



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From

Period start date

Day
1

Month
July

Year
2022

To

Period end date

Day
30

Month
June

Year
2023

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 Ester
Santana

Chair

2

Smitha Coughlan

Treasurer

3

Jill Hunter

4

Gillian Boden

from 28 July 2022

5

Christianah Ugbaja

from 28 July 2022

6

Therese Marie
Chantal Patel

7

Ellen-Mae Bryant

Caroline Sophia

8

Kerenhappuch
Parkes

9

Andrea Catherine
Powell

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)

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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. Other trustees have been appointed with consideration by the board of trustees.

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.

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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 first 1000 days of life as well as 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 or birthing people during their pregnancy, birth, and the first 8 weeks with their baby. Following a referral from a midwife, the charity's project coordinator sets up a team of volunteers who provide antenatal support. We provide 24-hour support during labour and delivery, followed by a period of postpartum visits by volunteers to the supported new mum and their baby, for up to 8 weeks after delivery. New mums may also choose to attend the weekly drop-in meeting where they can access wellbeing activities and peer support.

These activities are undertaken to ensure each woman or birthing person:

- Feels valued and continually supported.
- Has access to, and understanding of, appropriate information; and is signposted to professional services when needed during the antenatal period.
- Has emotional support, comfort measures and a positive, nurturing presence during labour, birth and the immediate postpartum period, at home and/or in hospital.
- Is supported with regular visits during the first eight weeks postpartum, including non-medical support for maternal well-being, support of infant feeding, and to help with referrals and signposting to other help where appropriate.

The charity is staffed by a small team of paid staff (4 individuals working part-time hours) who coordinate operations, recruit and train volunteers, and ensure the organisation is well managed.

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.



Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Impact

During 2022/23 we produced our first Impact Report, which is available publicly on our website at www.birthpartnerproject.org/our-impact. By June 2023, our charity had supported over 100 women and birthing people. Our impact report showed that 100% of the women and birthing people we supported felt an improvement in their mental wellbeing as a result of the Project's support.

Delivery

Throughout 2022/23, we delivered our 'Your Voice Informed Choice' project, in which our team co-produced a programme of maternal wellbeing activity with women and birthing people who were facing pregnancy, birth and early postpartum alone, and were living in the asylum system. After an initial phase of hybrid activity online and face-to-face, we established in October 2022 a weekly drop-in for pregnant and postpartum mums where they could share a hot meal, access information and wellbeing sessions and form relationships with one another.

In addition to the provision of a peer support and wellbeing weekly drop-in meetings, we delivered casework support including face-to-face signposting to a wide range of support agencies. Support also developed to include sourcing items for pregnant and new mums including pushchairs, weaning items, maternity clothes and baby clothes from a range of partner organisations, our volunteers, and their wider networks. The weekly drop-in meeting has continued to thrive with alternative funding to support it, since the end of the Your Voice Informed Choice Project. A small leadership group has now come forward from among the mums attending weekly, to steer the group along with our team, and determine the focus of the weekly sessions.

In addition to the mums and their babies supported at the weekly group, our volunteer birth partners supported a further 8 sanctuary seeking women with intensive perinatal support. In response to the ongoing demand for intensive birth partnering support, we significantly developed our volunteer recruitment and training programme this year. We ran an extensive recruitment campaign throughout November 2022 - February 2023, underpinned by a strategy to remove barriers to volunteering with our charity. This resulted in a new cohort of trained volunteers commencing in Spring 2023. We created blog and video content which was also available in audio form, shared information packs in a wide variety of formats for our partner organisations to distribute through their networks, and hosted online Q&A sessions. We created a new volunteering role for volunteers who can only commit to supporting during the postpartum period, making the role more accessible to people with full-time caring responsibilities. We also adapted our ways of working so that we can now bring on board volunteers who do not have access to their own vehicle.

	<p>During 2022/23 we concluded our digital inclusion programme which focused on ensuring digital inclusion and access to key health information around pregnancy and maternity.</p> <p>In early 2023, we also delivered the ‘Social Bonds and Social Bridges’ programme to the Welsh Government, as one of a group of identified and pre-selected grassroots organisations providing support to migrant communities in Wales. This project allowed us to hear and share the views of the women and birthing people we are engaged with, focusing on any barriers to integration that they experience, to help shape Welsh Government’s Migrant Integration Wales project.</p> <p>Funding</p> <p>In addition to delivering services using funding secured in prior years, we welcomed new streams of income in 2022/23 from C3SC and Community Foundation Wales’ Covid 19 Recovery Support Fund for BAME Community Groups in Wales.</p> <p>Partnering and Influencing</p> <p>We are proud to be part of a network of equivalent organisations based in England and Scotland, who we follow with interest in order to develop our own learning. In Wales, we participate in a range of key fora, including the Wales Migration Forum, Refugee Coalition, National Sanctuary in Maternity Steering Group, Traumatic Stress Wales, and the Perinatal Mental Health Network.</p> <p>Throughout 2022/23 we increased our engagement with Welsh Government and Royal College of Midwives (RCM) Wales, actively drawing attention to the poor outcomes experienced by pregnant and birthing people seeking sanctuary.</p>
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Brief statement of the charity’s policy on reserves

As at 30 June 2023, TBPP had reserves of £39,036.01.

The level of reserves at the end of the year reflects three 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

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Smitha Coughlan

Laura Santana

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Treasurer

Chair

Date

30/04/2024



Receipts and payments accounts

For the period
from

01/07/2022

To

30/06/2023

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 £
A1 Receipts					
Donation	3,694	-	-	3,694	2,954
Fundraising	5,621	-	-	5,621	-
Grant	-	-	-	-	1,000
Best Beginnings	-	10,460	-	10,460	-
WCVA	-	22,430	-	22,430	46,016
Community Foundation Wales	-	7,000	-	7,000	2,000
National Lottery Awards For All	-	10,000	-	10,000	-
Magic Little Grant	-	500	-	500	-
Nisa Making A Difference Locally	-	1,512	-	1,512	-
C3SC	-	2,250	-	2,250	-
Cardiff&Vale Small Grant	-	397	-	397	-
The Moondance Fundation	-	-	-	-	15,000
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	9,315	54,548	-	63,863	66,970
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	9,315	54,548	-	63,863	66,970
A3 Payments					
Cost of Raising Funds	-	925	-	925	135
Cost of Charitable Activities	-	63,603	-	63,603	35,552
Support Cost	73	15,792	-	15,865	6,195
Governance	-	813	-	813	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	73	81,132	-	81,206	41,882
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	73	81,132	-	81,206	41,882
Net of receipts/(payments)	9,242	- 26,584	-	- 17,342	25,088
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	3,244	53,134	-	56,378	31,291
Cash funds this year end	12,486	26,550	-	39,036	56,379

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 £
B1 Cash funds	Cash at Bank	12,486	26,550	-
		-	-	-

	-	-	-
Total cash funds	12,486	26,550	-
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

Unrestricted funds
to nearest £

Restricted funds
to nearest £

Endowment funds
to nearest £

Details

B2 Other monetary assets

	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

Details

B3 Investment assets

	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

Details

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

Details

B5 Liabilities

	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

The Birth Partner Project

On accounts for the year
ended

30 June 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1179100

Set out on pages

1 - 2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30 / 06 / 2023

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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

I 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 (~~other than that disclosed below~~*) 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:

Date:

01 / 05 / 2024

Name:

MATTHEW WOOLWAY

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

FCCA

Address:

DRUSLYN HOUSE, DE LA BECHE STREET, SWANSEA. SA1 3HJ

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.