



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 01/04/21 Period start date To 31/03/22 Period end date

Charity name: Baby Bank Network Exeter

Charity registration number: 1180848

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The prevention or relief of poverty in the UK in particular by providing items and services to families with young children and/or to charities or other organisations who also work to prevent or relieve poverty amongst families with young children.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>The Baby Bank is a simple yet effective idea.</p> <p>We collect good quality pre-loved and new baby items donated by members of our community and then re-distribute them to families in need, free of charge, via a referral system through their health visitors, social workers or support workers.</p> <p>The results of our service reduce parental stress, anxiety, reduce financial burden and depression. Improving mental health and allowing parents the ability to focus on other aspects of home life, in turn improves living environments for babies and children, allowing them to thrive.</p> <p>We are aware that re-using items is more environmentally friendly than making new items all the time, so not only are we re-distributing resources from where they are abundant to where they are lacking, we are promoting sustainable living by reducing the volume of items being disposed.</p> <p>We also work closely with organisations like our local cloth nappy & Sling library, supporting the work they do and enabling us to supply cloth nappies & slings safely in our bundles. We support other re-use and recycling projects to ensure best practice and minimal waste like our local food bank and charity shops.</p>

		<p>We continue to have to buy some items from new including mattresses, bottle teats, nappies and toiletries and rely on the support of our community, businesses and funding and grants.</p> <p>We offer a school uniform bank for older siblings. It is so expensive to get a child all set for the start of a new school term, for those in good financial positions, but for those less fortunate it must be an extremely difficult time. Everyone wants to provide for their child and have them in the correct and often strict uniform requirements, to be the same as their friends and not open to possible frightening bullying and peer pressure.</p> <p>Our annual Christmas toy appeal project is a big piece of work that enables every child to enjoy Christmas no matter their families financial struggles. This time of year is a huge pressure and stress for some parents and we can help alleviate this burden a little, freeing up their finances to warm the house or buy the weekly food shop.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<p>The board of trustees meet three times a year and full minutes are recorded. At these meetings trustees agree the main strategy and areas of activity for the charity and review the constitutional objects to ensure we are successfully benefitting the public.</p> <p>All trustees give up their time freely and no trustee remuneration was paid in the year.</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p>Baby Bank Exeter is entirely dependent on the commitment of our 8 regular volunteers, who understand the needs of the local community and who are best placed to manage the daily organisation of the charity. They give their time freely every week, to ensure the charity responds</p>

		promptly to the needs of local families with good quality items.
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
<p>Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.</p> <p>841 1143 33</p>	Para 1.20	<p>2021/22 has seen our steady recovery from the pandemic as our referral rates return to a more normal figure. We have continued some practices that were developed during covid with regards to appointment systems for drop off and collections.</p> <p>Our Christmas appeal showed the profound impact of the pandemic as we doubled our previous years data, providing over 400 children with Christmas presents. This 100% increase made us review how we managed the project and changes were made to encourage further support from our community where by our supporters provided us with a bag of gifts rather than just individual gifts. The response was phenomenal and we were overjoyed to successfully complete the appeal with every child receiving a bag of gifts packed with love and thought. Again positive learning came from this years project that we will carry on into future years.</p> <p><i>“Thank you so much for the beautiful bags which you made up for the family’s I work with.</i></p> <p><i>Your kindness, hard work and generosity is really appreciated, not just at Christmas but throughout the year. I have delivered one of the bags to a family and I wish that you could have seen the mother’s face, it totally lit up! I will be delivering to another family today and I know that it will be very gratefully received”. (Referral Partner)</i></p> <p>After losing a couple of our long term sponsors who supported us with a monthly donation towards buying new mattresses, we were thrilled to receive a grant from Exeter Food Bank through their ‘Regional Development Fund’ to support our ‘sleep safe’ project, this grant enabled us to purchase a whole year’s worth of mattresses and the storage costs to store</p>

		<p>the large quantities. Ensuring babies & children have a safe space to sleep.</p> <p>This year we have benefited members of the public unable to provide for their families. We have provided donations to 669 families.</p> <p>We have reached families in a wide geographical area of up to a 30 mile radius of our Hub.</p> <p><i>. “Can I just say a BIG THANK YOU. It is amazing what you have provided today for my Young Lady who has been given the keys to her flat today. You have made her day. Thank you so much for going above and beyond and especially thank you for including the stair gate I didn’t even ask for! She now has a bed for her little one and highchair and the clothes are amazing. She is really chuffed with the coat he can wear to school. I left her with a big smile on her face thanks to you” (Referral Partner)</i></p> <p>We have raised the profile of the charity through advertisements and social media feeds and now have 4038 followers on Facebook, the online community support us greatly with our donations and it is a valuable platform to the success of our charity.</p> <p>We have increased the number of professional referrers by 70 this year, we are now working with 301 health care professionals across Exeter and surrounding areas, ensuring we reach more and more families and we are relieving the pressures not only for the families but for the government and local councils.</p> <p>Some of our work more recently has been supporting the needs of the Ukrainian refugee families who are settling locally and their sponsors, we expect this work to carry on for some time into the next year.</p> <p><i>“Thank you a lot and your team for such a beautiful thing for my kids. They are very happy, I really didn’t know that they will so happy. Your team’s job is fabulous, and fruitful from different points of view.” (Ukrainian Family)</i></p>
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		<p>We are also fully aware of the challenges that lie ahead during 2022/23 with the cost of living crisis that we are all facing. These pressures are going to throw the already struggling families in to situations of despair!</p> <p>We have noticed a slight decline in donations from the public, which we believe to be a reflection of people supporting separate Ukrainian appeals and the financial struggles many people are already facing in the cost of living crisis.</p> <p>We are preparing for referral requests to increase significantly along with the Christmas appeal and the decline in donations. We are considering volunteer capacity, space and resources.</p> <p>Questions amongst our trustees for our future vision are very much based around the growth of Baby Bank Exeter, what this may look like and what will be needed? How can we work collaboratively with other local organisations to better the lives of our most vulnerable families? How will we share our impact?</p> <p>We have been lucky to welcome a new trustee to our board this year who brings a wealth of experience and contacts in charitable organisations this will support the Baby Bank to grow and respond to the inevitable demand on our services. Already he has secured us a wonderful opportunity for 2022/23 with The Law Society to become their chosen charity of the year. This is certain to make a difference to the work we can achieve in 2022/23 for local families facing difficult times and will help us in our charity's vision for growth and development.</p>
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
	Para 1.41	

Investment performance against objectives		
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Cash at bank on 31/03/22 was £17503.73 in funds. The main financial risk to the charity is loss of funding from the local businesses, grants and reduced donations.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The funds are held to cover 18 months operational costs in the event of a loss of income and to meet any unforeseen expenditure that may occur
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution dating back to 26 th November 2018.
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation Registered Charity number 1180848.
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	There must be at least three charity trustees. Apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a maximum term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Exeter Baby Bank Network
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1180848
Charity's principal address	15 Wiltshire Close Exeter Devon EX4 1LU

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	Kate Smith	Chair		
2	Melanie Smith	Treasurer		
3	Amanda Parsons	Secretary		
4	Steve Buckell		January 2022	
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17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

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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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

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Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	A Parsons	M Smith
Full name(s)	Amanda Parsons	Melanie Smith
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Secretary	
Date	28.09.22	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name

No (if any)

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
01/04/2021

To

Period end date
31/03/2022

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Grants	-	4,500	-	4,500	5,350
Fundraising	20	-	-	20	20
Donations	1,305	-	-	1,305	3,993
Sponsorship	-	3,340	-	3,340	3,660
Interest	-	-	-	-	2
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	1,325	7,840	-	9,165	12,985
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	1,325	7,840	-	9,165	12,985
A3 Payments					
Mattress costs	-	1,789	-	1,789	994
Rent	-	2,200	-	2,200	1,400
Delivery costs	-	152	-	152	372
Baby essentials	-	700	-	700	3,180
Hub costs	-	305	-	305	905
Insurance	-	126	-	126	13
Bundle packaging	-	54	-	54	143
Storage costs	-	1,692	-	1,692	617
Salary Costs	-	520	-	520	3,285
General expenses	-	202	-	202	90
Petty Cash expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Project costs	-	166	-	166	433
Sub total	-	7,906	-	7,906	11,432
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	-	7,906	-	7,906	11,432
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,325	- 66	-	1,259	1,553
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	9,638	6,507	-	16,145	14,592
Cash funds this year end	10,963	6,441	-	17,404	16,145

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	Current account	10,835	4,376	-
	Savings account	100	2,065	-
	Petty cash	28	-	-
	Total cash funds	10,963	6,441	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

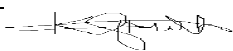
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Kate Smith	13/07/2022