



TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

**Baby Necessities
Southampton**

**Year ending
31 December 2024**

Registered Charity
Number: 1193806

www.babynecessities.co.uk

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ORGANISATIONAL DETAILS

Baby Necessities is a registered charity (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) in England and Wales with the following object:

- To relieve poverty among parents and families of babies and young children in Southampton and the surrounding area of Hampshire, England, in particular, but not exclusively, by providing donated children's clothes and basic essential items.



Registered Address

Unit C1 The Premier Centre,
Premier Way, Romsey
SO51 9DG



Website

www.babynecessities.co.uk



Instagram

@baby_necessities_babybank



LinkedIn

@baby-necessities-southampton



Facebook

@babynecessities1



Email

info@babynecessities.co.uk





OUR STORY

Baby Necessities began in 2020, founded by two local mums during the pandemic who were moved to action by the rising number of families living in poverty. What started as a small effort to support local parents quickly grew in response to an overwhelming need. From day one, our mission has been to ease the pressure on families by rehoming quality pre-loved baby items, helping children thrive while reducing waste and protecting the planet.

Now, Baby Necessities has grown into a thriving local charity powered by a small staff team, a dedicated army of volunteers and referral partners, and a generous community of donors. Together, we've supported thousands of families across Southampton and the surrounding areas, proving that small beginnings can lead to life-changing impact.

What we do

We support families facing challenging times by providing essential items for their babies and young children. From clothing and toys to vital equipment, every item we pass on helps to ease pressure on local parents and ensure their little ones have the best possible start. By rehoming high-quality, pre-loved items, we not only meet urgent practical needs but also offer care, dignity, and hope to families across Southampton and the surrounding areas.

Who we help

Access to Baby Necessities is via third-party referral by professionals such as community midwives, health visitors, GP's, family support workers, social workers, educator or teacher, food bank volunteer, religious leaders etc.

VISION & MISSION



Mission

To alleviate the impacts of poverty in children and their families by providing practical support to those in need.



Vision

By 2029 Baby Necessities will be a core service supporting the needs of deprived families in Southampton and the surrounding areas.



Aims - to be a force for change by

- 1) **Helping to give children the best start in life and relieving financial pressure on their families** through the provision of essential items such as clothing, equipment, toys and other essentials.
- 2) **Protecting the environment by recycling of pre-loved items** which reduces items going to landfill.
- 3) **Reducing the pressure on NHS and social care services** by working in partnership to provide necessities to the families they support.

OUR TEAM

Board of Trustees



Chris Hey

CHAIR

APPOINTED 11
FEBRUARY 2022 –
PRESENT



Imogen Hooton

TRUSTEE

APPOINTED 21
SEPTEMBER 2022 –
PRESENT



Gary Essery

TRUSTEE
TREASURER

APPOINTED 29 JULY
2023 – PRESENT



Rachael Reynolds

TRUSTEE

APPOINTED 31 OCTOBER
2023 – PRESENT



Sofie Bennett

TRUSTEE

APPOINTED 11
FEBRUARY 2025 –
PRESENT

Staffing Team



Hayleigh Jarvis

CO-FOUNDER
CEO



Gillian Wilkins

FUNDING AND
COMMUNICATIONS
MANAGER



Laura Peard

MARKETING AND
COMMUNICATIONS
OFFICER



Claire Dines

PROJECT WORKER



Volunteers

“ Being a volunteer at Baby Necessities has been a lifeline for me. Recently retired from work, I was struggling to ‘feel useful’. Much as I love helping to care for my grandchildren I wanted to involve myself in something that was both worthwhile and ‘for me’. Baby Necessities has fit the bill perfectly. I look forward to my sessions there, the staff and other volunteers are welcoming and friendly, and I feel valued. It’s a privilege to be part of such a brilliant charity that is playing such a vital role in helping families in need. ”



REFLECTION



Reflection from our CEO - Hayleigh Jarvis

As 2024 comes to a close, I find myself reflecting with deep gratitude on what has been an extraordinary year for Baby Necessities. We've been truly humbled by the generosity of our incredible community - every donation, every act of kindness and every show of support has helped bring comfort, dignity and joy to families who need it most.

Our reach continues to grow, and we've supported more children this year than ever before. While we are powered day-to-day by a small team of staff, it truly takes a much larger network to make our work possible: our committed trustees, our incredible volunteers and supporters like you. One of the things we're most proud of is that, even as demand has grown, we've never had to turn a referral away. At a time when some baby banks have struggled to meet rising need, we've made it possible because of the unwavering support of our community. Your generosity is helping us reach families at their most vulnerable and ensuring that every child referred to us receives the essentials they need to thrive.

We are proud to have become official members of the Baby Bank Alliance, joining a national movement of baby banks working together to advocate, collaborate and amplify our collective impact. We were also delighted to be chosen as the charity partner for Hays Travel in Romsey, a partnership that not only helped bring in valuable support through fundraising, but also helped raise our profile within the local community.

This has been our most successful year yet. Our Christmas Giving Tree campaign received an overwhelming response. Thanks to the generosity of our partner organisations, we collected a remarkable number of brand new gifts, toiletries and essentials that brightened the holidays for countless children. We also expanded our outreach efforts into even more schools and youth groups, creating opportunities for children to learn about empathy, generosity and the power of giving.

Looking ahead to 2025, our hope is to continue strengthening our role as a core community service - one that families can rely on during times of need. We are committed to helping reduce the financial pressure facing so many households, while also easing the mental and emotional strain that often comes with it. We also aim to build even stronger partnerships across the public and voluntary sectors, ensuring our support is as accessible and far-reaching as possible. With your continued support, we believe 2025 can be a year of even greater impact, hope and connection.

REFLECTION



Reflection from our Chair - Chris Hey

Reflecting on 2024, it's clear how vital Baby Necessities continues to be to families across our community. Rising demand was met with unwavering dedication - from Hayleigh and the team, to our incredible volunteers, supporters, and partners.

I echo Hayleigh's thanks to everyone who's helped us reach more children than ever this year. The sense of shared purpose across our network has been nothing short of inspiring.

We were pleased to welcome Laura Peard to the team this year, bringing fresh energy and building brand awareness and community engagement. We also closed 2024 introducing Sofie Bennett to the Board of Trustees for a three year term, her insight and fundraising expertise is already adding strength to our communications and grant applications.

Behind the scenes, we've focused on building a stronger foundation for the future, improving financial forecasting, grant tracking, and risk oversight. These are essential steps to ensure we grow sustainably and remain accountable.

Our Board continues to offer thoughtful leadership and expertise:

Imogen has guided us on legal matters and policy development.

Gary, stepping into the treasurer role in 2025, brings clear financial scrutiny and strategic insight.

Rachael offers valuable on-the-ground perspective as a long-time volunteer and front-line professional.

It's also important to reflect on how far we've come — from our founders Hayleigh and Lauren packing bundles at home, to delivering essential support at scale. That founding spirit of care, community, and action remains at the heart of everything we do.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to deepening our impact, child by child, family by family. Thank you for standing with us.



OUR IMPACT

A summary in figures. Below is just a small indication of the number of items and bundles we gifted between Jan 2024 and Dec 2024.



1,174 children supported



195 pushchairs supplied



130 Mum-to-be Hospital Packs



501 toiletry packs



407 blankets



580 clothing bundles



159 Moses Basket 'starter kits'



126 tubs of formula



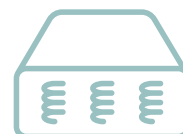
144 safe places to sleep



353 bottles



593 packs of nappies



217 New mattresses

6,739 essential items were gifted by Baby Necessities in 2024, with an estimated value of £236,128



BABY BANK ALLIANCE

We're proud members of the Baby Bank Alliance (BBA), which officially launched on 25th July 2024. This incredible organisation exists to champion and support baby banks across the UK, working to ensure that every child has access to the essentials they need to grow and thrive. The BBA plays a crucial role in helping baby banks secure the funding, resources, volunteers and practical support needed to make a meaningful impact in their communities.

This year, the BBA conducted the first ever national survey of UK baby banks, revealing that nearly 200,000 children were supported in the past year. With 4.3 million children currently living in poverty across the UK, the need for baby banks like ours has never been greater.

We're especially grateful to the BBA for forging powerful partnerships and campaigns with organisations such as IKEA, ITV's Lorraine, Morrisons, the Book Trust and Ickle Bubba. They also teamed up with Giovanna Fletcher and Save the Children UK to spotlight the incredible work of baby banks and the families who rely on them. These collaborations have helped raise vital awareness and bring essential items to baby banks nationwide.

Thank you BBA, for being a constant source of support and inspiration. Your training webinars, guidance, grant opportunities and the community you've created have been invaluable. Together we're not only stronger, we're changing lives.



FUNDRAISING AND EVENTS



MOTHER'S DAY CAMPAIGN

In March 2024 we were proud to provide 40 beautifully packaged gift bags to mums in need. Each one filled with pamper items, chocolate and thoughtful gifts. These bags were a small gesture with a big impact, reminding mums that they are seen, valued and appreciated. A heartfelt thank you goes to The Hygiene Bank in Romsey for generously supplying a large portion of the items, and to the kind members of the public who donated towards this project. For many of the mums who received them, this was the only gift they received. A moment of kindness that lifted spirits and offered a well-deserved moment of self-care.

NORTH BADDESLEY VILLAGE DAY

On 18th May, we were delighted to take part in the North Baddesley Village Day. Another wonderful opportunity to connect with our local community and raise both awareness and funds for our cause. Our tombola and ever popular "Hook the Duck" game were drawing families to our stall and giving us the chance to share more about the work we do. We're thrilled to report that we raised £293 on the day.

A big thank you to everyone who stopped by, played a game, made a donation, or simply took the time to learn more about our charity.



ROMSEY RELAY MARATHON

Our amazing team of runners took on the challenge of the annual Romsey Relay, collectively covering the full marathon distance of 26 miles and 385 yards. We were thrilled to be joined once again by the fantastic team from B-Fit Fitness, whose energy and enthusiasm helped make the day a great success. With every step, our runners helped raise awareness of our cause and vital funds to support families in need. Thanks to their efforts and the generosity of our supporters, we're proud to share that we raised £358! A huge thank you to everyone who ran, donated, or cheered us on - it all makes a difference.

FUNDRAISING AND EVENTS



PINK AND GREEN CAMPAIGN

Each year, we invite our wonderful supporters to get involved in our 'Pink and Green' campaign by wearing Baby Necessities' colours, and helping us raise vital funds. This year, we held a themed bake sale on site, raising an impressive £216.

A huge thank you to everyone who purchased a treat and to our amazing volunteers who baked them!

We're especially grateful to Nightingale Primary School and Hiltingbury Infant and Junior School's for going above and beyond in support of the campaign. Not only did they collect essential items such as nappies, baby wipes and toiletries, but they also held a pink and green non-uniform day and raised an incredible £482! Your support means so much and helps us continue making a difference for local families.



TEST VALLEY VOLUNTEER AWARDS 2024

We were proud to once again be shortlisted for the Test Valley Team of the Year Awards, hosted by Unity. A group of our staff and volunteers attended the event to celebrate alongside an

inspiring group of nominees and well-deserving winners. While we didn't take home the award in our category, we were deeply honored to be recognised and especially thrilled to receive a special judge's mention: "This team's dedication to providing essential items to families in need, with such passion and enthusiasm, is truly commendable. Their work has a direct impact on the well-being of local families." It was a memorable evening and a wonderful reminder of the strength and spirit of our local community.



SUMMER RAFFLE

Our Summer Raffle was a fantastic success, thanks to an incredible selection of prizes generously donated by some of the region's top attractions and experiences. Every ticket purchased helped us continue our vital work supporting local families in need. Among the exciting prizes were tickets to Victorious Festival and Paulton's Park, a signed Southampton FC pennant, a Bombay Sapphire Discovery Experience for two, a £100 voucher for Delta Force Paintball Southampton, and many more amazing treats. We're thrilled to share that the raffle raised an impressive £672! A heartfelt thank you to all the businesses who donated prizes and to everyone who bought a ticket, your support makes a real difference.

GARFIELD WESTON FOUNDATION

A heartfelt thank you to the Garfield Weston Foundation, a long established, family founded grant-maker committed to supporting a broad spectrum of charities across the UK. Their dedication to strengthening communities and backing impactful grassroots work is truly inspiring, and we are incredibly honoured to be among the organisations they have chosen to support.

We received a generous £10,000 grant from the Garfield Weston Foundation to help cover our core operating costs. This type of funding is absolutely vital for the future of Baby Necessities. While project specific donations are often easier to secure, unrestricted grants and core costs grants like this provide the stability we need to keep our services running day to day. They enable us to plan ahead, respond quickly to urgent needs and continue delivering consistent, high quality support to the families who rely on us.

Support from funders like Garfield Weston doesn't just help us function, it helps us grow, adapt and thrive. Thank you for investing in our mission and believing in the work we do.



Garfield Weston
FOUNDATION





WALK THE TEST WAY

This year marked Baby Necessities' third time taking part in Romsey Rotary Club's annual fundraiser Walk the Test Way, and what an incredible day it was! On 29th September 2024, our team was out in full force, with one of our staff members and a group of our valued referral partners at the East and Romsey Health Visiting Team walking 11 miles, and two of our long term supporters bravely tackling the full 25 mile distance.

Through muddy trails, slippery slopes, stiles and long stretches across fields, they powered through with determination and heart. We're thrilled to share that their efforts raised an amazing **£1,912** in support of our work. A huge thank you to everyone who took part and to those who sponsored them, your support helps us continue walking alongside families in need every step of the way.



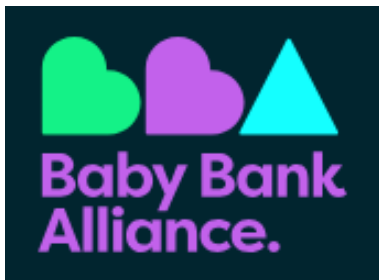
THE LORRAINE SHOW



In November, the Lorraine Show on ITV launched the Big Baby Bank Appeal in partnership with the Baby Bank Alliance and Morrisons. With 4.3 million children in the UK now living in poverty and families facing ever increasing food and energy costs, this campaign came at a crucial time. The appeal played a powerful role in raising national awareness of the essential work baby banks do to support families in crisis and we're incredibly grateful to have been part of it.

As part of the campaign, members of the public were encouraged to donate essential baby items at their local Morrisons store. We were thrilled that Morrisons in Totton chose to partner with Baby Necessities. Thanks to the generosity of the local community, we were gifted a trolley overflowing with much needed supplies at the end of the two week campaign.

These donations will go directly to families who need them most. Thank you to everyone who contributed.





CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE CAMPAIGN

Our 2024 Christmas Giving Tree campaign was our most successful yet, thanks to the incredible generosity of our local community. Several schools, businesses and organisations joined us by hosting beautifully decorated trees adorned with giving tags, each one representing a gift or essential item that supporters could purchase for a family in need.

Thanks to this amazing collective effort, we received a wide range of brand new items, from toys and toiletries to winter essentials, all of which made a meaningful difference to the families we support. We are so grateful to everyone who took part.

A heartfelt thank you to Deer Park School, Colden Common Primary, Hiltingbury Junior School, King Edward VI Preparatory School, Eco Montessori Nursery, Challoner House Care Home, NatWest in Chandler's Ford, the Haemophilia & Anticoagulation Team at Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, the Research and Innovation Services (RIS) Team at Southampton University, GEO Specialty Chemicals in Hythe, The Four Horseshoes pub, The Duke on the Test pub and the Romsey businesses responsible for hosting a spectacular tree along Latimer Walk. Your kindness helped bring joy and support to so many families this Christmas.





OUTREACH

This year, we've placed a strong emphasis on expanding our outreach programme - connecting with schools, nursing homes, Brownies, Scouts and other community groups to raise awareness about the vital work of Baby Necessities.

During school assemblies, we've been sharing an interactive story that brings the concept of a baby bank to life. Through these sessions, we aim to inspire young minds by exploring themes such as helping those less fortunate, the importance of community, sustainability and the power of recycling. One standout moment was our visit to Nightingale Primary School, where students responded with incredible generosity by organising a toiletries collection to support our work. Not only that, to deepen their understanding further, a group of students later visited us with their Headteacher to take part in a volunteer session. They helped assemble a full Moses basket kit, experiencing firsthand how their donations directly support families in need. The students were thoughtful, engaged and showed a genuine sense of care and responsibility. It's these moments that remind us of the power of education and community in driving meaningful change.

We have also visited Hiltingbury Infant and Hiltingbury Junior School's, Winterslow C of E Primary School, Sherbourne House, King Edward VI Prep School, Mountbatten (online talk given), Colden Common Primary, Orchard Junior School and Deer Park Secondary School.





GIVE A GIFT



Our Give a Gift service has continued to grow in impact this year, bringing birthday joy to children who may not otherwise be celebrated in the way they deserve. In 2024, thanks to the incredible kindness of our supporters, we were able to provide 55 children with brand new gifts, party banners, birthday cards and even cakes, totalling an amazing £3,704 worth of donated and purchased items.

But this service is about far more than just the gifts. It's about creating moments of happiness, making each child feel seen, valued and loved on their special day. We are truly thankful to everyone who contributed to making these birthdays brighter - you've helped create memories that will last a lifetime.



Cake supplied by
Free Cakes for Kids
Southampton



My personal child
health record



BABY SELF-WEIGHING CLINIC

Our Baby Self-Weighing Clinic, held on the first Thursday of every month at Baby Necessities HQ, has grown into one of our most popular and well-loved services in 2024. What started as a response to the significant drop in post-COVID weighing clinics has quickly become a valued and trusted resource for many local parents and carers.

We created this space to be warm, welcoming and free of judgment, somewhere families can feel comfortable tracking their baby's growth and connecting with others in the community. Since launching, the clinic has been accessed hundreds of times, with 184 visits in 2024, which included a fantastic mix of regular families and new faces joining us each month.

“ This is such a brilliant service! Always warm and friendly and has saved me worrying - especially now we have started solids. A service like this should be more widely available! Thank you! ”

“ Always a warm welcome every time we come, lovely chatty people and make weighing our babies so much calmer. The team is so friendly and always there to help out. Really grateful for the weighing clinic! ”

We're delighted to be able to offer this much needed service, because every baby deserves the best start in life.



THANK YOU

Baby Necessities wishes to pass on its sincere thanks to the following individuals, funding sources, charities and organisations that have supported us this year.

Your support and belief in us is truly inspirational and we wouldn't be where we are today without your help.

52 Lives
Abbeyfield House
Abri Community Fund
Adventure Cinema
Albert Hunt Trust
Arnold Clark
Asda Eastleigh Community Champion
Asda Foundation
Baby Bank Alliance
Baby Bundles Bank
BBC Radio Solent
Beauty Banks
B-Fit Fitness
B&Q
Bombay Sapphire Distillery
Bradbeers
Cash for Kids South Coast
Challoner House Care Home
Chameleon Theatre Company
Colden Common Primary
Co-op
DAC Beachcroft
Deer Park School
Delta Force Paintball
Eastleigh Football Club
Eastleigh LCP
Eco Montessori Nursery
ExxonMobil
Flip Out - Basingstoke
Food Centre at Kings Community Church
Foyle Foundation
Frankies Fun Factory
Free Cakes for Kids Southampton
Freedom Church - Romsey
Garfield Weston Foundation

Hampshire Hospitals NHS Trust
Hays Travel Romsey
High Score
Hiltingbury Junior School
Hygiene Bank Romsey
In Kind Direct
I Wanna Be.....
Joe's Christmas Shop
King Edward VI Prep School
Kings Theatre
Latimer Walk Businesses in Romsey
Longdown Activity Farm
Lorraine ITV Show
Morrisons - Totton
Mottisfont National Trust
National Lottery Community Fund
NatWest
New Forest Activity Centre
New Forest East and Romsey Health Visiting Team
New Forest LCP
Nightingale Primary School
North Baddesley Village Day
NSPCC
Nursling and Rownhams Carol Service
Outreach Radio
Paulton's Park
Personal Best Education
Plaza Theatre Romsey
Play Shack

Red Funnel
Romsey and Waterside Lions
Romsey and District Chamber of Commerce
Rotary in Eastleigh
Rotary in Romsey
Romsey, Chandler's Ford and District Round Table
Romsey Show
Romsey Skip & Bag Hire
Romsey Town Mayor - Cllr. John Parker
Seacity Museum
Shark Home UK
Sherborne House School
Smalls for All
Snowtrax
SOS Presents
Southampton FC
Tea Cups Tea Room
Tech Hub
Test Valley Borough Council
The Brickworks Museum
The Duke on the Test
The Four Horseshoes
The Mortgage Stop
The Old Station Tearooms
The Romsey Rapids
The Romsey Show
Unity Online
Victorious Festival
Viro Print
Wave 105
Wellington Country Park
Wilton House

Thank you

A special thank you to everyone who has donated new or pre-loved goods, volunteered their time, shared and liked our social media posts, spread the word about us, or supported us in any way!



FEEDBACK

“ We had no idea of the level of support. It is beyond mind blowing that you have provided baby essentials, clothes, toys for the boys, and so much more. HUGE HUGE HUGE thanks from the bottom of our hearts for your amazing acts of kindness today. What an amazing job you are all doing. ”

Beneficiary

“ I am very happy with all the items packed for my baby and I, very lovely and most of them are brand new. Saying thank you so much because I was thinking how to get some of the items you got us. Pram and moses basket are very expensive it was something I was thinking about how to get but with your help got them free really appreciate and a big thanks to the people that make the effort. ”

Beneficiary



“ We are very grateful for the items given to us. The package includes all the necessary items for the newborn and it was very thoughtful. Because of your kindness, we managed to look after our little one smoothly in her very early days. ”

Beneficiary



“ I am overwhelmed with gratitude and emotion as I sit here surrounded by the incredible gifts you have generously provided for my baby. Your thoughtfulness and generosity have left me speechless, and tears of joy are flowing as I write this.

The moses basket and travel system you gifted us are beyond anything I could have imagined. Each item is not just a practical necessity but a heartfelt gesture that will make a significant difference in our lives as I welcome my little one into the world. ”

Beneficiary

“ Baby Necessities has been an absolute lifeline for so many families, offering invaluable support during challenging times. Parents have shared heartfelt stories about how they wouldn't have known what to do without this incredible service. This service has made an incredible difference to so many families, and the impact it has had on their lives cannot be overstated. The Baby Bank is more than just a resource, it's a community lifeline that's truly making a difference in the lives of those who need it most. With numerous positive stories pouring in from grateful parents, it's clear this service is irreplaceable and appreciated beyond words. ”

Support Worker, Safeguarding Team.

STATEMENT FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



TRUSTEES' REPORT

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards. Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and enable them to ascertain to ensure that the financial statements comply with Charities Act 2011.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees of Baby Necessities Southampton are pleased to present their approved report and the financial statement for the period ended 31 December 2024. The board commends the charity's operational leadership, employees and volunteers for another fantastic year for the charity, despite the wider economic backdrop which challenges the sector.



STATEMENT FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



STATEMENT OF PUBLIC BENEFIT

Baby Necessities' services benefit the children of families who, for reasons including low or loss of income, domestic violence or even the age of the parents, do not have access to the basic essentials that every child deserves. The charity provides bundles to its referral partners, being health visitor/midwifery teams, social workers, community leaders and other charities, in and around Southampton. In providing its services, it benefit the public in the following ways:

- **Families:** Providing the essentials helps to ensure that infants and young children have a safe place to sleep, are clean and are suitably clothed. The charity assists in relieving both the financial pressure and emotional stress of families facing hardship.
- **Referral Partners:** Healthcare professionals and other family support workers now have a service within the local community that they can use when a family that they are working with are in need of basic and essential supplies. Such a service did not exist in the local area prior to Baby Necessities being founded.

- **Wider Community:** The charity offers a volunteering opportunity through which members of the community can learn new skills and meet new people. It also encourages local businesses to give back to their community by partnering with a worthwhile cause and volunteering their time and resources.
- **Environment:** Through the redistribution of second hand items the charity reduces unnecessary waste. The general public donates their pre-used baby and infant items to families in need, whilst also having a positive impact on the environment. The charity's services cover big-ticket items such as prams and cots as well as clothing, contributing in no small way to the local circular economy.

Under Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011, the Trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when planning the charity's activities, and in particular to the relief and prevention of poverty in children. There has been no change to Baby Necessities' objectives during the year.

STATEMENT FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



METHODS USED TO RECRUIT AND APPOINT NEW TRUSTEES

New Trustees are recruited by the board in line with Baby Necessities' Trustee Recruitment Policy. Positions are advertised across our social media channels, on our website and using platforms such as Reach Volunteering. Initial interviews take place with a trustee and a senior member of staff, and interview feedback is provided to the rest of the board for consideration. If successful, at this point a trustee may be invited to attend a board meeting as a guest, or to attend a volunteering session at Baby Necessities to assess mutual fit. Where a candidate is still interested in joining the board of trustees, the existing board will then take a vote.

Prior to appointment, Trustees are DBS checked and are required to sign a Trustee Declaration detailing any other appointments or potential conflicts of interest. Newly appointed Trustees receive a formal induction which outlines the work of the charity and includes a set of key documents (such as policies and the constitution) to give them the tools required to fulfil their role.

Where a skills gap is identified on the board, the board actively seeks Trustees suitable to fill this gap by advertising for the specific skillset.

STATEMENT FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



FUTURE PLANS

Baby Necessities provides an essential service to our community, and it has again succeeded in meeting the increasing numbers of referrals it has received for its services during 2024. In order to continue to meet these demands the charity is now focussing on building its corporate sponsorship and volunteer opportunities. Donation levels of second hand clothes and other goods from the general public remain strong, in part due to the charity's online presence seeing a great improvement following the employment of a Marketing and Communications Officer. Finding adequate storage facilities is therefore a priority for the charity and it has in place a strategic roadmap for analysing, costing and locating potential new or additional storage facilities over the next 12 to 24 months.

FINANCIAL REVIEW AND RESERVES POLICY

Despite the overall challenging economic environment, and reducing grant support across the sector, Baby Necessities has had a successful fourth year, generating an income of £161,438 (a combination of restricted and unrestricted funds) via grants, donations and fundraising activities. Its total expenditure for the year was £143,240 resulting in a net surplus this year of £18,198. Restricted funds at the end of the financial year totalled £35,357 (2023: £18,439) across several funding providers (incl. Garfield Weston, The Foyle Foundation and Albert Hunt Trust). A portion of the grants received restrict the funds for particular expenses including premises, salaries and specified types of equipment (e.g. mattresses).

Donations-in-kind are not reflected in the income or expenditure within the charity's financial statements but represent a significant

STATEMENT FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



additional donation stream and source of sustainability. Brand new items (from the Amazon wish list or handed in on donation mornings) are valued using the recommended retail price (RRP) when they are received. The charity received approximately £14,291 worth of donated brand-new items in 2024.

A formal reserves policy is in place. The Trustees agree that the charity should maintain unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately three months' of unavoidable running costs (around £30,000). This provides a buffer to cover management, administration, support costs and to respond to emergencies should income levels fall below what the charity needs to continue running. Unrestricted funds at the end of 31 December 2024 were £28,446 (2023: £27,166).

The board acknowledges a continuing positive success rate in funding applications being granted. The board recognises that there has been a decrease in grants across the sector, which includes a reduction in the charity's success rate when compared to 2023. However the charity's income remains stable and sustainable, and donations of items and clothing from the public remain strong. With the continuing focus on developing the additional funding streams and marketing strategy, including a marked improvement in the charity's social media presence, the board has no current concerns about the charity's ability to continue operating.

STATEMENT FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



PRICIPLE RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The charity has a risk register in place, covering governance, financial, operational, external and reputational, legal and compliance risk and how they are managed. The board regularly review the register at its meetings.

DECLARATION

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' report above. Signed on behalf of the charity's Trustees:

Signature:

Signed by:

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Full Name: Imogen Hooton

Position: Trustee

Date: 07 August 2025



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Baby Necessities

No (if any)
1193806

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01/01/2024		31/12/2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Grants	4,700	138,288	-	142,988	113,306
Donations	11,918	-	-	11,918	9,060
Fundraising events	6,532	-	-	6,532	9,328
Other	-	-	-	-	55
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	23,150	138,288	-	161,438	131,749
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	23,150	138,288	-	161,438	131,749

A3 Payments

Fundraising Expenses	471	-	-	471	1,281
Supplies for service users	1,034	35,648	-	36,681	18,709
Volunteer Costs	75	-	-	75	154
Advertising & Marketing	162	-	-	162	36
Accountancy	402	2,076	-	2,478	954
Bank Fees	23	-	-	23	-
Cleaning	82	309	-	392	342
Insurance	327	600	-	927	470
IT Software and Consumables	102	1,948	-	2,049	1,585
Legal Fees	756	-	-	756	-
Light, Power and Heat	216	1,915	-	2,132	3,881
Office Expenses	1,588	-	-	1,588	1,871
Pension Costs	-	1,068	-	1,068	428
Postage, Freight & Courier	34	-	-	34	11
Printing & Stationery	68	142	-	210	449
Rent	1,988	22,950	-	24,938	22,914
Repairs & Maintenance	345	-	-	345	2,371
Salaries	13,698	53,465	-	67,164	47,492
Staff Training	-	100	-	100	343
Subscriptions	144	270	-	414	308
Sundry Expenses	200	-	-	200	182
Telephone & Internet	3	826	-	829	890
Sub total	21,718	121,317	-	143,035	104,671

A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Leasehold Improvements	-	-	-	-	2,408
Computer Equipment	-	-	-	-	349
Plant	205	-	-	205	885
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	205	-	-	205	3,642
Total payments	21,923	121,317	-	143,240	108,313
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,227	16,970	-	18,198	23,436
A5 Transfers between funds	53	- 53	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	27,166	18,439	-	45,605	22,169
Cash funds this year end	28,446	35,357	-	63,803	45,605

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Current Accounts	28,413	35,357	-
	Petty Cash	33	-	-
	Total cash funds	28,446	35,357	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Rent deposit	-	8,000	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Computer Equipment	Unrestricted	3,723	570
	Office Equipment	Unrestricted	1,934	598
	Plant and Machinery	Unrestricted	1,291	705
	Leasehold Improvements	Unrestricted	2,408	1,673
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

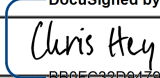
B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
PAYE/NIC Payable	Restricted	2,237	
Pension Payable	Restricted	254	
Accounts Payable	Unrestricted	-	
Accountancy	Restricted	2,094	

Related Party Transactions

During the year ended 31 December 2024 the remuneration of key personnel was £22,521 (2023: £24,844).

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
<div>DocuSigned by:  BB0FC92D9479459...</div>	CHRIS HEY	08 August 2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

Year ended 31 December 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Baby Necessities CIO (the Charity) for the period ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

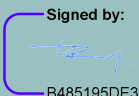
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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:  Signed by:
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Name: Mrs Lucy A Parry ACA

Address: Langdowns DFK Limited, Fleming Court, Leigh Road, Eastleigh, Southampton, SO50 9PD

Date: 11 August 2025