



# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

<b>From</b>	Period start date			<b>To</b>	Period end date		
	1	July	2020		30	June	2021

## Section A Reference and administration details

**Charity name** The Birth Partner Project

**Other names charity is known by** TBPP

**Registered charity number (if any)** 1179100

**Charity's principal address** Trinity Centre

Four Elms Road, Piercefield Place

Cardiff

**Postcode**

**CF24 1LE**

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Laura Santana		N/a	
2	Smitha Coughlan		N/a	
3	Jill Hunter		25/11/2020 to 30/06/2021	
4	Ellen-Mae Bryant		25/11/2020 to 30/06/2021	
5	Caroline Sophia Kerenhappuch Parkes		25/11/2020 to 30/06/2021	
6	Andrea Catherine Powell		25/11/2020 to 30/06/2021	
7	Ifeoma Linda Ndubuisi		25/11/2020 to 30/06/2021	
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

**Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)**

	Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

--

## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Founders of the charity appointed as trustees during the period of set up during which options for recruitment and selection of additional trustees has been reviewed and established.

### Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- ☐ policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- ☐ the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- ☐ relationship with any related parties;
- ☐ trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

--

## Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objects of the CIO are:

For the advancement of health, to provide emotional, physical, advocacy and material support during the perinatal period for women in the UK who lack access to a birth partner. In particular, but not exclusively, through the provision of volunteer support to provide information and signpost to services during the antenatal period, birth partner support during labour and delivery and continuity of non-medical care during the early postnatal period. We will continue support beyond this period where there is a demonstrated need.

For the purpose of this clause, "perinatal" means during pregnancy, birth and first 8 weeks after birth.

## Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Trained volunteers provide unbiased, non-medical, support for identified women during their pregnancy, birth, and the first 8 weeks with their baby. Women are supported by the charity following a referral from a midwife. The project coordinator sets up a team. Antenatal support is provided from about 36 weeks. We provide 24-hour support during labour and delivery then the birth partners visit supported women for 8 weeks after delivery.

These activities are undertaken to ensure each woman:

- a. Feels valued and continually supported.
- b. Has access to, and understanding of, appropriate information; and is signposted to professional services when needed during the antenatal period.
- c. Has emotional support, comfort measures and a positive, nurturing presence during labour, birth and the immediate postnatal period, at home and/or in hospital.
- d. Is supported with regular visits during the first eight weeks post-natal. To provide non-medical support for the maternal well-being, her infant feeding choices, and to help with referrals for further third sector and professional help where appropriate.

A core group coordinates the project and mentors volunteers to ensure we maintain confidentiality, protection and safeguarding according to our policies.

In accordance with Section 17(5) of the Charities Act and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 we confirm that the trustees have had regard to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance would be relevant.

## Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- ☐ policy on grantmaking;
- ☐ policy programme related investment;
- ☐ contribution made by volunteers.

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

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

The Birth Partner Project (TBPP) objectives are to: provide non-medical birth partner support during pregnancy, labour, birth and for two months postnatally for pregnant women seeking sanctuary in Cardiff who would otherwise birth alone; improve access to relevant information, signpost to third sector and professional services where appropriate; liaise with other groups to improve local integration; encourage positive relationships between women with different life experiences and create an environment and organisational structure where volunteers feel appropriately skilled, valued and well supported.

TBPP support aims to reduce isolation, provide continuity of emotional support and instil a sense of self-worth, and thus achieve better birth and mental health outcomes for supported women.

Like many other third sector organisations our charity has been significantly affected by the Covid 19 pandemic. Lockdown measures have reduced global migrations of people and have also affected the internal dispersal of asylum seekers within the UK. We saw a reduction in numbers of pregnant women dispersed to Cardiff at the beginning of the year but this number has increased since the summer. We have supported 12 women this year. While this number is smaller than previous years, we anticipate that numbers will increase significantly over the next 6 to 12 months.

While Covid has posed logistical issues, it has also created an opportunity for consolidation, strategic focus and sustainability of the project. At the end of 2020 we recruited 4 new trustees with a wealth of experience across charitable, academic and government sectors. This renewal of energy enabled us to focus on key strategic planning for the next 12 months. As a consequence we recruited a volunteer coordinator to run the core business of the project, a communications officer to drive our public engagement, and a creative digital inclusion officer to ensure that women we support had tablets, mobile phones and activities to engage with online and in person, therefore reducing isolation.

In addition to this we ran a successful volunteer training session in June 2021 and recruited 10 new volunteers. Our fantastic new volunteer coordinator Emily has provided ongoing volunteer support; including interactive online sessions covering topics such as peer support, trauma informed care and information regarding obstacles faced by women seeking sanctuary. She has

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

also participated in the strategic development of the project including vital and successful funding applications. We recently received resilience funding from WCVA which will fund a communications and fundraising post to diversify and strengthen our income generation in 2022 as well as funding a large digital transformation for the whole organisation. Our communications officer Claire has been able to create original and engaging copy across our growing social media platforms and recently designed a new dynamic and accessible website to extend our reach to the public and service users. The creative digital inclusion project run by Sinnead (English classes, theatre trips, growing activities and outdoor walks etc) has enabled us to provide the holistic support we have been keen to provide from the inception of the project. It is our intention to build on these developments over the next year to increase our volunteer base and to pilot the project in other dispersal areas in Wales.

## Section E

## Financial review

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

As at 30 June 2021, TBPP had reserves of £31,291.01.

The level of reserves at the end of the year reflects two grant payments received in the year which had not been spent by year end.

The accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

The only asset within the CIO is cash held at bank.

**Details of any funds materially in deficit**

None

**Further financial review details (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- ☐ the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- ☐ how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- ☐ investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

**Section F****Other optional information****Section G****Declaration**

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

**Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees**

<b>Signature(s)</b>	Smitha Coughlan	Laura Santana
<b>Full name(s)</b>	Smitha Coughlan	Laura Santana
<b>Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)</b>	Trustee and Treasurer	Trustee and Chair of the Board of Trustees
<b>Date</b>	6 February 2022	



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

The Birth Partner Project

1179100

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

01-Jul-20


To

30-Jun-21

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Donations	580	-	-	580	1,117
Fundraising	20	326	-	346	-
Postcode Community Trust Project Funding Grant	-	19,929	-	19,929	7,314
Community Foundation Wales Digital Inclusion Project Grant	-	13,500	-	13,500	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>33,755</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>34,354</b>	<b>8,431</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>33,755</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>34,354</b>	<b>8,431</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Cost of Raising Funds	96	-	-	96	48
Cost of Charitable Activities	744	4,698	-	5,442	9,613
Support Costs	790	287	-	1,077	1,070
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1,630</b>	<b>4,985</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,615</b>	<b>10,731</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>1,630</b>	<b>4,985</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,615</b>	<b>10,731</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>- 1,030</b>	<b>28,770</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>27,740</b>	<b>- 2,299</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>4,697</b>	<b>- 4,697</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>- 3,740</b>	<b>7,292</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,551</b>	<b>5,851</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>- 73</b>	<b>31,364</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>31,291</b>	<b>3,551</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Cash at Bank	- 73	31,364	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	- 73	31,364	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees				Date of approval
		Smitha Coughlan		06/02/2022





## Section A

## Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the  
trustees/ members  
of**

Charity Name  
The Birth Partner Project

**On accounts for the  
year ended**

30 June 2021

**Charity  
no (if  
any)**

1179100

**Set out on pages**

n/a

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

**Responsibilities and  
basis of report**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30/06/2021

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent  
examiner's  
statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- ☐ the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- ☐ the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- ☐ the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

**Signed:** Smita Jayaraman

**Date:** 06/02/2022

**Name:** Smita Jayaraman

**Relevant  
professional  
qualification(s) or  
body (if any):**

--

**Address:**

33 Cardiff Rd, Dinas Powys CF64 4DH


**Section B**

**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief  
details of any items  
that the examiner  
wishes to disclose.**

N/a

--

