

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 2012 - 31st March 2013

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

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
Anna Ball	Chairman / Grant committee member	N/A
Louise Everard	Treasurer/Correspondent	N/A
Sheila Glasswell	Grant Committee member	N/A

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. The individual gains significant independence and this leads to successful social integration, education, training and employment. It can be and has 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 powerchair systems and accessories 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. All applications for grants must be supported by a recommendation for the particular equipment required by an independent qualified care professional.

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.

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 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

1. Fundraising

Funds raised for the charity nearly doubled this year (up by 96%) compared to 2011-2012. More volunteers were engaged to help with local event fundraising in Cambridge and appeals on Justgiving.com represented the efforts of many others across the UK, and including tax reclaim this was the major source of income, which net of expenses totalled £57,755.40. This constituted 74% of total net income, compared to 50% last year. The trustees are very grateful to all those who have given their money, time and efforts towards this very encouraging result.

2. Grant Giving

Grants for the purchase of powerchairs totalled £67,894 (79% more than last year), with individual grants ranging from £323 to £21,052. The range reflects the availability of funds from other sources, as the charity aims to make sure that every applicant makes full use of the fundraising opportunities offered through other organisations as well as through the Turbo Trust. During the year, 10 disabled people were helped to purchase powerchairs, compared to 7 last year, with the average individual grant being £6,789 (compared to £4,341 last year). 2 are adults and 8 are children under 19.

With these contributions, through their own efforts, and with assistance to access other funding sources, beneficiaries obtained equipment and services to the value of £213,547 in total, even though The Turbo Trust only contributed £67,894 directly towards this. This has provided at least 5 years independence for each recipient, including the costs of service, seating and standing frame reviews for growing children and many specialised features to allow active independence to impact all aspects of life.

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. 93% of expenditure was charitable grants to our beneficiaries. More was held in reserve at the end of the year, allowing a healthy start to grant-giving from April 2013.

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 no changes of trustees during the year.

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

Anna Ball
Chairman of Trustees
21 January 2014