



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From April 2023 Period start date To April 2024 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 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 Midwives, social workers or support workers.</p> <p>The results of our service reduce parental stress, anxiety, reduce financial burden and depression. Improved mental health allows 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 redistributing 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 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.</p> <p>We support other re-use and recycling projects to ensure best practice and</p>

		<p>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>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	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. All trustees give up their time freely and no trustee remuneration was paid in the year.

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 volunteers, who understand the needs of the local community and who are best placed to manage the daily organisation of the charity.</p> <p>They give their time freely every week, to ensure the charity responds promptly to the needs of local families with good quality items.</p> <p>We currently have 16 active volunteers contributing time across the week.</p>
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
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<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>Para 1.20</p>	<p>Our year started with a Strategic planning Meeting between our board of trustees with input from our volunteers and referral partners. This gave us a strong direction and development plan for the year 23/24.</p> <p>In April 2023 we secured funds from The National Lottery and employed a part time Service Manager to help the charity reach its targets in growing and developing its work to meet demand.</p> <p>In October 2023 after much searching we found and moved into a new premises. The unit is much larger than where we had been and enabled us to increase our stock levels, volunteers numbers and family reach.</p> <p>In 2023 we gifted 451 families essential items to a value of £192,693. This is an average saving for each family of £427. This equates to 3 months of energy bills or 3.3 weeks of grocery shopping. Alongside this we also supported 500 children through our Christmas appeal, gifting over 3500 presents.</p> <p>In our new unit we have been able to welcome Corporate Volunteers, who have used their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) time to help us sort and package goods. We appreciate that they see the value in our work and we think it is vital to form these partnerships for our future sustainability.</p> <p>We have also welcomed many Health visitor and Young Devon students on volunteering sessions to aid their knowledge of local services.</p> <p>We continue to build strong partnerships and relationships within our community, maintaining sponsors from the beginning of our journey and receiving continuation funding from grant holders.</p> <p>We have developed our data collection systems, in particular how we can seek the voices of those we serve.</p> <p>This year has seen us join The Baby Bank Alliance, who are uniting Baby Banks nationally and collecting data to ensure babies and children have the essentials they need to thrive, raising the profile of Baby Banks, campaigning for change and increasing available funds.</p>
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		<p>Looking ahead to our future plans, we hope to continue to reach more families by building more connections with referral partners across Devon.</p> <p>We have made good progress with our Social Media presence and wish to continue this as it is vital to bringing in the all important donations and raising awareness.</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	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Cash at bank on 04/04/24 was £53,613 in funds. (£26,925 unrestricted and £26,688 restricted). The main financial risk to the charity is loss of funding from the local businesses, grants and reduced donations to cover our core costs.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The funds are held to cover 12-18 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	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

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	<p>We are grateful to the following organisations for supporting our work this year with grants and funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Normans Family Charitable Trust • The Regional Development Fund • The Arnold Clarke Community Fund • Northbrook Community Trust • John Lewis Community Giving • The National Lottery • Toy Trust • Southwest Water • Jamieson Bystock Trust • Skipton Building Society • Feed • Rotary Club • The Gibbons Family Trust • St Sidwells Parish <p>We also are thankful to our committed sponsors who help to cover our charities overheads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muddy Boots Childcare • Toddler Sense Exeter • Munchkins Day Nursery • Little Ones childcare • Turtle Tots Exeter • The Baby Room • Thrifty Stork • VWS Exeter • Many Hands Brewery
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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 26th November 2018. Last reviewed February 2024
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	Baby Bank Network Exeter
Other name the charity uses	Baby Bank Exeter
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	Melanie Smith	Treasurer		
2	Amanda Fulford	Chair		
3	Steve Buckell			
4	Vicki Andrew	Secretary	02/05/2023	
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6				
7				
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14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

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

[illegible]

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

[illegible]

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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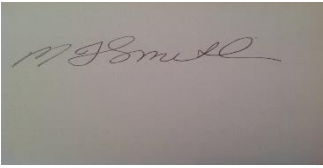
Other optional information

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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)		
Full name(s)	Melanie Smith	Amanda Fulford
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Treasurer	Chair
Date	23/09/24	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Baby Bank Network Exeter

No (if any)
1180848

CC16a


Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date Apr-23	To	Period end date Apr-24
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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					
Grants	-	41,890	-	41,890	8,540
Fundraising	336	-	-	336	-
Donations	14,411	-	-	14,411	9,414
Sponsorship	-	2,580	-	2,580	2,880
Interest	242	-	-	242	9
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	14,989	44,470	-	59,459	20,843
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	14,989	44,470	-	59,459	20,843
A3 Payments					
	-	202	-	202	1,013
Rent		15,800		15,800	2,400
Baby Essentials		321		321	1,028
Hub costs		940		940	467
Insurance		710		710	129
Bundle packaging		244		244	71
Storage costs		264		264	2,264
Salary costs		11,290		11,290	490
General expenses		842		842	342
Marketing and social media		900		900	-
Utilities		421		421	-
New volunteer costs		357		357	-
Project costs - Christmas Appeal		197		197	515
Project costs - Refurb	-	3,414	-	3,414	-
Sub total	-	35,374	-	35,374	8,719
Total payments	-	35,374	-	35,374	8,719
Net of receipts/(payments)	14,989	9,096	-	24,085	12,124
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	11,936	17,592	-	29,528	17,404
Cash funds this year end	26,925	26,688	-	53,613	29,528

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	26,513	12,134	-
	Savings Account	345	14,554	-
	Petty Cash	67	-	-
	Total cash funds	26,925	26,688	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
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 asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	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
			Melanie Smith	9/10/24



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

BABY BANK NETWORK EXETER

On accounts for the year
ended

31 MARCH 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1180848

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2024.

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

~~[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

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:

09/10/2024

Name:

Paul Benney

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

Chartered Accountant

(if any):

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Address:

WR Frost, Tourism House, Pynes Hill, Exeter, EX2 5WS

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.

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