

THE TURBO TRUST

registered charity number 1116374

Registered Address: 172 Cambridge Road, Great Shelford, Cambridge CB22 5JU

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE PERIOD

1st April 2011 - 31st March 2012

Names of the charity trustees who managed the charity during this period

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
Debi Goodchild	Treasurer/Correspondent	01/04/11 - 16/01/12
Adam Cardinal	Chairman	01/04/11 - 27/09/11
Louise Everard	Treasurer/Correspondent	
Anna Ball	Chairman	27/09/11 - 31/03/12
Sheila Glasswell		16/01/12 - 31/03/12

Objectives and Activities

The aims and objectives of the charity, according to its governing document, a Trust Deed dated 8th September 2006, is “to relieve the needs of people with disabilities and mobility difficulties by providing and maintaining wheelchairs and other mobility aids and equipment for their use.”

In the course of the year, the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit in all their activities. The main activities have been fund-raising and grant-making to disabled individuals to help them buy and service specialised and customised powerchairs not available through statutory funding sources.

The benefits of such equipment are not just for the individual, but affect the whole of family life for those living with a serious permanent disability. They also enhance the prospects of successful social integration, education, training and employment for those who are given the extra mobility such equipment provides. They can be and have been life-changing for recipients and their families.

Policy on Grantmaking

Although the charity's aims and objectives include the provision and maintenance of any mobility equipment, the charity has always focussed on the needs of severely disabled people in need of customised high-performance powerchairs enabling three-dimensional movement. This was the policy in force during the year in question. Applications for grants towards other types of mobility equipment were not accepted during the year.

The charity aims to empower and enable beneficiaries and their families to take as much of a part in raising their own funds as possible. This may be by recruiting supporters to raise funds for the Turbo Trust, or it may be by making public appeals on a private basis.

The policy of the charity is to encourage the more fortunate and able families with fund-raising skills to support the less able, and for the charity's volunteers to assist in applying for and accessing trust funds and other sources who do not normally accept applications from individuals directly. The charity relies entirely on volunteers and has no paid staff.

All applications for grants must be supported by a recommendation for the particular equipment required by an independent qualified care professional.

The grantmaking policy is to make contributions out of funds available only when the matching funds to enable the equipment or service to be purchased are available to the applicant from other sources. In deciding on such grants, the trustees may take account of the success of fundraising for the Turbo Trust by the supporters of individual applicants, but are equally concerned to assist those facing particular difficulties which prevent them from conducting their own fundraising campaigns.

Achievements and Performance

During the year, 7 disabled people were helped to purchase sophisticated powerchairs, with the average individual grant being £4,341.

Grants for the purchase of powerchairs totalled £37,933, with individual grants ranging from £719 to £15,024.

2 grants were given totalling £2,050 towards the maintenance of powerchairs.

1 person received a grant of £1,150 for additional equipment to enable better use of her powerchair.

With these contributions, through their own efforts, and with assistance to access other funding sources, beneficiaries received equipment and services to the value of £142,321 in total, even though The Turbo Trust only contributed £37,933 towards this.

Financial Review

The charity has held a positive balance of funds at all times. It keeps its reserves low, retaining only enough to cover administrative and fund-raising expenses and holds funds against current applications where the total target has not yet been reached. This means that donations received can be used promptly and efficiently for charitable purposes.

Governance Issues

The Turbo Trust is governed by its Trust Deed dated 8th September 2006. Trustees are appointed by the trustee body, and there were two changes of trustees during the year, with Anna Ball being appointed by the trustees on the resignation of Adam Cardinal in September 2011, and Sheila Glasswell being appointed when Debi Goodchild came the end of her commitment to the Trust in January 2012. The Trust has been indebted to both Adam and Debi, with particular gratitude to Debi, who had served as Treasurer and Correspondent for 3 years with great diligence.

Louise Everard's interest as a director and shareholder of Dragonmobility Ltd is fully declared. She acts as liaison trustee between The Turbo Trust and the family social enterprise structure within which Dragonmobility operates as a not-for-profit developer and manufacturer, providing expert seating and customisation for powerchairs for disabled people. Some of Dragonmobility's products and services are paid for by grants from the charity. Mrs Everard is paid a nominal £100 p.a. director's fee by the social enterprise and does not otherwise receive income from these activities. She acts as administrator for the charity, but grant award decisions are made by the other trustees who are independent and form a separate grant committee.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustee's Report above.
Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees:

Anna Ball
Chairman of Trustees
17 January 2103