The Shoebox Fairies

Trustees Financial Report for the period Nov 16th 2024- Nov 16th 2025

Charity Number: 1192361

Address :

Ashland House,

Dobson Park Way,

Ince-in-Makerfield,

Wigan

Trustees:

Emma Thornton (Chair)

Sally Owen-Gahan

Helen Doward

Kelly Parkinson

Bank:

The Co-operative Bank PLC

P.O Box 101

1 Balloon Street,

Manchester,

M60 4EP

The Shoebox Fairies is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered with the Charity Commission on 16th November 2020. The organisation is governed by its constitution last amended on 16th November 2020. board of trustees run the organisation with a group of volunteers. There are no employed members of staff.

All trustees give their time voluntarily with no renumeration or other benefits.

Our governing document dictates that the number of trustees required is three.

Aims and Objectives

The Shoebox Fairies are an independent UK charity based in Wigan, Greater Manchester. Although our Christmas Shoebox Appeal is by far our biggest campaign, our smaller projects which run throughout the year are equally important in helping support those in vulnerable groups.

The following activities will be undertaken to achieve our aims:

The Shoebox Fairies works with the local community and receives donations of new items which are sorted into care packages ("shoeboxes") of essential items for and/those living in difficult financial and/or social circumstances. Boxes are supplemented with items which are bought with income raised through fundraising and grants. These packages are distributed free of charge to those in need via frontline agency workers including midwives, health visitors, social workers and other charity workers.

We also run an annual Christmas shoebox appeal which enables us to work with the local community including youth groups and primary school aged children to collect boxes for our campaign whilst providing education on "community" and "charitable giving".

Ensuring our work delivers our aims:

We review our aims and objectives regularly at our monthly meeting and also at our annual general meeting. We seek feedback from our third parties on how we can improve our care packages and the service that we provide.

Public Benefit:

The trustees regularly seek feedback from third-party referral partners, including frontline professionals and partner charities, to understand the impact of our activities and ensure that they continue to deliver public benefit. We have not identified, or been informed of, any harm or detriment arising from the charity's work.

The Shoebox Fairies supports vulnerable people who might otherwise lack essential toiletries, clothing, sanitary products, baby-care items and other basic necessities. All boxes and care packages are provided free of charge.

Our Mother and Baby Box Appeal provides essential items for new mothers and their babies during the first weeks after birth. Our New Beginnings Appeal supports people rebuilding their lives following domestic abuse, homelessness, displacement or seeking asylum. Boxes contain practical essentials such as toiletries, sanitary products, underwear and nightwear, as well as a personal safety alarm where appropriate. Our Birthday in a Box Appeal provides birthday gifts, treats and

celebration items for children and young people experiencing hardship and those supported by local charities, helping ensure that their birthday is recognised and celebrated.

Boxes are requested on behalf of beneficiaries by frontline professionals, such as public health midwives, social workers and Independent Domestic Violence Advisers, and by charities supporting vulnerable groups. Boxes are distributed in good faith, based on the professional judgement of these referral partners; The Shoebox Fairies does not undertake a separate formal assessment of individual eligibility.

The Shoebox Fairies does not discriminate on the grounds of sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, race, nationality, religion or belief, political belief, pregnancy or maternity, marital status, or disability.

Who benefits?

Individuals suffering from social and/or financial hardships benefit from our activities. Individuals are identified by frontline agency workers who are able to complete a referral and request our shoeboxes of essential items for their service users. We do not accept self-referrals for boxes or referral from family members.

Operations:

During this time period The Shoebox Fairies distributed a total of 69 Mother and Baby Boxes, 138 New Beginnings boxes, 17 “Birthday in a Box” Boxes and also 1,181 boxes (inclusive of all categories) were collected during our Christmas Shoebox Appeal which were distributed by to appropriate third parties.

We have also focussed on building relationships with other local groups and have undertaken a number of corporate volunteer days with businesses and local groups with the local area.

Staffing:

There are no employees working for The Shoebox Fairies CIO

Finances

During this period The Shoebox Fairies received multiple grants:

- The National Lottery Community Fund Grant (£11436)
- Forever Manchester Autotrader Fund (£2230)

The Shoebox Fairies held a race night fundraising event which generated £1527.10 in funds for the charity.

The Shoebox Fairies also received a number of one-off donations from individuals who wished to contribute to our work (£888.92)

We also received donations of items from Mother and Baby groups and knitting groups in the local area.

Income	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Donations	888.92	-	888.92
Grants	-	13666	13666
Fundraising	2372.10	-	2372.10
		Total	16927.02

Expenses	
Fundraising Expenses	845
Box Items	8152.97
Rent	5184
Volunteer expenses	75.39
Packaging (inc. Stickers)	421.78
Website charges	294
Total	15206.70

Balance carried over from previous financial year **£2614.15** (Nov 2023-Nov 2024)

Balance for financial year Nov 2024-Nov 2025 **£4568.03**

Governance

During this time Sally Owen Gahan resigned from the position of Trustee.

Future Plans

To raise awareness of The Shoebox Fairies throughout the Greater Manchester area and form more relationships with frontline agency workers, charities and other third parties such as schools and youth groups.

We hope to continue our corporate volunteer days and recruit more volunteers including exploring the possibility of remote volunteers and continue our micro-volunteering opportunities.

Renumerations:

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no renumeration .

The trustees declare they have approved the report on _____

Signed: E.Thornton

Name: Emma Thornton

Trustee: Chair of Trustees

15/9/2026