stephen David Storr

President Sir Stephen O'Brien
Vice President Rev Helen Matthews
Secretary Graham Rowbotham

Charity Number 1137179

Registered Office The Bromley by Bow Centre
St Leonard's Street, Bromley by Bow
London
E3 3BT
UK

Independent Examiner Syldon Abd Co Accountants
333 Stratford Workshop
Burford Rd, Stratford, London E15 2SP

Bankers HSBC Bank Plc
38 Canada Place, Canary Wharf
E14 5AH

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Report of the Trustees' for the year ended 31 December 2023

The Trustees present their annual report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 and confirm they comply with the Charities Act 2011, the trust deed and the Charities SORP 2005.

Structure, governance and management Governing document

Proshanti UK is incorporated as a company limited by guarantee and registered with the Charity Commission in December 2009 under charity number 1137179. It is governed by Memorandum and Articles of Associations dated 19th December 2009.

Organisational structure

The Trustees of the Charity are also the Directors of the Company. We have formal Board meetings at least four times a year and meet informally between Board meetings. Our volunteer medical advisers in London meet about twice a year and report directly to the Board.

What is Proshanti?

Proshanti UK is a UK based charity and was formed in 2009 after a number of UK professionals and volunteers visited Juri, a remote sub-district (Upazila) of Moulvibazaar District in the Sylhet region of Bangladesh.

It was set up in 2009 with the aim of transforming health care in rural Bangladesh by creating a healthy living partnership between the communities in Bangladesh and Bromley by Bow, Tower Hamlets in East London. The aim is to build a Healthy Living Centre in the Juri sub-district of Moulvibazaar District that will provide free affordable primary health care, together with preventive and health education, as well as an effective patient referral service to a trusted hospital.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Trustees are recruited from those who show a particular interest in the work of Proshanti and who can contribute to the work of the Board. Trustees have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing Proshanti's aims and objectives. In particular, the Trustees have considered how the activities of the organisation will contribute to the objectives that have been established for the charity.

Induction and training of trustees

A number of publications, detailed guides and how to guides, from the Charity Commission are also provided including "What makes a charity", "Charitable purposes and public benefit" and "Public benefit: the rules for charities". This ensures that new trustees are aware of the scope of their responsibilities under the Charities Act.

Risk management

The trustees assess the risks the charity faces using a risk matrix which identifies the major risks by area of activity, the nature of those risks, the likelihood of the risks happening and the measures taken to manage them. The trustees review the risk at their meetings. The trustees are satisfied that systems are in place, or arrangements are in hand, to manage the risks. In particular, insurance cover is in place and the finances of the Charity are kept under review.

Objectives and activities Our objectives

The objects of the charity are set out in Memorandum and Articles of Association and are summarised as follows: "The Company's objects are the relief of sickness and the promotion and preservation of good health, in particular but not exclusively, of people living in the Juri region of Bangladesh, by the support and establishment of a healthy living centre or centres."

Activities and achievements

Proshanti UK provides the following clinical services from the Juri clinic:

Activities in 2023

Proshanti has established itself as a reliable service provider for pregnant women in the Juri Upazila, with most of its clients being referred by satisfied service users. In addition, Family Welfare Visitors also refer pregnant women to Proshanti.

Proshanti staff regularly conduct community meetings throughout Juri to raise awareness about the services they offer. The enrolment process for Proshanti's services is determined by their criteria, which require applicants to have no other viable means of receiving antenatal care and also consider their level of means. During the enrolment assessment, Proshanti Outreach Workers carry out home visits for prospective clients to assist in their assessment.

Enrolment of new clients (patients)

We have enrolled 162 clients in 2023, compared to 193 in 2021. Among them 19 were high risk cases.

Delivery support provided

In 2023, we served a total of 175 clients, with our delivery services breaking down as follows: 32 (18%) were normal deliveries at hospitals/clinics, 106 (61%) were normal deliveries at the clients' homes (with 37 (21%) of these supported by our Skilled Birth Attendant and the remaining 69 (39%) supported by their family members). Additionally, we managed 37 (21%) deliveries through caesarean section (C-section).

This C-section rate notably surpasses the World Health Organization's (WHO) recommended maximum of 15% and the global average of 21%, as indicated in a study by the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies. However, it remains below the overall rate of caesarean deliveries among Bangladeshi mothers, which was 33.22% in 2018. It's important to highlight that over 73% of Proshanti clients who underwent a C-section were identified as high-risk patients at the time of their registration with Proshanti, indicating a limited possibility for facilitating normal deliveries in these cases.

Miscarriage, abortion and child mortality, still birth, premature birth and neonatal death

In 2023, there were no instances of miscarriages or premature births, with only one case of stillbirth reported.

Antenatal care and post-natal visits

In 2023, Proshanti provided 608 antenatal care sessions and 492 postnatal visits to our clients. Each enrolled client received 4 to 5 ANC sessions and 3 to 4 PNC visits during their time with us. We are proud to report that we never received any complaints regarding the care provided by our staff, and no client missed any visits due to staff negligence.

Medical investigations and medicine support

All our enrolled clients received necessary medical investigation support including ultrasonography as required when advised by doctors, and free medicine supply from enrolment to six weeks after their delivery.

Health Education

In 2023, 105 health education sessions took place, where 1,639 participants were pregnant women and their family members during their anti-natal care and post-natal visits.

Health Awareness in Community levels

We have carried out 15 health awareness sessions across all six unions of Juri Upazila at the community level, attracting a total attendance of 225 women and 75 men. Our Skilled Birth Attendants are now leading 3 to 4 sessions monthly at the community level, expanding upon the groundwork laid by the Community Mobilisers.

Monthly services of clients

Every month, we offer services to 120 underprivileged pregnant women from the Juri sub-district. Of these, over 15% are identified as high-risk, and we ensure personalized one-on-one support is provided to each of these high-risk patients.

Partnership work

To manage Proshanti's work cost effectively in Bangladesh, because of the difficulty of registering as an independent NGO, in July 2016 Proshanti entered into an agreement with Prottoy, an existing Bangladesh-registered NGO, for the delivery of Proshanti's services in the region.

Proshanti has a Memorandum of Understanding with Juri Adhunic General (Pvt) Hospital who offer free clinic and office space to run Proshanti's clinical services. In addition, they provide free of charge day-to-day doctors consultation for Proshanti patients. Proshanti also worked closely with Upazila Health staff, who offered advice and training support -for our midwives/Skilled Birth Attendants.

Proshanti Juri clinic staff

Two full time midwives/Skilled Birth Attendants,
One full time Centre Manager (started in December 23)
One full time outreach worker/Project Officer
One part time accountant (1 day a week)
One full time driver

Furthermore, the Executive Director of Prottoy allocates one day each week to oversee the quality of services delivered by Proshanti. This role also involves coordination with the local government administration and the NGO Affairs Bureau. In addition, the Proshanti UK Programme Development Consultant stays in regular contact with the Juri staff and the Prottoy Executive Director, guaranteeing seamless operations and the successful execution of Proshanti's initiatives in Juri.

Impact of Proshanti Work

The population of Juri is diverse, comprising individuals from various cultures and religions, including Tea Garden workers from India, tribal communities such as the Manipuri people, Muslim, Hindu, and Christian women. In rural, impoverished communities in Bangladesh, women often have limited control over their health and personal situations. Those living in extreme poverty may have received little education, possess little knowledge about health, and lack confidence in asserting their needs. Social and family circumstances can be challenging, with severe overcrowding, poor-quality housing, poor diets, and men and parents-in-law often controlling family decisions. Poor maternal and child health outcomes can have a devastating effect on women and their families.

Proshanti's project has a positive impact on women's health care experiences during pregnancy and childbirth. It aims to empower and build the confidence of poor and excluded women, regardless of their culture or religion.

Financial review

Reserves policy

The trustees have reviewed the reserves of the charity. Their policy is to hold enough funds to meet four months' operating costs of the premises. The free reserves as at 31 December 2023 were £74275.35. Due to a delay in obtaining the NGO Bureau approval letter from Bangladesh, we regret to inform you that there was a delay in transferring funds. However, £22,019.87 was transferred in January 2024 for current year operation.

Principal funding sources

Proshanti is indebted to numerous individual donors as well as East London NHS Lift Company for their regular and generous contribution towards Proshanti.

Proshanti organised a Ramadan Appeal in March to June 2023 £ 3821.89 was raised through this appeal.

Investment policy and objectives

The charity has no long-term investments. Our cash reserves are held in bank accounts.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing an annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the provisions of the trust deed.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees for the purposes of charity law who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on charity information page.

Approved by the Director/Trustees and signed on its behalf by:

L.K. Ahmed

Director (Lilu Ahmed)

Date: 01/09/24

Independent examiners' report to the trustees of PROSHANTI UK

I report on the accounts of the trust for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

The charity 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:

- i) examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- ii) follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- iii) state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of opinion

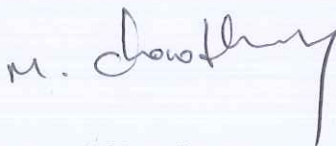
My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the account, 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 next statement.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- (i) which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - (1) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - (2) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
- (ii) to which, in my opinion, the attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

For and on behalf of Syldon and Co Accountants



Mohammed Chowdhury

Date: 02/02/2024

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 December 2023

| | | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Total Funds 2023 | Total Funds 2022 |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Incoming resources | Notes | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Incoming resources from generated | | | | | |
| funds: Donations | 2 | 30433 | 3822 | 34254 | 27934 |
| Other income | | 1668 | - | 1668 | 1509 |
| Total incoming resources | | 32101 | 3822 | 35922 | 29443 |
| Resources expended | | | | | |
| Cost of generating funds | | - | - | - | - |
| Charitable activities | | (21,511) | | (21,511) | (24507) |
| Administrative costs | 3 | (1103) | - | (1,103) | (1269) |
| Total resources expended | | (22,614) | | (22,614) | (25776) |
| Net movement in funds | | 9,487 | 3,822 | 13,309 | 3,667 |
| Retained funds brought forward | | 51,574 | 10,032 | 61,606 | 57,939 |
| funds carried forward | | 61,601 | 13,854 | 79,915 | 61,606 |

| Statement of total recognized gains and losses | Year ended 2023 | Year ended 2022 |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Net incoming resources before other recognized gains/losses | 13,309 | 3667 |
| Total recognized gains since last annual report | 13,309 | 3667 |

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2023

| | | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Total Funds 2023 | Total Funds 2022 |
|---------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Notes | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Current assets | | | | | |
| Debtors | 4 | 638 | - | 638 | 5593 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 70454 | 3821 | 74275 | 56012 |
| Net current assets | | 71092 | 3821 | 74913 | 61605 |
| Total assets less current liabilities | | 71092 | 3821 | 74913 | 61605 |
| | | 71092 | 3821 | 74913 | 61605 |
| Net assets | | | | | |
| Funds | 5 | 71092 | 3821 | 74913 | 61605 |
| income funds | 6 | 71092 | 3821 | 74913 | 61605 |
| Total funds | | 71092 | 3821 | 74913 | 61605 |
| | | 9,487 | | 13,309 | 57,939 |
| | | 51,574 | 3,822 | 61,606 | 61,606 |
| | | 61,601 | 10,032 | 79,915 | |

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The company is exempt from the requirements relating to preparing audited accounts in accordance with section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of the accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board on 8th June 2024 and signed on its behalf by

L. K. Ahmed
Director (Lilu Ahmed) 01/09/24
Registration number 1137179

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

1. Accounting policies

1.1. Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2. Incoming resources

All incoming resources are recognized once the charity has entitlement to the resources, it is certain that the resources will be received, and the monetary value of incoming resources can be measured with sufficient reliability.

2. Income

The total income of the charity for the year has been derived from its principal activities undertaken in the UK and Bangladesh

| | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Year Ended 31/12/23 | Year Ended 31/12/22 |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| United Kingdom | | | | |
| East London Lift | 23,184 | - | 23,184 | 16,001 |
| Other donations | 7,249 | 3822 | 11,071 | 11,827 |
| Other income | <u>1,668</u> | <u></u> | <u>1,668</u> | <u>1,616</u> |
| | <u>32,101</u> | <u>3822</u> | <u>35,923</u> | <u>29,443</u> |

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

| | Year Ended 2023 | Year Ended 2022 |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| 3. Administration Expenses | | |
| Service delivery fees | 10573 | 13907 |
| Travelling | 1138 | 523 |
| Insurance | 593 | 557 |
| Program management service fees both in Bangladesh and UK | 9600 | 10600 |
| Sundry expenses | 420 | 100 |
| Bank Charges | 90 | 90 |
| | <u>22614</u> | <u>25776</u> |
| | 2023 | 2022 |
| | £ | £ |
| 4. Debtors | | |
| Prepayments and accrued income | <u>638</u> | <u>5593</u> |
| 5. Funds | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds |
| | £ | £ |
| At 1 January 2023 | 56,012 | 56,012 |
| Net movement for the year | 22,968 | 22,968 |
| At 31 December 2023 | <u>74,275</u> | <u>74,25</u> |
| | 2023 | 2022 |
| | £ | £ |
| 6. Reconciliation of movements in total trust funds | | |
| Income resources for the year | 18,263 | 7,537 |
| Net addition to funds | 18,263 | 7,537 |
| Opening trust funds | 56,012 | 48,475 |
| Closing trust funds | <u>74,275</u> | <u>56,012</u> |