

EARLY ESSENTIALS UK

England & Wales · Charity number 1186657

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2019-11-29

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Springfield House
Mill Lane
Cheadle
SK8 2NT

Phone 07720647226

Email info@earlyessentials.org.uk

Website <https://earlyessentials.org.uk>

Activities

Objects: TO RELIEVE THE NEEDS OF A NEW-BORN BABY WHO IS BORN IN THE UK TO PARENT(S) OR CARERS WHO ARE EITHER REFUGEES OR ASYLUM SEEKERS, IN SERIOUS FINANCIAL HARDSHIP, FLEEING DOMESTIC ABUSE, HOMELESS OR SIMILAR DISADVANTAGE THE PROVISION OF A MOSES BASKET STARTER PACK AND HAMPER CONTAINING EARLY ESSENTIALS FOR BOTH CHILD AND PARENT OR CARER

Activities: We are an emergency service providing Moses basket starter packs for the most vulnerable pregnant women unable to provide for their babies directly after birth. The women are referred to EE via a 'referring Agency' and we only provide a basket to referring Agency staff if the 'public benefit' criteria are met. Baskets act as baby's safe place to sleep and are filled with Mum and baby essentials.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups

Geography

- Northern Ireland
- Cheshire East
- Manchester City
- North Yorkshire
- Peterborough City
- Salford City
- Stockport
- Trafford
- Warrington
- Wigan

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-09-30	£92,259	£52,091	-	-
2023-09-30	£38,404	£44,285	-	-
2022-09-30	£41,705	£35,289	-	-
2021-09-30	£16,772	£20,891	-	-
2020-09-30	£19,355	£12,115	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
GRAHAM PAUL LEECH		2025-10-20
LEA FRANCES ANN LEECH		2024-04-18
Laura Green		2024-09-09
Natalie Hands		2025-06-20
SARAH HOPE		2025-10-20

EARLY ESSENTIALS UK

England & Wales - Charity number 1186657

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period 23-24

	Period start date				Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
From	1	10	2023	To	30	09	2024

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

Charity's principal address

Springfield House, Mill Lane
Cheadle
Cheshire
Postcode SK8 2NT

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	Graham Leech	Chief Finance Officer		
2	Christine Scott			
3	Lea Leech			
4	Martin Austin		1/10/23 to 20/10/2023	
5	Sarah Hope			
6	Natalie Hands			
7	Laura Green		From 9/9/2024	

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
NONE	

Names and addresses of advisers –

No advisors are engaged by EE.

Name of senior staff members –

Sarah Newton-Smith: 'Executive Officer', Co-founder. The only employed staff member (part time).

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	CONSTITUTION
How the charity is constituted	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods	Appointed by existing Trustees under para#10 of constitution

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.

This reporting year is from 1st October 2023 to 30th September 2024.

Early Essentials UK (EE), and from now on in this report, 'we/us/our', received confirmation on 29th November 2019 that we were entered onto the Register of Charities as a CIO – Charitable Incorporated Organisation. We have therefore been a CIO for 5 years at 29th November 2024.

This is our 5th Trustees report as a charity/CIO. For the background information, how EE started in March 2015, and a short history of our operations, please refer to the 2020 TAR – Trustees Annual Report.

EE UK is operated by a team known as Early Essentials Manchester, packing and delivering Moses Baskets from rented premises in the M22 postcode area of south Manchester. We thank The Message Trust for their generous and much appreciated ongoing use of their premises.

For the year 2023 to 2024 there continue to also be satellite groups known as Early Essentials Stockport, Warrington, Peterborough, Whitby and Ballymoney, and from June 2024, Wigan. Each location operates in their local areas under the leadership of a local Team Leader.

All our activities are undertaken by volunteers, except for one employed part-time Executive Officer.

Our volunteers have worked tirelessly to continue to sort, wash, stock, pack, and supply Moses Baskets throughout the period to meet a demand from the referring agencies that is 11.5% higher than the previous year and 53% higher than two years ago. It is sad that the demand for Moses baskets/starter packs continues to rise but pleasing that the rate of increase has slowed down this year. The trustees are pleased that EE has yet again been able to increase the level of service it has provided in this period, and no eligible referral has had to be turned-away. We aim to continue to be able to respond to each and every eligible referral going forward.

Early Essentials operates for the 'public benefit' so does not 'gift' starter packs/Moses baskets directly to the eligible mothers, and therefore neither meets or knows the mothers and babies. The need is identified by 'referring agencies', and the professional staff/volunteers of these agencies apply to us explaining how the recipients meet the eligibility criteria. Our staff/volunteers then check the application and notify the referring agency whether or not the criteria are met, and if met, from where and when the starter pack can be collected by the referring agency.

EE Manchester's beneficiaries are all within Greater Manchester. Each of the other six satellite team/location serves their local referring agency professionals and staff with beneficiaries in their local communities.

The trustees note that none of EE's activities involve or require face to face contact with vulnerable adults or children. A Safeguarding Policy is in place, being beneficial for the charity, the Executive Officer, and the volunteers. The trustees regularly review this to ensure it is relevant and applicable. A copy is available to the public on the EE website.

Insurance cover in the name of EE UK continues to be in place. This provides Public and Employer's liability cover, and also includes cover for volunteers and material loss where packing and storage is in rented or leased property (at Manchester and Warrington locations).

There continue to be six trustees, although between Martin Austin standing down at the end of his two-year appointment in October 2023, and Laura Green's appointment in September 2024, there were five.

Sarah Hope and Graham Leech have both been reappointed as trustees for 2 years from 20th October 2023. Lea Leech was re-appointed as trustee for 2 years from 18th April 2024.

Section C Objectives and activities

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

To relieve or prevent the financial hardship of parents or carers of new-born babies in the UK, in particular but not exclusively, by providing Moses baskets and items of baby clothing, bedding, toiletries and other essentials.

Early Essentials provide emergency Moses Basket hampers or starter packs

We provide Moses basket starter packs for the most vulnerable pregnant women, who would otherwise be unable to provide for their babies directly after birth. The women are referred to EE via either their midwife, health visitor, social worker or charity. Our criteria are that they must be 32 or more weeks pregnant and fall into one of the following categories:

- (a) homeless
- (b) refugee/seeking asylum
- (c) fleeing domestic abuse
- (d) in serious financial crisis
- (e) ...or similar disadvantage.

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)

The starter pack includes essentials such as: baby clothes, blankets, nappies, wipes, breast pads, maternity pads, toiletries for baby and mum, toys, a towel and a gift for mum. The items donated are either brand new or pre-loved. All items are carefully inspected and checked that they are in very good condition. These are packed into a Moses basket along with a mattress and wrapped, as a gift, in cellophane ready to be collected.

The starter pack is collected from EE premises by the referring third party agency staff, who then deliver the pack to the mother. We would also provide a Moses starter pack in special but equally urgent and needy circumstances, for example, tailored to the needs of a father and new-born baby where a mother and baby are separated at birth.

TRUSTEES. All trustees have been provided with applicable information, and each have signed the required Trustee eligibility declaration which states the purposes and object of EE, including its underlying requirements for public benefit. The declaration regarding working with vulnerable groups is not signed as staff and volunteers and trustees do not work with vulnerable people including children. Trustees regularly review the main activities undertaken by EE in their trustee meetings.

PUBLIC BENEFIT. The public benefit requirements are met by implementing a referral process, maintaining an independence of the team leaders and volunteers from the choosing of which mums-to-be receive the benefit of a Moses basket. The health care and other professionals and staff of the referring agencies make a referral against set out criteria, and this referral is checked by a team leader. If the referral meets the 'public benefit' criteria, the agency staff are informed when a basket is ready for collection.

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.

All our activities are undertaken by volunteers supported by our one paid part-time Executive Officer (EO).

Our work, of sorting, washing, and storing of clothing, the packing of baskets with the many items we provide, replenishing stock, collecting donations, disposal of unsuitable items, communicating with referring agencies, social media promotion, admin, and website updating, has continued as demand has increased, enabling us to meet the increasing numbers of baskets provided to needy Mums and particularly, to never have to turn-down a valid referral.

Public speaking/presentations, and the training and support of volunteers, has continued during this period.

Some volunteers, who are also trustees, are involved in decision making, accounting/bookkeeping, general administration, banking/financial transactions, policy/procedure writing, and attending trustee/members meetings.

The trustees extend heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all those who directly and indirectly volunteer and support the work of EE in providing the gifts of Moses Baskets packed to the brim with essentials.

Section D Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Early Essential's (EE's) 'core' activity is the supply of packed Moses baskets/ starter packs to 'referring agency' staff who deliver them to the needy or vulnerable Mums.

Please refer to each EE location's Facebook pages (links can be found on the EE website) to see the achievements, successes, and highlights each location has reported through the year. These social media pages also identify our supporters - organisations, companies, schools, church groups, faith groups, and individuals who have made it possible to maintain and grow our 'core' activity.

All 6 existing EE locations have continued to operate during this reporting year and have been joined by a 7th location in Wigan.

In this reporting year the numbers of baskets provided was 953 across the 7 locations, which is an 11.5% increase on the previous 12 months total of 855.

LOCATION	Baskets THIS YEAR	Total since starting	start date
EE Manchester –	601 (+66)	2,706	March 2015
EE Stockport –	124 (+15)	1,043	July 2015
EE Warrington –	95 (+4)	417	March 2016
EE Peterborough –	75 (-13)	357	March 2017
EE Whitby -	10 (-1)	42	February 2021
EE Ballymoney –	10 (-11)	68	April 2021
Sub-TOTALS:	915 (+68)	4,633	
EE Wigan -	38	38	June 2024
TOTALS:	953 (+98)	4,671	

(Number in (xx) brackets shows the change compared to previous 12 months)

Wigan started receiving referrals and providing Moses baskets in June. See 'further details' in Section E below for Wigan's financial reporting.

The number of baskets/starter packs provided since EE started 9 years ago in March 2015 totals 4,671, which we find both humbling and sad. It highlights a tremendous need which we prefer did not exist, but we are privileged to make a difference this year for 953 babies and their mums.

EE functions with a heart to show unconditional love through a free gift to Mums in difficult circumstances, based on the Bible verse “For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life.” *John 3:16 GNB*. We thank God for his continued provision of resources this year and since we started.

We give heartfelt thanks to all those who, during the year, donated goods and supplies that together make up a full Moses Basket. You are an essential and appreciated part of the work we do, and we thank you for joining us in meeting the needs of so many needy Mums. There are too many individuals to name, but thank you to each of you for giving so generously of new and ‘as-new’ used items.

We also wish to thank the many community groups, churches and church groups, faith groups, schools, businesses and shops who give so generously or make/knit/crochet baby-items:- including

Asda Eastlands, Baby Bank Alliance, Bare Necessities Toiletry Bank,
Bicester Outlet, Bright Horizons Nursery, Burnage Foodbank,
Byotrol, The Charity Service, Chelwood Foodbank,
Childs Farm, Clair de Lune, Connect Centre,
Crumpsall Lane Primary School, Crumpsall Lane Primary,
Crab Lane Primary, Didsbury Brownies, E-ACT Blackley Academy,
Elmwood Church, Ethan & Co Expeditors,
Gatley Knitwits, Happy Dots, The Height Methodist Church Girl Guides,
Helping Hands, In Kind Direct, Ivy Cafe Ladybridge Connect,
Ivy Church, John Lewis Cheadle, Knit and Natter,
Lime Sustainable Supplies, Little Green Sock Project,
Little Lighthouse Baby Bank, Lok n Store, Love Creative,
Mcr Central Foodbank, Message Trust, Message Community Hub,
Mid Cheshire Foodbank, Morrisons Cheadle Heath, Mosaic Justice,
Moston Fields Primary School, Munchkin, National Energy Action,
Neighbourhood Charity Crafters, Nicole Schofield - UK’s National Ms,
Pear Tree Nursery, Read Mcr, RGF Staffing,
Ridge and Partners, Royal College of Midwives, Shrimah Rajchandra,
The Social, St Chads Primary, St Nicholas Church,
Soroptimist International – Manchester, Stretford Foodbank,
Soroptimist International – Peterborough, Tesco East Didsbury,
Thales, Trafford Little Bundles, With Love Steph,
Women’s Weekly, Wythenshawe Community Connectors,
Wythenshawe Hosp Midwives, and more....

We are sorry if we have missed your name or church or organisation!

The trustees thank the many individuals who have joined one of our location teams in sorting items and packing baskets, both regularly or just for a few hours. Around 38 individuals assist as volunteers across the 7 locations.

We also give heartfelt thanks to individuals, groups, churches and companies who have so generously supported us financially this year. (See also the financial review at section E below).

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Please refer to our Annual Accounts, published together with this Annual Report. We started the year with £12,593. Our Receipts were £92,259 which was considerably more (£46,200) than our budget but included a generous donation of £12,040 with the stated desire that this be used to establish a financial reserve. Our Payments were £52,091 which was £2,270 less than our budget. Our end of year balance is £52,761.

The trustees agreed that a reserve be deposited in a 35-day notice Liquidity Manager Account (35dLM) to best use the funds and earn interest. All interest earned in this account is added to EE's reserves and not to operations monies. At the end of the year the reserves stand at £12,584. The 35dLM Account at the end of the year also holds £28,000 operations monies.

The increase in payments of £8,173 since last year is spread over most of our operational costs and reflects the resources required to provide 915 baskets/starter packs. Payments on supplies for starter packs have increased £5,993; lease of premises at Warrington and Manchester is up by £887; payroll costs have increased by £1,645. Reductions in payments have been in promotion and website development and miscellaneous items.

Each starter pack we provide to a needy Mum would cost an estimated £350 if the Moses Basket, mattress, and contents were purchased from 'low price' supermarkets and suppliers. However, many of these items have been donated by individuals, groups, organisations or companies (see section D above), leaving us to need to purchase only items that must be new or are needed to make good any shortfalls in the donated goods and supplies.

This means we are able to give away far more in value than we pay for. This year, we have given out 915 starter packs with a value of around £320,000 for an expenditure of £51,995 (excluding the costs of 'assets' such as storage boxes). This represents a remarkable uplift/added value in financial terms, with each starter pack worth around £350 costing Early Essentials less than £57 to provide.

The trustees applaud the team leaders for each location in their efficient use of monies whilst embracing the ongoing increase in referrals. Overall expenditure per basket this financial year has remained the same as last year.

The trustees' written and agreed Reserves Policy at the end of this financial year is to hold 4 months value of 'core costs' in reserves and have budgeted to increase this to 5 months by the end of the next financial year, September 2025. Payroll and lease of premises are identified as outgoings necessary for EE's 'core activity'.

The trustees are pleased to report that, as of October 2024 with over £50,000 held for the various Early Essential locations in the two Manchester bank accounts and the Stockport account, the finances are in a very healthy position, and with which the trustees are very satisfied and thankful.

Disclosure about related party transactions in this reporting period:

- there are no trustees' remuneration and benefits;
- no trustees' expenses have been claimed or paid;
- no volunteers expenses have been claimed;
- transactions: an employment contract was entered into with EE's Executive Officer on 1st October 2021, renewed on 1st October 2023, with payroll set up for 2.5 days per week. One of the trustees, Christine Scott, is a 'related party', being the mother of the Executive Officer. Christine is neither present nor involved in any discussions and meetings concerning the performance, salary and payroll, nor terms and conditions of the appointed Executive Officer, leaving any meetings whilst these matters are discussed. The trustees consider and record this, and any other 'conflicts of interest' at the start of trustee meetings.
- there are no other transactions of this type.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

There are no funds materially in deficit.

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.

We do not have monies to invest and the trustees have no plans to do so. If and when we do, we shall prepare an investment policy.

Of the £92,259 receipts in the year, we received £51,882 in grants and funds. £29,455 of this funding is restricted spending, either on the starter packs (Moses Baskets, mattresses and basket contents), on lease, on payroll, on locations (for example, Greater Manchester, or Wythenshawe post codes only), or on the time it is spent (from 1st October 2024), and therefore shown as restricted funds in the accounts.

All of this except £15,570 has been spent by the end of September 2024.

We have received financial support as follows: -

£37,558 in donations from:

(a) generous individuals or couples who give either regularly all year (4 individuals – THANK YOU), or by 'one-off' donations (6 individuals or couples – THANK YOU); thank you also to those 3 individuals who have given anonymously through Charities Aid Foundation and Charitable Giving;

(b) churches, Christian centres, and schools. Thank you especially to Burnage Family Church (who give monthly throughout the year), to Ivy Church Manchester, Bramhall Baptist Church, and to Elmwood Church;

(c) The Royal College of Midwives, St. Mary's Hospital; Soroptimist International in Peterborough and in Manchester; and Trafford Little Buds;

(d) MGPS sponsorship, who have faithfully given monthly all year; and from Stockport Council staff with monies 'from Covid times';

(e) through the EE Stewardship online giving pages. Many individuals and couples donate to us by this method, and we are extremely grateful to each of you that do. 8 named individuals donate monthly – THANK YOU, and around

Section F

Other optional information

Full details of the work of EE including: details of what we pack in baskets; a video showing what we do; contact details of all locations; testimonials from referring agency staff and mums who have received the baskets – and more – can be found on our website – <http://earlyessentials.org.uk>



The website also provides links to Facebook and other social media pages run by each location (except Wigan), or you can search Facebook for Early Essentials 'location' and insert the name of the location in which you are interested.

Section G

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	GRAHAM PAUL LEECH	NATALIE M HANDS
Position (e.g. Secretary, Chair)	Trustee & Chief Financial Officer	Trustee
Date	22/07/2025	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

EARLY ESSENTIALS UK

#1186657

CC16a

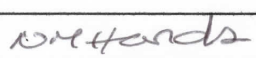
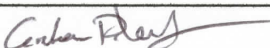
Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01/10/2023	To	Period end date 30/09/2024
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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					
donations (<i>voluntary receipts</i>)	37,558	-	-	37,558	25,229
grants / funds (<i>voluntary receipts</i>)	22,427	9,455	-	31,882	12,024
sponsorship	2,000	-	-	2,000	966
HM Government / National Lottery funding	-	20,000	-	20,000	-
bank interest	544	-	-	544	-
tax relief - Gift Aid claimed by EE	269	-	-	269	185
other income	6	-	-	6	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	62,804	29,455	-	92,259	38,404
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
none	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	62,804	29,455	-	92,259	38,404
A3 Payments					
supplies for Moses Baskets	14,882	8,963	-	23,845	17,852
printing, stationery, etcetera	797	-	-	797	-
promotion including website development	339	173	-	512	741
miscellaneous and incidental costs	274	-	-	274	957
rent or lease of premises	6,914	2,613	-	9,527	8,640
fundraising	-	-	-	-	240
volunteers, staff, or trustees expenses	-	-	-	-	-
payroll for 1 part-time Executive Officer	14,566	2,136	-	16,702	15,057
Insurances	338	-	-	338	335
Sub total	38,110	13,885	-	51,995	43,822
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
shelving/racking/trolley/storage boxes etc	96	-	-	96	270
office laptop&printer, promo flag on stand	-	-	-	-	193
Sub total	96	-	-	96	463
Total payments	38,206	13,885	-	52,091	44,285
Net of receipts/(payments)	24,598	15,570	-	40,168	5,881
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	12,381	212	-	12,593	-
Cash funds this year end	36,979	15,782	-	52,761	5,881

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	Bank Current Account Manchester	5,194	4,782	-
	35 day notice Liquidity Manager account Manchester	29,584	11,000	
	Bank Account Stockport	1,991	-	-
	Cash held (Whitby)	210	-	-
	Total cash funds	36,979	15,782	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			
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)
	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	storage and packing - trolley, racking/ shelving/ tables / boxes etc	unrestricted	2,138	-
	Office equipment - laptop and printer	unrestricted	671	-
	Promotional banner / flag and stand	unrestricted	160	-
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	
	 	N.M. HANDS. GRAHAM P. LEECH	22/07/2025	22/07/2025



Section A Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of** Early Essentials UK

**On accounts for the year
ended** 30 September 2024 **Charity no
(if any)** 1186657

Set out on pages 1 to 2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **30/09/2024**.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report** As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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 (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn 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:** 23/7/2025

Name: Peter Bell

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

Address: 86, Bramhall Lane South, Bramhall, SK7 2EA

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight 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.

N/A

EARLY ESSENTIALS UK

England & Wales - Charity number 1186657

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period 22-23

Period start date			Period end date			
Day	Month	Year	Day	Month	Year	
From	1	10	To	30	09	2023

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name EARLY ESSENTIALS UK

Other names charity is known by EE

Registered charity number (if any) 1186657

Charity's principal address

Springfield House, Mill Lane	
Cheadle	
Cheshire	
Postcode	SK8 2NT

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	Graham Leech	Chief Finance Officer		
2	Christine Scott			
3	Lea Leech			
4	Martin Austin			
5	Sarah Hope			
6	Natalie Hands			

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
NONE	

Names and addresses of advisers –

No advisors are engaged by EE.

Name of senior staff members –

Sarah Newton-Smith – 'Executive Officer', Co-founder and the only employed staff (part time)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	CONSTITUTION
How the charity is constituted	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods	Appointed by existing Trustees under para#10 of constitution

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.

This reporting year is from 1st October 2022 to 30th September 2023.

Early Essentials UK (EE), and from now on in this report, 'we/us/our', received confirmation on 29th November 2019 that we were entered onto the Register of Charities as a CIO – Charitable Incorporated Organisation. We have therefore been a CIO for 4 years at 29th November 2023.

This is our fourth Trustees report as a charity/CIO. For the background information, how EE started in March 2015, and a short history of our operations, please refer to the 2020 TAR – Trustees Annual Report.

EE UK is operated by a team known as Early Essentials Manchester, packing and delivering Moses Baskets from rented premises in the M22 postcode area of south Manchester. We thank The Message Trust for their generous and much appreciated use of their premises. We moved from their warehouse on Leestone Road to their furnished premises on Harper Road in January 2023.

There continue to also be satellite groups known as Early Essentials Stockport, Warrington, Peterborough, Whitby and Ballymoney, each operating in their local areas during this reporting year under the leadership of a local Team Leader.

All our activities are undertaken by volunteers, except for one employed part-time Executive Officer.

Our volunteers have worked tirelessly to continue to sort, wash, stock, pack, and supply Moses Baskets throughout the period to meet a demand from the referring agencies that is 37% higher than the previous year and 81%% higher than two years ago. It is concerning that the demand for Moses baskets/starter packs continues to rise, but the trustees are pleased that EE has been able to increase the level of service it has provided in this period, and no eligible referral has had to be turned-away. We aim to continue to be able to respond to each and every eligible referral going forward

Early Essentials operates for the 'public benefit' so does not 'gift' starter packs/Moses baskets directly to the eligible mothers, and therefore neither meets or knows the mothers and babies. The need is identified by 'referring agencies', and the professional staff/volunteers of these agencies apply to us explaining how the recipients meet the eligibility criteria. Our staff/volunteers then check the application and notify the referring agency whether or not the criteria are met, and if met, from where and when the starter pack can be collected by the referring agency.

EE Manchester's beneficiaries are all within Greater Manchester. Each of the five satellite team/location serves their local referring agency professionals and staff with beneficiaries in their local communities.

The trustees note that none of EE's activities involve or require face to face contact with vulnerable adults or children. A Safeguarding Policy is in place, being beneficial for the charity, the Executive Officer, and the volunteers. The trustees regularly review this to ensure it is relevant and applicable. A copy is available to the public on the EE website.

Insurance cover in the name of EE UK continues to be in place. This provides Public and Employer's liability cover, and also includes cover for volunteers and material loss where packing and storage is in rented or leased property (at Manchester and Warrington locations).

All six trustees remained in post during this period including Christine Scott and Graham Leech and, who were approved to continue as trustees for a further 2 years by the trustees in February 2023 and June 2023 respectively.

Section C

Objectives and activities

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

To relieve or prevent the financial hardship of parents or carers of new-born babies in the UK, in particular but not exclusively, by providing Moses baskets and items of baby clothing, bedding, toiletries and other essentials.

Early Essentials provide emergency Moses Basket hampers or starter packs

We provide Moses basket starter packs for the most vulnerable pregnant women, who would otherwise be unable to provide for their babies directly after birth. The women are referred to EE via either their midwife, health visitor, social worker or charity. Our criteria are that they must be 32 or more weeks pregnant and fall into one of the following categories:

- (a) homeless
- (b) refugee/seeking asylum
- (c) fleeing domestic abuse
- (d) in serious financial crisis
- (e) ...or similar disadvantage.

The starter pack includes essentials such as: baby clothes, blankets, nappies, wipes, breast pads, maternity pads, toiletries for baby and mum, toys, a towel and a gift for mum. The items donated are either brand new or pre-loved. All items are carefully inspected and checked that they are in very good condition. These are packed into a Moses basket along with a mattress and wrapped, as a gift, in cellophane ready to be collected.

The starter pack is collected from our EE premises by the referring third party agency staff, who then deliver the pack to the mother. We would also provide a Moses starter pack in special but equally urgent and needy circumstances, for example, tailored to the needs of a father and new-born baby where a mother and baby are separated at birth.

All trustees have been provided with applicable information, and each have signed the required Trustee eligibility declaration which states the purposes and object of EE, including its underlying requirements for public benefit. The declaration regarding working with vulnerable groups is not signed as staff and volunteers and trustees do not work with vulnerable people including children. Trustees regularly review the main activities undertaken by EE in their trustee meetings.

The public benefit requirements are met by implementing a referral process, maintaining an independence of the team leaders and volunteers from the choosing of which mums-to-be receive the benefit of a Moses basket. The health care and other professionals and staff of the referring agencies make a referral against set out criteria, and this referral is checked by a team leader. If the referral meets the 'public benefit' criteria, the agency staff are informed when a basket is ready for collection.

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)

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.

All our activities are undertaken by volunteers supported by our one paid part-time Executive Officer (EO).

Our work, of sorting, washing, and storing of clothing, the packing of baskets with the many items we provide, replenishing stock, collecting donations, disposal of unsuitable items, communicating with referring agencies, social media promotion, admin, and website updating, has continued as demand has increased, enabling us to meet the much higher numbers of baskets provided to needy Mums and particularly, to never have to turn-down a valid referral.

Public speaking/presentations, and the training and support of volunteers, has continued during this period.

Some volunteers, who are also trustees, are involved in decision making, accounting/bookkeeping, banking/financial transactions, policy/procedure writing, and attending trustee/members meetings.

The trustees extend heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all those who directly and indirectly volunteer and support the work of EE in providing the gifts of Moses Baskets packed to the brim with essentials.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Early Essential's (EE's) 'core' activity is the supply of packed Moses baskets/ starter packs to 'referring agency' staff who deliver them to the needy or vulnerable Mums.

Please refer to each EE location's Facebook pages (links can be found on the EE website) to see the achievements, successes, and highlights each location has reported through the year. These social media pages also identify our supporters - organisations, companies, schools, church groups, faith groups, and individuals who have made it possible to maintain and grow our 'core' activity.

All 6 existing EE locations have continued to operate during this period.

In this reporting year the numbers of baskets provided was 855 across our 6 locations, which is a 37% increase on the previous 12 months total of 623, and an 81% increase on the number two years ago of 471.

LOCATION	Baskets THIS YEAR	Total since starting	– start date
EE Manchester –	535 (+135)	2,105	March 2015
EE Stockport –	109 (-7)	919	July 2015
EE Warrington –	91 (+66)	322	March 2016
EE Peterborough –	88 (+46)	282	March 2017
EE Whitby -	11 (-5)	32	February 2021
EE Ballymoney –	21 (-3)	58	April 2021

TOTALS: 855 (+232) 3,718

(Number in (xx) brackets shows the change compared to previous 12 months)

Our total baskets/starter packs provided since March 2015 is 3,718, which we find both humbling and sad. It highlights a tremendous need which we prefer did not exist, but we are privileged to make a difference this year for 855 babies and their mums.

EE functions with a heart to show unconditional love through a free gift to Mums in difficult circumstances, based on the Bible verse "For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in

him may not die but have eternal life." *John 3:16 GNB*. We thank God for his continued provision of resources this year and since we started.

We give heartfelt thanks to all those who, during the year, donated goods and supplies that together make up a full Moses Basket. You are an essential and appreciated part of the work we do, and we thank you for joining us in meeting the needs of so many needy Mums. There are too many individuals to name, but thank you to each of you for giving so generously of new and 'as-new' used items.

We also wish to thank the many community groups, churches and church groups, faith groups, schools, businesses and shops who give so generously or make/knit/crochet baby-items:- including

Asda Foundation, Childs Farm, Clare de Lune, Gatley KnitWits, Ivy Church Manchester, Elmwood Church, John Lewis & Partners Cheadle, Life Church Warrington, Gemma Tuson's Big Clothes Swap, Good Afternooners' Women's Institute, Lush Manchester Arndale, Manchester Libraries, Swinton Police Station, Aristra Bar Swinton, Shrimad Rajchandra Love and Care, Byotrol, Tesco, Morrisons, Bare Necessities Toiletry Bank, The Little Green Sock Project, Charnwood Nursery, Lok n Store, Babyccino Coffee Mums, St Vincent De Paul Charity, Fusion 21, Warrington Hospital Maternity Dept, Northern Regional College, Connect Centre, Both Lives Matter, Werrington Carol Singers, Neighbourhood Charity Crafters, Northern Care Alliance Trust, With Love Steph, The Message Trust and Message Community Hub, Zac Guinan, Clyde & Co. Solicitors, and more. Sorry if we have missed your name or church or organisation!

The trustees thank the many individuals who have joined one of our location teams in sorting items and packing baskets, both regularly or just for a few hours.

We also give heartfelt thanks to individuals, groups, churches and companies who have so generously supported us financially this year. (See also the financial review at section E below).

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Please refer to our Annual Accounts, published together with this Annual Report. We started the year with £18,474. Our Receipts were £38,404 which was £1,200 more than our budget. Our Payments were £44,285 which was £3,065 less than our budget. Our end of year balance is £12,593.

The increase in payments is spread over our whole operational costs and reflects the resources required to provide 855 baskets/starter packs. Payments on supplies for starter packs have increased £3,132 since the previous year; lease of premises at Warrington and Manchester is up by nearly £3,530; payroll costs have increased by £3,486.

Each starter pack we provide to a needy Mum would cost between £300 and £350 if the Moses Basket, mattress, and contents were all purchased new. However, the many of these items have been donated by individuals, groups, organisations or companies (see section D above), leaving us to need to purchase only items that must be new or are needed to make good any shortfalls in the donated goods and supplies.

This means we are able to give away far more in value than we pay for. This year, we have given out 855 starter packs with a value of around £278,000 for an expenditure of £43,822 (excluding the costs of 'assets' such as storage boxes, printer for the EO's home office, and 'sail-flag' outside the Manchester packing premises). This represents a remarkable uplift/added value in financial terms, with each starter pack worth around £325 costing Early

Essentials less than £52 to provide. In the three years since becoming a charity, Early Essentials, from all six locations, has given out over £735,000 value of starter packs with an expenditure of just under £110,000.

The trustees applaud the team leaders for each location in their efficient use of monies whilst embracing the large increase in referrals. Overall expenditure this financial year has reduced by £4.84 per basket.

The trustees' written and agreed Reserves Policy is to maintain a 3 months financial continuity reserve, identifying payroll and lease of premises as outgoings necessary for EE's 'core activity'. £0 reserve is held whilst the Manchester unrestricted funds bank balance is greater than £8,500, and £5,500 when the balance falls below that figure. At the end of the financial year September 2023, this balance was £7,528. The trustees are pleased to report that in October 2023 EE received donations of more than £14,800, meaning that the finances are in a healthy position, and with which the trustees are satisfied.

The trustees have agreed four policy and procedures in this period: Volunteer Management; Safeguarding; Health and Safety Policy; and a procedure for handling cash donations.

Disclosure about related party transactions in this reporting period:

- there are no trustees' remuneration and benefits;
- no trustees' expenses have been claimed or paid;
- no volunteers expenses have been claimed;
- transactions: an employment contract was entered into with EE's Executive Officer on 1st October 2021, renewed on 1st October 2022, with payroll set up for 2.5 days per week. One of the trustees, Christine Scott, is a 'related party', being the mother of the Executive Officer. Christine is neither present nor involved in any discussions and meetings concerning the performance, salary and payroll, nor terms and conditions of the appointed Executive Officer, leaving any meetings whilst these matters are discussed. The trustees consider and record this, and any other 'conflicts of interest' at the start of trustee meetings.
- there are no other transactions of this type.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

There are no funds materially in deficit.

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);

We do not have monies to invest and the trustees have no plans to do so. If and when we do, we shall prepare an investment policy.

Of the £38,404 receipts in the year, we received £12,024 in grants and funds. £3,537 of this funding is restricted to spending on the starter packs (Moses Baskets, mattresses and basket contents), and therefore shown as restricted funds in the accounts. All of this except £212 has been spent.

We have received: -

£25,228 in donations from:

(a) generous individuals or couples who give either regularly or by 'one-off'

- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

donations; thank you especially to Gemma for organising a clothes swap, and to Peterborough Carol Singers.

(b) churches, Christian centres, and schools. Thank you to Ivy Church Manchester, Burnage Family Church, Journey Church;

(c) retailers/companies/bank; thank you to, MGPS sponsorship, Lush Arndale, Fusion 21,

£681 from Zac completing a sponsored run; and £284 by a young lady doing a sponsored cake-bake.

£185 in HMRC tax relief on individual's Gift-Aid donations,

and £12,024 in grants or funds: thank you to Asda, The Charity Service, Manchester Guardians Society Charitable Trust, Love Steph, and Tesco Groundwork UK.

Individuals have given to EE UK for the work of EE Manchester and EE UK, or for specified EE locations. The attached accounts are for all 6 Early Essentials locations combined. Many individuals and couples donate to us through 'Stewardship' on their web giving pages. We do not pay any subscription nor 'platform fee'. Stewardship transfers to EE the donation plus any gift-aid tax relief, less a small percentage service fee. (Currently 3.5%)

We could not continue as a charitable service without the very generous financial support of all the above, and those we have not mentioned by name, and we thank you with grateful hearts.

Payments this year, rounded to the nearest whole %, and only listing line items greater than 1% (with the previous year's % shown in brackets), are identified as follows:

40%	(42%)	(a) supplies for Moses Baskets where- we do not have donations or - we must buy new, including Moses Baskets themselves
2%	(1%)	(b) promotion including website development
2%	(2%)	(c) miscellaneous items, including training
19%	(14%)	(d) rent of premises for storage/sorting/packing
1%	(1%)	(e) insurances
34%	(33%)	(f) salary and payroll costs
1%	(0%)	(g) fundraising
1%	(5%)	(h) Printer/shelving and racking etc: assets
0%	(2%)	(h) Printing

Each of these 'line items' support the key objectives of EE – to provide Moses Baskets pack full of essentials for a needy Mum and her new-born baby.

Section F**Other optional information**

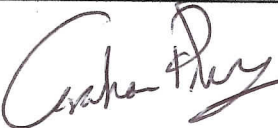

Full details of the work of EE including: details of what we pack in baskets; a video showing what we do; contact details of all locations; testimonials from referring agency staff and mums who have received the baskets – and more – can be found on our website – <http://earlyessentials.org.uk>

The website also provides links to Facebook and other social media pages run by each location, or you can search Facebook for Early Essentials 'location' and insert the name of the location in which you are interested.

Section G**Declaration**

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	GRAHAM PAUL LEECH	NATALIE M HANDS
Position (e.g. Secretary, Chair)	Trustee & Chief Financial Officer	Trustee
Date	23/07/2024	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

EARLY ESSENTIALS UK

#1186657

Receipts and payments accounts

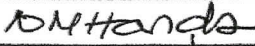
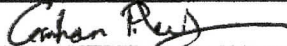
CC16a

For the period from	01/10/2022	To	30/09/2023
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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					
donations (<i>voluntary receipts</i>)	24,560	669	-	25,229	14,959
grants/funds (<i>voluntary receipts</i>)	8,487	3,537	-	12,024	14,000
sponsorship	966	-	-	966	2,057
Emergency Covid19 funding/HM Government/National Lottery Community Fund etc	-	-	-	-	9,950
Bank interest	-	-	-	-	1
tax relief - Gift Aid claimed by EE	185	-	-	185	738
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	34,198	4,206	-	38,404	41,705
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
none	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	34,198	4,206	-	38,404	41,705
A3 Payments					
supplies for Moses Baskets	6,029	11,823	-	17,852	14,721
printing, stationery, etcetera	-	-	-	-	548
promotion incl'g website development	741	-	-	741	187
Mother's Day gifts	-	-	-	-	112
miscellaneous and incidental costs	957	-	-	957	671
rent of premises	8,640	-	-	8,640	5,114
fundraising	240	-	-	240	-
Volunteers' expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Staff expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Trustees' expenses	-	-	-	-	-
payroll - 1 part-time Executive Officer	15,057	-	-	15,057	11,571
Insurances	335	-	-	335	450
Sub total	31,999	11,823	-	43,822	33,374
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
shelving/racking/trolley/storage boxes	270	-	-	270	572
Printer for office, promo flag	193	-	-	193	-
Sub total	463	-	-	463	572
Total payments	32,462	11,823	-	44,285	33,946
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,736	- 7,617	-	- 5,881	7,759
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	10,645	7,829	-	18,474	12,058
Cash funds this year end	12,381	212	-	12,593	19,817

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	Bank Account Manchester	10,974	-	-
	Bank Account Stockport	1,301	212	-
	Cash held (Whitby)	106	-	-
	Total cash funds	12,381	212	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
	Donations for EE received through Stewardship but not yet paid into EE's account	235	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	none		-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Storage and packing- trolley, racking/shelving/tables etcetera	unrestricted	2,042	1,268
	Office equipment - laptop and printer	unrestricted	671	538
	Promotional banner/flag	unrestricted	160	75
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
			NATALIE M HANDS	22/07/2024
			GRAHAM P. LEECH	22/07/2024



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's
report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Early Essentials UK

On accounts for the year
ended

30 September 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1186657

Set out on pages

1 to 2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **30/09/2023**.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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 (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn 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:

Peter Bell

Date:

23/7/2024

Name:

Peter Bell

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

ICAEW

Address:

86, Bramhall Lane South, Bramhall, SK7 2EA

Section B Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight 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.

N/A

EARLY ESSENTIALS UK

England & Wales - Charity number 1186657

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period 21-22

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	Day 1	Month 10	Year 2021		Day 30	Month 09	Year 2022

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

Charity's principal address

123 Cheadle Old Road,	
Stockport	
Cheshire	
Postcode	SK3 9RH

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	Graham Leech	Chief Finance Officer	From 10/11/21	
2	Christine Scott			
3	Lee Leech			
4	Martin Austin			
5	Sarah Hope			
6	Natalie Hands			

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
NONE	

Names and addresses of advisers –

No advisers are engaged by EE

Name of senior staff members –

Sarah Newton-Smith – 'Executive Officer', Co-founder and the only employed staff (part time)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	CONSTITUTION
How the charity is constituted	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods	Appointed by existing Trustees under para#10 of constitution

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.

This reporting year is from 1st October 2021 to 30th September 2022.

Early Essentials UK (EE), and from now on in this report, 'we/us/our', received confirmation on 29th November 2019 that we were entered onto the Register of Charities as a CIO – Charitable Incorporated Organisation. We have therefore been a CIO for nearly 3 years.

This is our third Trustees report as a charity/CIO. For the background information, how EE started in March 2015, and a short history of our operations, please refer to the 2020 TAR – Trustees Annual Report.

EE UK is operated by a team known as Early Essentials Manchester, packing and delivering Moses Baskets from rented premises in the M22 postcode areas of south Manchester. We thank The Message Trust for their generous and much appreciated use of their various premises.

There continue to be satellite groups known as Early Essentials Stockport, Warrington, Peterborough, Whitby and Ballymoney, each operating in their local areas during this reporting year.

All our activities are undertaken by volunteers, except for one employed part-time Executive Officer.

The 'Covid-19' restrictions were eased during this reporting year so all six EE teams have operated with increasingly more freedom from the various restrictions imposed by Government. This has been a relief for all locations. Our volunteers have worked tirelessly to continue to sort, wash, stock, pack, and supply Moses Baskets throughout the period to meet a demand from the referring agencies that is 32% higher than the previous year. It is concerning that the demand for Moses baskets/starter packs is so high but the trustees are pleased that EE has been able to increase the level of service it has provided in this period, and no eligible referral has had to be turned-away.

Early Essentials operates for the 'public benefit' so does not 'gift' starter packs/Moses baskets directly to the eligible mothers, and therefore neither meets or knows the mothers and babies. The need is identified by 'referring agencies', and the professional staff/volunteers of these agencies apply to us explaining how the recipients meet the eligibility criteria. Our staff/volunteers then check the application and notify the referring agency whether or not the criteria are met, and if met, from where and when the starter pack can be collected by the referring agency.

EE Manchester's beneficiaries are all within Greater Manchester. Each of the five satellite team/location serves their local referring agency professionals and staff with beneficiaries in their local communities.

The trustees note that none of EE's activities involve or require face to face contact with vulnerable adults or children, and therefore there are no active safeguarding procedures necessary at this time. The trustees decided in July 2022 that a 'safeguarding' policy would be beneficial for the charity, the Executive Officer, and the volunteers, to maintain vigilance of the requirements to keep safeguarding under review. A Policy was agreed by the trustees in September 2022. The trustees will regularly review this.

Insurance cover in the name of EE UK was continued in this period. This provides Public and Employer's liability cover, and also includes cover for volunteers and material loss where packing and storage is in rented or leased property (at Manchester and Warrington).

All six trustees remained in post during this period including Graham Leech, Sarah Hope, and Martin Austin, who were approved to continue as trustees for a further 2 years by the trustees on 20 October 2021, and Lee Leech who was approved to continue as a trustee for a further 2 years by the trustees on 7 March 2022.

Section C Objectives and activities

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

To relieve or prevent the financial hardship of parents or carers of new-born babies in the UK, in particular but not exclusively, by providing Moses baskets and items of baby clothing, bedding, toiletries and other essentials.

We provide emergency Moses Basket hampers or starter packs

We provide Moses basket starter packs for the most vulnerable pregnant women, who would otherwise be unable to provide for their babies directly after birth. The women are referred to EE via either their midwife, health visitor, social worker or charity. Our criteria are that they must be 32 or more weeks pregnant and fall into one of the following categories:

- (a) homeless
- (b) refugee/seeking asylum
- (c) fleeing domestic abuse
- (d) in serious financial crisis
- (e) ...or similar disadvantage.

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)

The starter pack includes essentials such as: baby clothes, blankets, nappies, wipes, breast pads, maternity pads, toiletries for baby and mum, toys, a towel and a gift for mum. The items donated are either brand new or pre-loved. All items are carefully inspected and checked that they are in very good condition. These are packed into a Moses basket along with a mattress and wrapped, as a gift, in cellophane ready to be collected.

The starter pack is collected from our EE premises by the referring third party agency staff, who then deliver the pack to the mother. We would also provide a Moses starter pack in special but equally urgent and needy circumstances, for example, tailored to the needs of a father and new-born baby where a mother and baby are separated at birth.

All trustees have been provided with applicable information, and each have signed the required Trustee eligibility declaration which states the purposes and object of EE, including its underlying requirements for public benefit. The declaration regarding working with vulnerable groups is not signed as staff and volunteers and trustees do not work with vulnerable people including children. Trustees regularly review the main activities undertaken by EE in their trustee meetings.

The public benefit requirements are met by implementing a referral process, maintaining an independence of the team leaders and volunteers from the choosing of which mums-to-be receive the benefit of a Moses basket. The health care and other professionals and staff of the referring agencies make a referral against set out criteria, and this referral is checked by a team leader. If the referral meets the 'public benefit' criteria, the agency staff are informed when a basket is ready for collection.

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.

We do not make grants to others, and do not undertake financial investment.

All our activities are undertaken by volunteers supported by our one paid part-time Executive Officer (EO).

Our work, of sorting, washing, and storing of clothing, the packing of baskets with the many items we provide, replenishing stock, collecting donations, disposal of unsuitable items, communicating with referring agencies, social media promotion, admin, and website updating, has continued as demand has increased, enabling us to meet the much higher numbers of baskets provided to needy Mums and particularly, to never have to turn-down a valid referral.

Public speaking/presentations, and the training and support of new volunteers, has resumed during this period.

Some volunteers, who are also trustees, are involved in decision making, accounting/book keeping, banking/financial transactions, policy/procedure writing, and attending trustee/members meetings.

The trustees extend heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all those who directly and indirectly volunteer and support the work of EE in providing the gifts of Moses Baskets packed to the brim with essentials.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Early Essential's (EE's) 'core' activity is the supply of packed Moses baskets/ starter packs to 'referring agency' staff who deliver them to the needy or vulnerable Mums.

Please refer to each EE location's Facebook pages to see what achievements, successes, and highlights each location has reported through the year. These social media pages also identify our supporters - organisations, companies, schools, church groups, faith groups, and individuals who have made it possible to maintain and grow our 'core' activity.

All 6 existing EE locations have continued to operate during this period.

In this reporting year the numbers of baskets provided have been 617 across our 6 locations, which is a 32% increase on the previous 12 months total of 471.

LOCATION	Baskets THIS YEAR	Total since starting – start date
EE Manchester –	400 (+125)	1,570 March 2015
EE Stockport –	116 (+36)	810 July 2015
EE Warrington –	25 (-26)	231 March 2016
EE Peterborough –	42 (-5)	194 March 2017
EE Whitby -	16 (+11)	21 February 2021
EE Ballymoney –	24 (+11)	37 April 2021
Totals	623 (+152)	2,863

(Number in (xx) brackets shows the change compared to previous 12 months)

Our total baskets/starter packs provided since March 2015 is 2,863, which we find both humbling and sad. It highlights a tremendous need which we prefer didn't exist, but we are privileged to make a difference for this many babies and their mums.

EE functions with a heart to show unconditional love through a free gift to Mums in difficult circumstances, based on the verse "For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may

not die but have eternal life.” *John 3:16 GNB*. We thank God for his continued provision of resources this year and since we started.

We give heartfelt thanks to all those who, during the year, donated goods and supplies that together make up a full Moses Basket. You are an essential and appreciated part of the work we do, and we thank you for joining us in meeting the needs of so many needy Mums. There are too many individuals to name, but thank you to each of you for giving so generously of new and ‘as-new’ used items. We also wish to thank the many community groups, churches and church groups, faith groups, schools, businesses and shops who give so generously or make/knit/crochet baby-items:- including Baba+Boo, BLM Solicitors, Childs Farm, Clare de Lune, Connect Christian Fellowship, Dunelm Stockport, Gatley KnitWits, Ivy Church Manchester, John Lewis & Partners Cheadle, Life Church Warrington, Link Case Management, Lok’nStore Warrington, Lush Manchester Arndale, Manchester Libraries, Morrisons Community Champions at Bredbury, Cheadle Heath, Chorlton, and Swinton, Neighbourhood Charity Crafters, Panache in Gatley, Read Manchester, Stotts Opticians, Tesco Community Champions at Baguley and Handforth Dean, Tesco Extra Walkden, The Connect Centre, The Message Trust and Message Enterprise Centre, Turves Road Co-Op, Usborne Books, Waitrose Poynton, and Whitby Co-Op.

The trustees thank the many individuals who have joined one of our location teams in sorting items and packing baskets, both regularly or just for a few hours; including a group of ladies from the Northern regional College Ballymoney campus.

We also give heartfelt thanks to individuals, groups, churches and companies who have so generously supported us financially this year. (See also the financial review at section E below).

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity’s policy on reserves

Please refer to our Annual Accounts, published together with this Annual Report. We started the year with £12,058. Our Receipts were £41,705. Our Payments were £35,289. Our end of year balance is £18,474.

The increase in payments is spread over our whole operational costs: payments on supplies for starter packs have increased nearly £6,000 since the previous year; printing, promotion, website costs etc. are up over £370; payroll costs have increased by £7,711; and spending on assets, such as a laptop for the Executive Officer, racking and tables for our storage and packing units, is up over £1,300. These increased payments have been more than matched by an increase of nearly £25,000 receipts compared to the previous year.

Each starter pack we provide to a needy Mum would cost around £300 if the Moses Basket, mattress, and contents were all purchased new. However, the majority of these items have been donated by individuals, groups, organisations or companies (see 7th paragraph of section D above), leaving us to need to purchase only items that must be new or are needed to make good any shortfalls in the donated goods and supplies.

This means we are able to give away far more in value than we pay for. This year, we have given out 623 starter packs with a value of around £186,900 for an expenditure of £33,373 (excluding the costs of assets). This indicates a remarkable uplift/added value in financial terms: each starter pack worth around £300 costing Early Essentials less than £54 to provide. In the three years since becoming a charity, Early Essentials, from all six locations, has

given out over £457,000 value of starter packs with an expenditure of just under £66,000.

The trustees' written and agreed Reserves Policy is to maintain a 3 months financial continuity reserve, identifying payroll and lease of premises as outgoings necessary for EE's 'core activity'. £0 reserve is held whilst the Manchester unrestricted funds bank balance is greater than £8,500. At the end of the financial year 2022, this balance is £9,333. This is a healthy financial position, with which the Trustees are satisfied.

The trustees have agreed and issued three policy and procedures for trustee, staff and volunteer expenses in this period.

Disclosure about related party transactions in this reporting period:

- there are no trustees' remuneration and benefits;
- no trustees' expenses have been claimed or paid;
- transactions: an employment contract was entered into with EE's Executive Officer on 1st October 2021, with payroll set up for 2 days per week. One of the trustees, Christine Scott, is a 'related party', being the mother of the Executive Officer. Christine is neither present nor involved in any discussions and meetings concerning the performance, salary and payroll, nor terms and conditions of the appointed Executive Officer, leaving any meetings whilst these matters are discussed. The trustees consider and record this, and any other 'conflicts of interest' at the start of trustee meetings.
- there are no other transactions of this type.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

There are no funds materially in deficit.

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.

We do not have monies to invest. If and when we do, we shall prepare an investment policy.

Of the £41,705 receipts in the year, we received £23,950 in grants and funds, having received none in the previous reporting year. £20,950 of this funding is restricted to spending on the starter packs (Moses Baskets, mattresses and basket contents), and therefore shown as restricted funds in the accounts. Of the £18,474 end of year cash funds held, £7,829 of this is restricted funds yet to be spent.

We have received: -

£14,959 in donations from:

- (a) generous individuals or couples who give either regularly or by 'one-off' donations;
- (b) churches, Christian centres, and schools. Thank you to Ivy Church Manchester, Didsbury CofE primary school, Burnage Family Church, Elmwood Church; Life Church Warrington, and Baby Chat Mums,
- (c) retailers/companies/bank; thank you to, Lush Arndale, Stotts Opticians, and NatWest bank with apologies for a delayed setting-up of an Early Essentials UK bank account, and the Co-Op.

£2,057 from sponsorship raised by one of EE's founders, running the Tatton half marathon;

£738 in HMRC tax relief on individual's Gift-Aid donations,

and £23,950 in grants or funds: thank you to Manchester Relief in Need, the National Lottery Community Fund, Amazon Charitable Giving, Tesco Community Grant via Groundwork UK, and the Albert Hunt Trust.

Individuals have given to EE UK for the work of EE Manchester and EE UK, or for specified EE locations. The attached accounts are for all 6 Early Essentials locations combined. Many individuals and couples donate to us through 'Stewardship' on their web giving pages. We do not pay any subscription nor 'platform fee'. Stewardship pays us the donation plus any gift-aid tax relief, less a small percentage service fee. (Currently 3.5%)

We could not continue as a charitable service without the very generous financial support of all the above, and we thank you with grateful hearts.

Payments this year, rounded to the nearest whole %, and only listing line items greater than 1% (with the previous year's % shown in brackets), are identified as follows:

42%	(43%)	(a) supplies for Moses Baskets where- we do not have donations or - we must buy new, including Moses Baskets themselves
2%	(2%)	(b) promotion including website development
2%	(3%)	(c) miscellaneous items, including training
15%	(25%)	(d) rent of premises for storage/sorting/packing
1%	(3%)	(e) insurances
33%	(18%)	(f) salary and payroll costs
0%	(3%)	(g) fundraising
5%	(3%)	(h) Laptop/shelving and racking etc: assets

Each of these 'line items' support the key objectives of EE – to provide Moses Baskets pack full of essentials for a needy Mum and her new-born baby.

Section F Other optional information

Full details of the work of EE including: details of what we pack in baskets; a video showing what we do; contact details of all locations; testimonials from referring agency staff and mums who have received the baskets – and more – can be found on our website – <http://earlyessentials.org.uk>

The website also provides links to Facebook and other social media pages run by each location, or you can search Facebook for Early Essentials xxx and insert the location (xxx) in which you are interested.

Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees		
Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	CHRISTINE SCOTT.	SARAH HOPE
Position (e.g. Secretary, Chair)	Trustee	Trustee
Date	13/07/2023	



Receipts and payments accounts

For the period
from

01/10/2021

To

30/09/2022

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					
donations (<i>voluntary receipts</i>)	14,959	-	-	14,959	15,782
grants/funds (<i>voluntary receipts</i>)	3,000	11,000	-	14,000	-
sponsorship	2,057	-	-	2,057	-
Emergency Covid19 funding/HM Government/National Lottery Community Fund etc	-	9,950	-	9,950	-
Bank interest	1	-	-	1	3
tax relief - Gift Aid claimed by EE	738	-	-	738	987
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	20,755	20,950	-	41,705	16,772
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
none	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	20,755	20,950	-	41,705	16,772
A3 Payments					
supplies for Moses Baskets	1,600	13,121	-	14,721	9,040
printing, stationery, etcetera	548	-	-	548	27
promotion incl'g website development	187	-	-	187	334
Mother's Day gifts	112	-	-	112	25
miscellaneous and incidental costs	671	-	-	671	627
rent of premises	5,114	-	-	5,114	5,292
fundraising	-	-	-	-	555
Volunteers' expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Staff expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Trustees' expenses	-	-	-	-	-
payroll - 1 part-time Executive Officer	11,571	-	-	11,571	3,860
Insurances	450	-	-	450	559
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	20,253	13,121	-	33,374	20,319
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
shelving/racking/trolley/storage boxes	1,197	-	-	1,197	572
Laptop for office, promo flag on stand	718	-	-	718	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	1,915	-	-	1,915	572
Total payments	22,168	13,121	-	35,289	20,891
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 1,413	7,829	-	6,416	- 4,119
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	12,058	-	-	12,058	16,177
Cash funds this year end	10,645	7,829	-	18,474	12,058

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	Bank Account Manchester	9,333	6,202	-
	Bank Account Stockport	1,207	1,627	-
	Cash held Whitby and Stockport	105	-	-
	Total cash funds	10,645	7,829	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK OK OK

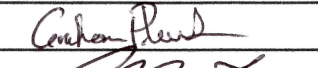
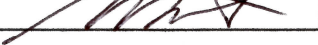
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	tax relief (Gift Aid not yet claimed)	-	-	-
	donations received through Stewardship but not yet received	235	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets	none		-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Storage and packing- trolley, racking/shelving/tables etcetera	unrestricted	1,769	1,435
	Office equipment - laptop	unrestricted	558	558
	Promotional banner/flag	unrestricted	160	129

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	none		-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	GRAHAM P. LEECH	11/07/2023
	MARTIN H. AUSTIN	11/07/2023



Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees	Early Essentials UK		
On accounts for the year ended	30 September 2022	Charity no (if any)	1186657
Set out on pages	1-7		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30/09/2022.

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 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.

Signed:		Date:	14/07/2023
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Name: Keith Nelson

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

Address: 43 Park Avenue, Cheadle Hulme, Cheshire

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.

N/A

EARLY ESSENTIALS UK

England & Wales - Charity number 1186657

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period 20-21

Period start date			Period end date				
From	Day	Month	Year	To	Day	Month	Year
	1	10	2020		30	09	2021

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name: EARLY ESSENTIALS UK

Other names charity is known by: EE

Registered charity number (if any): 1186657

Charity's principal address: 123 Cheadle Old Road,
Stockport
Cheshire
Postcode: SK3 9RH

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	Graham Leech	Book keeper		
2	Christine Scott			
3	Lee Leech			
4	Martin Austin			
5	Sarah Hope			
6	Natalie Hands			
7	Jennifer Slack	Co-founder	1/10/20 – 13/8/21	

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
NONE	

Names and addresses of advisers –

EE engages no advisers

Name of senior staff members –

Sarah Newton-Smith – 'Coordinator'. Co-founder and the only paid staff (part time self-employed).

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	CONSTITUTION
How the charity is constituted	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods	Appointed by existing Trustees under para#10 of constitution

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.

This reporting year is from 1st October 2020 to 30th September 2021.

Early Essentials UK (EE), and from now on in this report, 'we/us/our', received confirmation on 29th November 2019 that we were entered onto the Register of Charities as a CIO – Charitable Incorporated Organisation. We have therefore been a CIO for a year and ten months.

This is our second Trustees report as a charity/CIO. For the background information, how EE started in March 2015, and a short history of our operations, please refer to last year's TAR – Trustees Annual Report.

EE UK is still operated by a team known as Early Essentials Manchester, packing and delivering Moses Baskets, from 23rd October 2020, from rented premises in the M21/M22 postcode areas of south Manchester. EE Manchester's use of 'The Den' on the Merseybank estate was no longer feasible, due to problems with the floor, and our need for larger premises to meet an increasing demand. We thank the Eden team and The Message Trust for their generous and much appreciated gift of the use of this premises.

Two new satellite groups have commenced operations during this reporting period, Whitby, who provided their first Moses Basket in February 2021, and Ballymoney in April 2021. There continue to be satellite groups known as Early Essentials Stockport, Warrington, Peterborough, operating in their local areas during this reporting year.

All our activities are undertaken by volunteers, except for one self-employed part-time Coordinator, receiving additional monies from EE during this reporting period in recognition of her dedication, additional hours working, and fund-raising/grant application successes.

The first 'Covid-19' lockdown was 23rd March 2020, and for the whole of this reporting year all six EE teams have operated under the various restrictions imposed by Government. This has been challenging for all locations, but the volunteers have found ways to continue to stock, pack, and supply Moses Baskets throughout the period to meet a demand from the referring agencies that is 10% higher than the previous 12 months.

Early Essentials operates for the 'public benefit' so does not 'gift' starter packs/Moses baskets directly to the eligible mothers, and therefore does not meet or know the mothers and babies. The need is identified by 'referring agencies', and the professional staff/volunteers of these agencies apply to us explaining how the recipients meet the eligibility criteria. Our staff/volunteers then check the application and notify the referring agency whether or not the criteria are met, and if met, from where and when the starter pack can be collected by the referring agency.

EE Manchester's beneficiaries are all within Greater Manchester. Each satellite team/location serves referring agency professionals and staff with beneficiaries in their local communities, which are Stockport, Warrington, Peterborough, Whitby, and Ballymoney in Northern Ireland.

The trustees note that none of EE's activities involve or require face to face contact with vulnerable adults or children, and therefore there is no need to implement a 'safeguarding' policy. Trustees regularly review this.

A risk assessment has been undertaken, and EE Manchester volunteers and staff have been a part of this process.

The trustees took the decision to take out Insurance in the name of EE UK, and cover commenced on 11th February 2021. This provides Public and Employer's liability cover, and also includes cover for volunteers and material loss where packing and storage is in rented or leased property (at Manchester and Warrington).

In April 2021 Natalie Hands joined the six Trustees, bringing her welcome experience and knowledge.

All six trustees and our Coordinator were sad to receive notification from Jen Slack in August 2021 that she was stepping down as a trustee. We thank Jen for the huge contribution she has made as a founder of EE Manchester and successfully assisting its expansion to this point.

Section C

Objectives and activities

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

To relieve or prevent the financial hardship of parents or carers of new-born babies in the UK, in particular but not exclusively by providing Moses baskets and items of baby clothing, bedding, toiletries and other essentials.

We provide emergency Moses Basket hampers or starter packs

We provide Moses basket starter packs for the most vulnerable pregnant women, who would otherwise be unable to provide for their babies directly after birth. The women are referred to EE via either their midwife, health visitor, social worker or charity. Our criteria are that they must be 32 or more weeks pregnant and fall into one of the following categories:

- (a) Homeless
- (b) Refugee/seeking asylum
- (c) Fleeing domestic abuse
- (d) In serious financial crisis
- (e) Or similar disadvantage

The starter pack includes essentials such as: baby clothes, blankets, nappies, wipes, breast pads, maternity pads, toiletries for baby and mum, toys, a towel and a gift for mum. The items donated are either brand new or pre-loved. All items are carefully inspected and checked that they are in very good condition. These are packed into a Moses basket along with a mattress and wrapped, as a gift, in cellophane ready to be collected.

The starter pack is collected from our EE premises by the referring third party agency staff, who then deliver the pack to the mother. We would also provide a Moses starter pack in special but equally urgent and needy circumstances, for example, tailored to the needs of a father and new born baby where a mother and baby are separated at birth.

All trustees have been provided with applicable information, and each have signed the required Trustee eligibility declaration which states the purposes and object of EE, including its underlying requirements for public benefit. The declaration regarding working with vulnerable groups is not signed as staff and volunteers and trustees do not work with vulnerable people including children. Trustees regularly review the main activities undertaken by EE in their trustee meetings.

The public benefit requirements are met by implementing a referral process, maintaining an independence of the team leaders and volunteers from the choosing of which mums-to-be receive the benefit of a Moses basket. The health care and other professionals and staff of the referring agencies make a referral against set out criteria, and this referral is checked by a team leader. If

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)

the referral meets the 'public benefit' criteria, the agency staff are informed when a basket is ready for collection.

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.

We do not make grants to others, and do not undertake financial investment.

All our activities are undertaken by volunteers, except for one paid part-time Coordinator (becoming our Executive Officer on 1st October 2021).

We have been entirely reliant on our 'Coordinator' and a reduced team of volunteers through the last 6 months (Covid19 restrictions in place). Our work, of sorting, washing, and storing of clothing, the packing of baskets with the many items we provide, replenishing stock, collecting donations, disposal of unsuitable items, communicating with referring agencies, marketing and social media promotion and admin, website writing/input, and the setting up of new satellite teams, has continued despite many obstacles, and enabled us to increase the number of baskets provided to needy Mums.

Public speaking/presentations, and the training and support of new volunteers, has not been possible during this tough period.

Some volunteers who are also trustees are involved in decision making, accounting/book keeping, banking/financial transactions, policy/procedure writing, and attending trustee/members meetings

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Early Essential's (EE's) 'core' activity is the supply of packed Moses baskets/ starter packs to 'referring agency' staff who deliver them to the needy or vulnerable Mums.

Please refer to each EE location's Facebook pages to see what achievements, successes, and highlights each location has reported through the year. These social media pages also identify our supporters - organisations, companies, schools, church groups, faith groups, and individuals who have made it possible to maintain and grow our 'core' activity.

Teams at all 4 existing EE locations have continued to operate throughout the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, and it is wonderful to have 2 new teams start providing Moses baskets during this period.

In this reporting year commencing October 2020 and ending September 2021 the numbers of baskets provided have been 471 across our 6 locations, which is a 10% increase on the previous year.

LOCATION	Baskets THIS YEAR	Total since starting	start date
EE Manchester –	275 (+56)	1,170	March 2015,
EE Stockport –	80 (-41)	694	July 2015
EE Warrington –	51 (-8)	206	March 2016,
EE Peterborough –	47 (+18)	152	March 2017,
EE Whitby -	5	5	February 2021,
EE Ballymoney –	13	13	April 2021.

(Number in (xx) brackets shows the increase/decrease compared to last year).

Our total baskets/starter packs provided to date is 2,240, which we find humbling and sad. It highlights a tremendous need which we prefer didn't exist, but we are privileged to make a difference for this many babies and their mums.

(At the time of preparing this report, the next year's provision (Oct 2021 to Sept 2022) of baskets is up 42% on this year's first 9 months)

We give heartfelt thanks to individuals, groups, churches and companies who have so generously supported us financially this year. (See the financial review at section E below for more details).

We also give heartfelt thanks to all those who donated goods and supplies that together make up a full Moses Basket. You are an essential and appreciated part of the work we do, and we thank you for joining us in meeting the needs of so many needy Mums.

We were surprised and honoured to be nominated for The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, and although we did not receive an award, we learned a lot during the lengthy and thorough process.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Please refer to our Annual Accounts, published together with this Annual Report. We started the year with £16,177*. Our Receipts were £16,772. Our Payments were £20,891. Our end of year balance was £12,058.

Most of the contents of the starter packs are donated items, and to date Early Essentials, from all six teams/locations, has in just over 6 years given out over £672,000 worth of stock on an average budget of £9,000 per year. This shows an exceptional uplift / added value – giving just over £10 of delivered service for every £1 donated and spent (or a full basket of essentials worth over £300 for just under £30 incurred costs).

For the expenditure necessary to achieve this, the Trustees' current policy is to maintain 6 months financial reserve - £10,500 (based on this year's payments). At the end of the financial year, we have just over £12,000 in the bank. This is a strong financial position, with which the Trustees are satisfied that current reserves are adequate.

Note: (* we reported £16,159 in this TAR last year, but later submitted a corrected set of accounts showing the £18 difference).

Details of any funds materially in deficit

There are no funds materially in deficit.

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;

We do not have monies to invest. If and when we do, we shall prepare an investment policy.

We have not received any funding or grants in the period 1st October 2020 to 30th September 2021.

The receipts of over £16,000 have come from:

- (a) generous individuals or couples who give either regularly or by 'one-off' donations;
- (b) churches, Christian centres, and schools. Thank you to Didsbury CofE primary school, St. Ambrose R.C. primary school, Burnage Family Church, Connect Christian Centre, Elmwood Church;
- (c) retailers/companies; thank you to Family Spectrum Ltd., and J. Lewis.
- (d) fundraising by staff at Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust;
- (e) HMRC tax relief in the form of Gift-Aid declared on some donations at (a) above.

- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Individuals have given to EE UK for the work of EE Manchester and EE UK, or for specified EE locations. The attached accounts are for the 6 locations combined.

Many individuals and couples donate to us through 'Stewardship' on their web giving pages. This had been named 'Give.net' but they changed their name and branding during the year. We do not pay any subscription nor 'platform fee'. Stewardship pays us the donation plus any gift-aid tax relief, less a small percentage service fee. (Currently 3.5%)

We could not continue as a charitable service without the very generous financial support of all the above, and we thank you with grateful hearts.

During the year we have registered with HM Government HMRC and have claimed and received tax relief on all 'Gift-Aid' donations since we registered as a CIO up to the end of this reporting year. (£987 to date)

Payments this year, rounded to the nearest whole %, and only listing line items greater than 1%, are identified as follows:

- 43% (a) supplies for Moses Baskets where we do not have donations or where we must buy new, including Moses Baskets themselves
- 2% (b) promotion including website development
- 3% (c) miscellaneous items, including training
- 25% (d) rent of premises at Access Storage, Sharston, Manchester.
- 3% (e) insurances
- 18% (f) top-up payments to our self-funded/self-employed 'Coordinator'
- 3% (g) fundraising (payment to our Coordinator for time in applying for funding and grants in the past 2 years.).
- 3% (h) shelving and racking in the premises rented at Access Storage, Sharston, Manchester.

Each of these 'line items' support the key objectives of EE – to provide Moses Baskets pack full of essentials for a needy Mum and her new-born baby.

Section F Other optional information


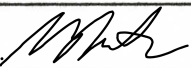
Full details of the work of EE including: details of what we pack in baskets; a video showing what we do; contact details of all locations; testimonials from referring agency staff and mums who have received the baskets – and more – can be found on our website – <http://earlyessentials.org.uk>

The website also provides links to Facebook and other social media pages run by each location, or you can search Facebook for Early Essentials xxx and insert the location in which you are interested.

Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	GRAHAM PAUL LEECH	MARTIN HOWARD AUSTIN
Position (e.g. Secretary, Chair)	Trustee	Trustee
Date	27 th July 2022	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

EARLY ESSENTIALS UK

#1186657

Receipts and payments accounts



CC16a

For the period from	10/1/2020	To	9/30/2021
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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					
donations (<i>voluntary receipts</i>)	15,782	-	-	15,782	4,599
grants/funds (<i>voluntary receipts</i>)	-	-	-	-	6,815
sponsorship	-	-	-	-	233
Emergency Covid19 funding/HM Government/National Lottery Community Fund etc	-	-	-	-	7,700
Bank interest	3	-	-	3	8
tax relief - Gift Aid claimed by EE	987	-	-	987	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	16,772	-	-	16,772	19,355
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
none	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	16,772	-	-	16,772	19,355
A3 Payments					
supplies for Moses Baskets	9,040	-	-	9,040	6,112
printing, stationery, etcetera	27	-	-	27	663
promotion incl'g website development	334	-	-	334	1,515
Mother's Day gifts	25	-	-	25	471
miscellaneous and incidental costs	627	-	-	627	699
rent of premises	5,292	-	-	5,292	-
fundraising	555	-	-	555	-
Volunteers' expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Staff expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Trustees' expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Pay towards 1 part-time coordinator	2,930	930	-	3,860	2,655
Insurances	559	-	-	559	-
Sub total	19,389	930	-	20,319	12,115
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
shelving/racking and storage boxes	572	-	-	572	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	572	-	-	572	-
Total payments	19,961	930	-	20,891	12,115
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 3,189	- 930	-	- 4,119	7,240
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	15,247	930	-	16,177	8,937
Cash funds this year end	12,058	-	-	12,058	16,177

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	Bank Account Manchester	11,041	-	-
	Bank Account Stockport	962	-	-
	Cash held Whitby and Stockport	55	-	-
	Total cash funds	12,058	-	-
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))				
B2 Other monetary assets	Details			
	tax relief (Gift Aid not yet claimed)	-	-	-
	donations received through Stewardship but not yet received	326	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	none		-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	storage racking/shelving (5 year depreciation)	unrestricted	572	458
			-	-
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
		MARTIN AUSTIN	3/7/2022	
		GRAHAM P. LEECH	3/7/2022	

EARLY ESSENTIALS UK

England & Wales - Charity number 1186657

Accounts



EE Trustees' Annual Report for the period

		Period start date			Period end date		
From	1 st	Oct	2019	To	30 th	Sept	2020

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name **EARLY ESSENTIALS UK**

Other names charity is known by EE

Registered charity number 1186657

Charity's principal address 7 Shortland Crescent,
Manchester

Postcode **M19 1SZ**

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	Jennifer Slack	Co-founder	
2	Christine Scott		
3	Lee Leech		
4	Graham Leech	Bookkeeper	
5	Sarah Hope		
6	Martin Austin		

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
None	

Names and addresses of advisers – EE engages no advisors

Name of senior staff member

Sarah Newton-Smith – Co-founder and the only EE paid staff (part time) as 'Coordinator'

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	CONSTITUTION
How the charity is constituted	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection method	Appointed by existing Trustees under para#10 of Constitution

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.

Early Essentials (EE), and from now on in this report, 'we', first appointed Trustees in 2019 during the process of applying for 'charitable status'. We received confirmation on 29th November 2019 that the Charity Commission for England and Wales was satisfied that EARLY ESSENTIALS UK is a charity and we had been entered onto the Register of Charities with the Registered Charity Number 1186657.

This is therefore our first Trustees report as a charity, and we have included background details to cover EE's 'operating history' up to this date. Future Annual Reports will not need this same level of detail and history.

EE was started by two mothers with young families, and they provided their first Moses Baskets of essential items in March 2015, working from their homes. The charity EE UK is currently operated by a team known as Early Essentials Manchester, packing and delivering Moses Baskets from donated or rented premises in the M21/M22 postcode areas of south Manchester. There are satellite groups known as Early Essentials Stockport, Warrington, Peterborough, operating in their local areas during this 2019-2020 reporting year.

All our activities are undertaken by volunteers, except for one paid part-time Coordinator, receiving monies during this reporting period from funding specifically for the Coordinator's salary. One of the roles of this part time paid employee is the obtaining of monies to 'self-fund', meaning donations for the general activities of EE are separate from monies for the Coordinator role.

Early Essentials operates for the 'public benefit' so does not 'gift' starter packs/Moses baskets directly to the eligible mothers, and therefore does not meet or know the mothers and babies. The need is identified by 'referring agencies', and the professional staff/volunteers of these agencies apply to us explaining how the recipients meet the eligibility criteria. Our staff/volunteers then check the application and notify the referring agency whether or not the criteria are met, and if met, from where and when the starter pack can be collected by the referring agency.

Examples of the 'referring agencies' who have received starter packs for vulnerable mothers are:

Asylum Seekers midwife team;	Barnabus; City Hearts;
Cornerstone;	Early Help practitioner;
Emmelines Pantry;	Fallowfield Shelter;
Families First;	Homelessness families team;
Housing Connect;	Ingleside birth centre;
Manchester Sure Start Centres;	Manchester food bank;
Manchester women's aid;	Martenscroft Children's Centre;
North Manchester general hospital;	Out There Charity;
Pankhurst food bank;	Pankhurst Trust;
Refugee Action;	Safe Families;
St Mary's Hospital;	Vulnerable babies team;
Women's hostel Whalley Range;	Wythenshawe Hospital;
Young parents midwife team;	

....and numerous Manchester health visiting teams and social workers.

EE Manchester's beneficiaries are all within Greater Manchester. Each satellite team/location serves referring agency professionals and staff with beneficiaries in their local communities, which are - Stockport, Warrington, and Peterborough. (And, about to start-up soon after the date of this report, Whitby.)

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

To relieve or prevent the financial hardship of parents or carers of newborn babies in the UK, in particular but not exclusively by providing Moses baskets and items of baby clothing, bedding, toiletries and other essentials.

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 an emergency service providing Moses basket starter pack hampers, generally packed in a Moses Basket, for the most vulnerable pregnant women who would otherwise be unable to provide for their babies directly after birth. The women are referred to EE via either their midwife, health visitor, social worker or charity (as Section B above); they must be 32 or more weeks pregnant and also fall into one of the following categories

- (a) homeless
- (b) refugee/seeking asylum
- (c) fleeing domestic abuse
- (d) in serious financial crisis
- (e) or similar disadvantage.

To provide a safe place to sleep when a baby is born, a starter pack is packed into a Moses basket with a brand-new mattress, unless the referring agency staff identify this is not necessary. The majority of Moses baskets are new – being kindly donated by Clare De Lune from their Manchester Factory. The Trustees record their huge thanks to Clare De Lune staff for this generous support of the work of Early Essentials. We do also use donated pre-loved Moses baskets, but only after they are carefully inspected and checked. Baskets with any signs of unsafe imperfections are not used and safely disposed of.

Within the starter pack are baby clothes, blankets, nappies, wipes, breast pads, maternity pads, toiletries for mum, toiletries for baby, toys, a towel, either a snowsuit or coat, a chocolate treat, a gift set and/or whatever extra goodies are available from donations.

The (Moses basket) starter pack is collected from us by the referring third party agency staff, who then deliver the pack to the mother. In exceptional circumstances, we would provide a Moses Basket starter pack in special but equally urgent and needy circumstances, for example, tailored to the needs of a father and new-born baby where a mother and baby are separated at birth.

The Trustees have each been provided with applicable information, and each have signed the required Trustee eligibility declaration. This includes the declaration each trustee knows the purposes and object of EE, including its underlying requirements for public benefit, and will help EE carry out its purposes. The declaration regarding working with vulnerable groups is not signed as staff and volunteers and trustees do not work with vulnerable people including children.

The public benefit requirements are met by implementing a referral process, maintaining an independence of the team leaders and volunteers from the choosing of which mums-to-be receive the benefit of a Moses basket. The health care and other professionals and staff of the referring agencies make a referral against set out criteria (see first paragraph of this section, above), and this referral is checked by a team leader – a process described in Section B above.

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.

We do not make grants to others, and do not undertake financial investment.

We are entirely reliant on our volunteers, who make up more than 88% of direct working time (approx. 56 hours estimated each week). Most of these hours, vital for our work, is sorting, washing, and storing of clothing, and the packing of baskets with the many items we provide, but volunteers contribute in many ways, including replenishing stock, collecting donations, disposal of unsuitable items, communicating with referring agencies, marketing and social media promotion and admin, public speaking/presentations, website writing/input, setting up new satellite teams, and the training and support of new volunteers.

Some volunteers who are also trustees are involved in decision making, accounting/book keeping, banking/financial transactions, policy/procedure writing, and attending trustee/members meetings

We are grateful to the assistance of many community volunteers who manage, sort and deliver donations from drop off points in cafes, toddler groups etc and make their own houses available for people to drop off items. There are also many knitting/quilting/crafting groups and individuals who spend many hours making handmade blankets, cardigans, mitts etc for us to include in the Moses Baskets.

The collection, inspecting, storing and, if necessary, washing, of donated items was initially carried out from team leaders' or volunteers' homes, including the packing of Moses baskets. This continues to be the case in some locations, but as the work has expanded Early Essentials has been generously supported by the use of space in, and access to, donated premises. We are so thankful to the following organisations for their help and support in resources and/or the use of facilities:-

- Ivy Church Manchester;
- Eden Merseybank and the use of the Den and portacabin;
- Romiley Life Centre;
- Lifechurch Warrington;
- St Peter's Yaxley, Peterborough (especially the 'Sparks' group);

THANK YOU to each and every person who has helped us in this past year – without you EE's work could not continue.

Section D Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Early Essential's (EE's) 'core' activity is the supply of packed Moses baskets starter packs to 'referring agency' staff who deliver them to the needy Mums. In this reporting year commencing October 2019 and ending September 2020 the numbers of baskets provided have been just under 430 across our four locations: -

LOCATION	Baskets THIS YEAR	Total since starting	start date
EE Manchester -	219	895	March 2015
EE Stockport –	121	614	July 2015
EE Warrington –	just under 60	155	March 2016
EE Peterborough –	29	105	March 2017.

The Trustees give thanks and credit to the four teams and their supporters and volunteers for the growth in this valuable work.

These figures show that up to September 2019 the four teams averaged just over 27 baskets per month. For the year being reported this increased to over 35 baskets per month, which the Trustees commend as a remarkable achievement given that for half the year everyone has been operating under the various lockdown restrictions imposed to manage the Covid19 Pandemic.

The total number of baskets EE has provided, up to the end of September 2019, since starting, was 1,769.

We are so thankful to all our supporters who donate the many items for the Moses baskets, who give of their time in collecting, sorting, and packing, and who give financially to enable the four EE locations to continue to provide this essential service. EE functions with a heart to show unconditional love through a free gift to Mums in difficult circumstances, based on the verse *"For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life."* John 3:16 GNB. We thank God for his continued provision of resources this year and since we started.

The Trustees also note that for the first four months of the year 2020-2021, in the most restrictive lockdown rules so far, the average baskets provided to needy Mums has again increased to more than 39 per month.

This is a fantastic effort by all involved, and a great credit to the team leaders and teams at all 4 locations who are all reacting positively to the increase in referrals due to the increased need.

The Trustees also wish to record grateful thanks to the following organizations who chose EE Manchester as their 'Charity of the Year' (or made significant donations):-

St Ambrose RC Primary School
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Didsbury C of E Primary School
Elmwood Church
Toffee Moon
Faraway Books
ITV Coronation St
Vernon Building Society Stockport
Blue Owl books
CJ's coffee shop
Woolston CofE Primary School
Asda Warrington Community Mentor
Soroptimist International (SI) Peterborough.

There are many more, too many to list individually, but we do appreciate each and every supporter. Thank you.

In October, EE Manchester was visited by 2 Trustees from the Relief in Need funding panel, who helped pack baskets and sort bags of donations. Their feedback was extremely positive, helped strengthen our relationship, and led to further grants being offered and approved.

In January our Stockport team celebrated their 5th 'Birthday'. Thank you to the Romiley Lifecentre and all their staff and volunteers. Also, in January, our Manchester team members were provided with an EE logo embroidered uniform of T-shirt and fleece.

Section D

Achievements and performance

In August a new 'branded' website was launched. This includes quality promotional video clips filmed by Northern Sparks Productions. See <https://earlyessentials.org.uk>

EE has had media coverage on BBC Radio Manchester where Sarah Newton-Smith has been invited to speak on three separate occasions. Our Salford coordinator Ruth Day was featured on Salford City News.

The following are four examples of feedback received from referring agencies:

"Just wanted to say thank you for the lovely Moses basket hamper collected yesterday. A dad, following the one delivered yesterday, said this: " I just want to say a huge thanks to the organization and professionals to help my family welcome the new born to this beautiful world...it was more than expected very beautiful things loved it so much please keep doing the good work may God bless y'all..." This is to let you know that your service is making a massive impact on our needy families across Manchester!" - Edith A, Health Visitor, Rusholme

"I would like to thank you on behalf of my client for the 2 beautiful Moses baskets full of essential items for her 2 new baby boys. It was wonderful to see Mum's face light up as there was everything she needed for her boys in each basket and some lovely items for her; it made me smile as well. Mum text me later to say thank you, and I would in turn like to pass on her appreciation and mine for a wonderful gift which was really needed" - Norah M, Support Worker

"The journey to get the baskets was worth every minute when I saw the look on my clients face. Thank you for everything you do" - Vicky S, Boaz Trust

"The Families First Team wish to thank you for all the support that you have provided over the last year. All our requests for support have been met with a swift, friendly and professional response. The work that you provide is invaluable. Thank you for all that you do" - Carole C, Families First Team

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Please refer to our Annual Accounts, published together with this Annual Report. We started the year with £8,919. Our Receipts were £19,355. Our Payments were £12,115. Our end of year balance was £16,159.

Most of the contents of the starter packs are donated items, and to date Early Essentials, from all four teams/locations, has in just over 5 years given out over £541,000 worth of stock on an average budget of £9,000 per year. This shows an exceptional uplift / added value – giving £12 of delivered service for every £1 donated and spent. (or a full basket of essentials worth over £300 for just £25 incurred costs).

For the expenditure necessary to achieve this, the Trustees' current policy is to maintain 6 to 9 months financial reserve - £5,000 to £7,500 (averaging the last 2 years). At the end of the financial year, we have just over £16,000 in the bank. This is a strong financial position, with which the Trustees are satisfied that the known additional expenditures caused by the Covid19 pandemic are covered.

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.

We received £1,815 from 'Relief In Need' in January and February 2020.

We have set up a 'giving page' on 'Give.net' through which anyone can give donations. Donations this year have been £ 1,014 (*all figures rounded*).

'Give.net' claims identified Gift Aid tax relief from HMRC and pays this to EE together with the donated amounts, less their service fee.

Many individuals and families choose to donate directly to us, and we thank all our donors for over £2,600 given this year in amounts between £10 and £500. We are also grateful this year to St Ambrose School for £257, and to South Manchester Family Church for £588. These monies enable us to continue our work. We are in the process of registering with HMRC to be able to claim tax relief on direct 'Gift Aid' donations. We expect to apply for £275 tax relief on this year's donations by April 2021.

We are also thankful to 'Jo', who secured a place in the 2020 London Marathon and opened a fundraising page with all donations coming to Early Essentials. Thank you to all her sponsors who together raised over £230, despite the Marathon being cancelled due to the pandemic.

The additional pressures and challenges arising from the COVID19 restrictions starting in March 2020 have necessitated additional expenditure, and we give heartfelt thanks to the funding agencies who have supported our work since the pandemic took effect: -

£1,000 in May from 'Relief In Need';

£1,000 in June from the Charities Trust - Movement for Good (EE Stockport);

£7,700 as 'Covid19 Response' monies from HM Government in partnership with the National Lottery Community Fund, received in July, as was

£3,000 from the Manchester Guardian Society Charitable Trust.

Section F Other optional information

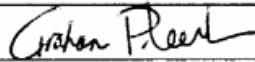

Full details of the work of Early Essentials, including details of what we pack in baskets, a video showing what we do, contact details of all locations, testimonies from referring agency staff and Mums to whom they provide baskets, and more – can be found on our website - <https://earlyessentials.org.uk>

The website (<https://earlyessentials.org.uk>) also provides links to Facebook and other social media pages run by each location.

Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	GRAMAM PAUL LEECH	MARTIN HOWARD AUSTIN
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Trustee / Bookkeeper	TRUSTEE

Date 4th April 2021



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

EARLY ESSENTIALS UK

#1186657

Receipts and payments accounts

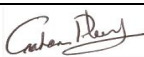
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For the period from	Period start date 01/10/2019	To	Period end date 30/09/2020
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Section A Receipts and payments

	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					
donations (<i>voluntary receipts</i>)	4,599	-	-	4,599	1,672
grants/funds (<i>voluntary receipts</i>)	6,815	-	-	6,815	4,585
sponsorship - Jo & London Marathon	233	-	-	233	-
Emergency Covid19 funding from HM Government in partnership with National Lottery Community Fund	7,700	-	-	7,700	-
Bank interest	8	-	-	8	-
tax relief - Gift Aid claimed by EE	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	19,355	-	-	19,355	6,257
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
none	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	19,355	-	-	19,355	6,257
A3 Payments					
supplies for Moses Baskets	6,112	-	-	6,112	2,640
printing, stationery, etcetera	663	-	-	663	363
promotion incl'g website development	1,515	-	-	1,515	192
Mother's Day gifts	471	-	-	471	874
miscellaneous and incidental costs	699	-	-	699	642
rent of premises	-	-	-	-	-
Volunteers' expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Staff expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Trustees' expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Salary for one part-time coordinator	-	2,655	-	2,655	4,000
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	9,460	2,655	-	12,115	8,711
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
shelving/racking and storage boxes	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	9,460	2,655	-	12,115	8,711
Net of receipts/(payments)	9,895	- 2,655	-	7,240	- 2,454
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	5,352	3,585	-	8,937	11,391
Cash funds this year end	15,247	930	-	16,177	8,937

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	Bank account Manchester	12,661	930	-
	Bank Account Stockport	2,586	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	15,247	930	-
	(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 £
	tax relief (Gift Aid not yet claimed)	275	-	-
	donations received through 'give.net' (Stewardship) but not yet received	24	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	none		-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	storage racking/shelving (5 year depreciation)	unrestricted	90	18
			-	-
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
		original signed by Graham P. Leech	and Martin Austin	4th April 2021
			GRAHAM P. LEECH	23rd Jan 2022

Rev 1 : £18 missing on total funds; B1 figures corrected. All Trustees approved by Resolution dated 23/01/2022