



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date		Period end date			
	Day 1	Month April	Year 2000	Day 31	Month March	Year 2021

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

United by Wool - helping those in need

Other names the charity is known by

UBW

Registered charity number (if any)

1180751

Charity's principal address

24 Becket Meadows

Oldham

Postcode
OL4 1JB

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	Jeanette Nawaz	Chair/Co-ordinator		
2	Pauline	Treasurer/Books		
3	Janet Hough	Secretary		
4	Catherine Harwood	Fundraiser		
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	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)	CIO
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointment by the Trustee Board

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.

Each new Trustee will be appointed on merit taking skills, knowledge and experience into account. A key factor will be the availability to serve at least 3 years.

Training on the structure and activities of the Charity will be given by the Founder (Jeanette Nawaz). The new Trustee will be enrolled into the Group via the Facebook page. Access to the shop premises will be given and the new Trustee will be encouraged to partake in the general activities in order to gain an overview of the Organisation.

Each new Trustee will be given a copy of the Constitution, Annual Report and Statement of Accounts.

Present Structure: Overall lead taken by Chair/Coordinator including networking, paperwork, research, governance/safeguarding, book keeping and accounts undertaken by the treasurer, The secretary keeps the minutes book and is also the 'face' of the group(facebook). The fundraisers organise and 'man' events, do stock control, projects and other duties to do with raising funds. All trustees cover the shop on a rota with at least one volunteer. Regular Trustee meetings are held to discuss strategic and financial matters.

Section C

Objectives and activities

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

Our primary aim is the relief of poverty in the UK and overseas by providing:- items and services to individuals in need/or charities, or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.

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)

We are a small charity, based in Oldham. We respond to urgent appeals for help as well as providing regular items to specific organisations. As a means to achieve our objectives we set up a Charity Shop (154a Huddersfield Road, Oldham, OL4 2RD) and knit and natter groups. The shop acts as a base for all our charitable activities and generates income for the charity from sale of goods donated for the purpose, and is used for holding events and meetings. Most of the items for sale in the shop have been made and donated by the charity supporters, the exception is the new yarn which is purchased by the charity from wholesalers and sold at a profit for charity funds.

The knit and natter groups are envisaged to be a long term project and generate a regular weekly income for charity funds, although at the moment these groups are still on hold due to the ongoing COVID-19 restrictions. We hope this year can see these groups return.

Those who benefit from our work are mainly babies and children (based in the UK and overseas), although we have recently been receiving more requests for teenage and adult items of clothing. Most items are handmade by our members, but some items are sourced from other charity shops and/or retailers. We make direct and indirect deliveries of donations:- clothing, blankets, toiletries, toys, baby essentials i.e nappies and baby milk. The beneficiaries fall into the following groups:- Refugees, Homeless, Fleeing domestic abuse/violence and those trapped in poverty.

We have found this year that due to COVID-19 restrictions a few of the charities/organisations we distribute to are still not accepting donations at the moment, but we have distributed to Care UK, Cribs, Bananas and Biryani, Merseyside Aid, Baby Banks, UKeff, Baby Basics, Knowsley Blankets, Crossroads, Idib, Sussex Aid, Crossgate and we also assist individuals under the care of Oldham Social Services.

In reviewing our strategy objective and planning our activities for the year, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on Public Benefit. The trustees are satisfied that the strategic objectives are in line with the Charity's Objectives as set out in the Governing Document.

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.

At present we do not have a policy for making cash grants as it is not the Charity's intention, at this time, to provide anything other than non-cash donations. Nor do we have a policy in respect of investment, at this time.

The charity is run by volunteers, who give their time and resources for free. The Volunteers and members are considered the backbone of the organisation, as without their generous support the charity would not succeed. Through their continuous generosity we have ensured that many people in need have received help with the basic living essentials.

The opinions of the volunteers and members are taken into account in decision making and feedback is welcomed.

We post regular updates regarding the charity's activities and the charity facebook page and members regularly post pictures, messages and suggestions.

The volunteers engage in most aspects of the charity activities from receiving , sorting, storing, packaging and delivering donations to assisting in the running of the shop, ebay, craft fairs, fundraising events and long term projects of Knit and Natter groups. Although with COVID-19 restrictions a lot of these activities are having to be managed in a very different way to keep everyone safe and to stay within the restrictions. Again we hope to see these activities go back to normal as restrictions start to ease.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

- Keeping the charity running during the pandemic
- Growing the Facebook group i.e more members
- Acquiring new outlets for donations
- Built bigger and stronger connections in the community
- Found alternative ways to help during the strict restrictions caused by the pandemic

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The charity has set up a deposit account, which is easily accessible if needed, to cover any future emergencies, appeals, or unexpected bills. This account runs alongside our current account.

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.

The charity's principal source of funding comes from the shop and online sales. The shop sales are steady (when allowed to open due to COVID restrictions), considering the shop only opened in July 2018, we feel that we have exceeded our expectations.

The secondary sources are from the members by way of donations, and by participating in fundraising events such as the bonus ball initiative. They and the public alike also donate via the shopping Apps Easyfundraising and Amazon Smile. The charity regularly throughout the year engages in holding auctions, raffles etc.

The charity, to date, has benefitted from 3 small Community based grants and these funds were spent in accordance with the limitations set. We have also received 4 government grants during the pandemic which was a major aspect of us being able to keep the charity running.

This year we have been able to make alterations to the shop which has enabled us to manage with the high volume of donations from the knock on effect of people being told to Stay Home.

Every penny raised or donated, and every action taken is with the aim of helping people in need.

Section F**Other optional information**

History of the organisation:- A community group started in 2017 and was run from the home of Jeanette Nawaz. The basis was centred on the interest of knitting/crochet. This grew into a beneficial group based on making basic clothing items and blankets to send to refugees caught up in the war in Syria. At this point no money was raised. As the group expanded and it's activities increased to include anyone in need of such items, it became obvious that premises were needed and a decision to become a registered charity, in order to be transparent and accountable, was made in 2018. Some initial cash donations, sales and other income was raised just prior to becoming a registered charity in November 2018. A bank account and paypal account were set up plus a financial accounting system. The financial side of things is overseen by two unrelated persons with reports made available to all Trustee's (and members, if requested).

The shop premises were obtained on 4th June 2019 and the shop opened to the public on the 28th July 2019. The first rent became payable in September 2019 and the premises are on a 3 year lease.

Section G**Declaration**

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

	Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees	
Signature(s)	C. Harwood	
Full name(s)	Catherine	Harwood
	Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Fundraiser
	Date	6/2/22

Trading and Profit and Loss Account
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	£	£
Turnover		
Turnover		43,154
Cost of sales		
Purchases		11,748
		<hr/>
GROSS PROFIT		31,406
Expenditure		
Rent	6,413	
Rates and water	1,092	
Post and stationery	2,254	
Repairs and renewals	1,499	
Sundry expenses	188	
Accountancy	50	
Subscriptions	158	
	<hr/>	11,654
		<hr/>
		19,752
Finance costs		
Bank interest		4
		<hr/>
NET PROFIT		19,748
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Balance Sheet
31 March 2021

	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS		
Bank account no. 1	6,841	
Bank account no. 2	16,600	
	<hr/>	
	23,441	
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accrued expenses	50	
	<hr/>	
		23,391
NET ASSETS		<hr/>
		23,391
FINANCED BY		<hr/>
RESERVES		
Profit and loss account		23,391
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		23,391
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