



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

**Trustees' Annual Report for the period  
1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021**

**Born Equal  
1182740**

**BORNEQUAL**

Born Equal provides support to people affected by in-equality across the world, with particular focus on those considered hidden or ignored. We provide support through grant making, advocacy and supporting the work of other charitable organisations.

The impact and ripple effect of the coronavirus global pandemic has continued to cause disruption and bring about new challenges to the operation and objectives of charities and not-for-profit organisations the world over.

While Born Equal has continued to operate through this period the charity has cautiously and intentionally adapted initial plans of growth and scale to best monitor the changing and shifting priorities of those we exist to serve and support.

We have been able to provide practical support to our existing partners through our small grant scheme enabling:

- Over 2000 children (aged 10-15) in Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria, received advisory support on their rights under the state's new law on violence and in particular, sexual violence. This project also reached parents and teachers and provided resources for future advocacy work.
- A support centre for street-connected children to continue to provide holistic support for 10 children: providing food, medical care, counselling and enabling access to education and vocational training.
- Crucial advocacy engagements with the Ministry of Education and other influential policy makers on Gender Based Violence.
- A campaign of public advocacy on radio and social media challenging gender stereotypes and Gender Based Violence.

Our advocacy work continued via membership of the Stop Child Witch Accusations (SCWA) steering group. SCWA works with churches and communities to prevent and reduce the harm caused by witchcraft accusations against children.

As the full and lasting affects of the pandemic become apparent to our existing beneficiaries we will continue to listen, reflect and evaluate how to best achieve our aims and objectives and to use learnings to date to build and adapt a strategic roadmap onwards.

## Objectives and Activities

<p>Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) The promotion of equality and diversity for the public benefit by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The elimination of discrimination on the grounds of race, gender, disability, sexual orientation, age or religion;</li> <li>(b) Advancing education and raising awareness in equality and diversity;</li> <li>(c) Promoting activities to foster understanding between people from these diverse backgrounds;</li> <li>(d) Cultivating a sentiment in favour of equality and diversity.</li> </ul> </li> <li>(2) The prevention or relief of poverty for the public benefit anywhere in the world.</li> <li>(3) The promotion of human rights for the public benefit throughout the world by all or any of the following means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Monitoring abuses of human rights;</li> <li>(b) Obtaining redress for the victims of human rights abuse;</li> <li>(c) Relieving need among the victims of human rights abuse;</li> <li>(d) Research into human rights issues;</li> <li>(e) Providing technical advice to government and others on human rights matters;</li> <li>(f) Contributing to the sound administration of human rights law;</li> <li>(g) Commenting on proposed human rights legislation;</li> <li>(h) Raising awareness of human rights issues;</li> <li>(i) Promoting public support for human rights</li> <li>(j) Promoting respect for human rights amongst individuals and corporations;</li> <li>(k) International advocacy of human rights;</li> <li>(l) Eliminating infringements of human rights.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>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.</p>	<p>Three projects under the pilot Small Grants Scheme were finalised this year, commonly focused on violence against women and children. All projects achieved their initial aims, reaching and providing support to some of the most vulnerable in society, who live under compacted inequalities.</p>

	<p>We'd like to commend those involved in the delivery of the projects on their commitment, diligence and fortitude when faced with challenges.</p> <p>Born Equal will now conduct an evaluation of the pilot Small Grants Scheme, particularly focusing on lessons learned for beneficiaries, project staff and Born Equal Trustees.</p> <p>A detailed summary of the objects and achievements of the Small Grants Scheme and our work with SCWA can be found further on in this report.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	<p>Yes, Born Equal Trustees are aware of the guidance issued by the Charity Commission regarding charitable activity being completed for public benefit.</p> <p>Trustees have all read the guidance and are committed to keeping up-to-date with this guidance on an annual basis, or sooner where new guidance is issued. This is a regular area of discussion in Board of Trustee meetings.</p>

## Achievements and Performance

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><b>Small Grants Scheme</b></p> <p>Project 1 – Challenging Gender Stereotypes (Nigeria) Over two months, an advocacy campaign was conducted on social media and local radio to raise awareness of Gender Based Violence. The campaign particularly focused on the abuse endured by children aged 4 to 12 years. The campaign highlighted the issue of gender stereotypes and the consequential abuse that stems from it to a wide audience where violence against females is widespread and somewhat normalised.</p> <p>The project recognised that state provided education material used in primary schools perpetuates these unhelpful stereotypes, such as discouraging or prohibiting girls to study STEM subjects. A meeting was held with the Ministry of Education and other influential policy makers, highlighting the issue and its consequential effects, and asked for a curriculum review. This issue will continue to be pursued through local advocacy and continued lobbying.</p> <p>This project was particularly significant, considering Nigeria ranks 128 out of 153 in the Global Gender Gap Index. We'd like to thank all those who engaged with the</p>
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	<p>project and commend the resilience of those conducting the advocacy campaigns that challenge the norm.</p> <p><b>Project 2 – Awareness of Sexual Violence (Nigeria)</b>  During the pandemic, the perpetration of sexual violence, particularly against children, rose to unprecedented levels. A new law (Akwa Ibom State Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Law 2020) was passed specifically prohibiting this type of violence and providing a legal framework for which perpetrators can be brought to justice.</p> <p>The project focused on raising awareness of the law and available support to children who are most at risk of sexual violence. Parents and teachers were also involved and given educational materials about the new law and advice on how to support children who have experienced violence.</p> <p>In total, the project reached over 2000 children, all of whom were provided with resources to support their understanding of the issues and the new law. The children were also guided to support services available to them.</p> <p>During the outreach session, children spoke with the project staff about abuse they had suffered and the team continued to receive contact from the children in the weeks following the event. The project team continue to take action to support these children and others under the new law.</p> <p>We'd like to thank the team for their resilience in the face of these challenging conversation and for taking swift action when abuses were reported. We'd also like to acknowledge the bravery of those children that spoke up about their experiences.</p> <p><b>Project 3 – Support centre for street-connected children (Nigeria)</b>  The project supported a centre for street-connected children in a city in southern Nigeria. Many children in Nigeria turn to the streets to escape violence, abuse and absolute poverty. Particularly in southern Nigeria, children who are accused of witchcraft are commonly made to ensure tortuous abuses in the hope of a cure, or shunned from their communities to live on the streets.</p> <p>Children who have previously been labelled a witch continue to be ostracised by other street-connected children and the wider community and are routinely denied access to basic resources. This support centre for</p>
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	<p>street-connected children welcomes those accused of witchcraft and children who have suffered other abuses, providing accommodation, food, basic medical care and access to education or vocational training.</p> <p>In recognition of the project's continued and unwavering support of some of the most vulnerable in the community, who continue to be impacted by compounding inequalities, funding was provided under the Small Grants Scheme to enable to shelter to continue to provide medical care and access to education for the children.</p> <p>We'd like to pay tribute to the founder of the Centre, who sadly died this year.</p> <p><b>Advocacy – Stop Child Witchcraft Accusations Now Coalition</b></p> <p>During 2021, SCWA ran two multi-agency forums including presentations by church leaders and child rights advocates from DRC and Nigeria, and with participants from human rights and developments organisations from across the world. SCWA continued to deliver training on its Heart of the Matter framework for supporting church leaders to address the harm caused by child with accusations, including initial train the trainers sessions in Nigeria, following up previous training in DRC and translation of the materials into additional languages in order to prepare for delivery in more countries.</p> <p>SCWA steering group members attended conferences on witchcraft accusations in Papua New Guinea and Geneva, and continued to develop links and collaborate with other relevant organisations.</p> <p>SCWA also contributed to the advocacy work which led to the UN Human Rights Council Resolution in August 2021 on the Elimination of Harmful Practices relating to Witchcraft Accusations and Ritual Attacks.</p>
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## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	<p>The Charity has no financial liabilities and has little financial expenditure on administrative costs.</p> <p>Born Equal is structured with voluntary labour at the heart of the organisation. This means that Born Equal can maximise the funds donated to it for direct charitable purposes. Although the Trustees appreciate that Born Equal needs to raise additional funds to support its work there is no present concern that the Charity's financial position will prevent the delivery of our charitable aims.</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	<p>For at least the next year, the Trustees do not anticipate that Born Equal will commit itself to regular financial liabilities and therefore there is no present need to establish a reserve.</p> <p>No reserves held.</p>
Amount of reserves held	£0
Reasons for holding zero reserves	<p>Born Equal has no anticipated financial liabilities for the next 12 months. Therefore, there is no current requirement to build up reserves. The Charity's intention is to build reserves over the next 4 years to support the grant giving programme to offset against deficit in expected income or unexpected costs.</p> <p>At present, the Trustees do not consider there to be a financial risk in holding zero reserves. This will be reviewed on a regular basis.</p>
Details of fund materially in deficit	The Charity does not hold any funds materially in deficit.
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	The Trustees consider that there are no uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

## Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document	Constitution
How is the charity constituted?	Born Equal has been established as a CIO with Charitable purposes
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	<p>As part of our constitution the Trustees have agreed that a Chair and Treasurer will be elected on an annual basis with this being agreed and minuted by the Trustees at one of their standard meetings, this will typically be the AGM.</p> <p>We will recruit/select new Trustees based on the needs of the Charity and this will be informed by the Advisory panel when this is established.</p>

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Born Equal
Other name the charity uses	None
Registered charity number	1182740
Charity's principal address	33 Arnold Drive Rugby CV23 9FU



## Names of the 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)
Lisa Atkinson	Chair		
Emilie Secker			
Aimee Smith	Treasurer		

Born Equal has no Corporate Trustees, no Director and no paid staff. No trustees hold title to property belonging to the charity.

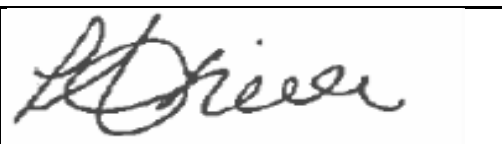
## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	n/a
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	n/a

## Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

<b>Signature</b>	
<b>Full name</b>	Lisa Atkinson
<b>Position</b>	Chair
<b>Date</b>	31-10-2022

Born Equal	1182746
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CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/01/2021	To	31/12/2021
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### 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 £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Individual donations	680	-	-	680	841
Gift Aid	-	-	-	-	195
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b> (Gross income for AR)	680	-	-	680	1,036
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
None	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total receipts</b>	680	-	-	680	1,036

### A3 Payments

Small Grants Scheme	-	-	-	-	512
Administrative Costs (domain)	24	-	-	24	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	24	-	-	24	512

<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
None	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-	-

<b>Total payments</b>	24	-	-	24	512
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<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	656	-	-	656	524
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	656	-	-	656	524

## 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>	All cash funds	656	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	656	-	-
	(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>	None	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

		-	-
		-	-

**B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use**



Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
None		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

**B5 Liabilities**

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
None		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
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	Lisa Atkinson (Chair)	31/10/2022
	Aimee Smith (Treasurer)	31/10/2022