



fertilitynetworkuk



Annual Report and Accounts 2015/2016

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

APRIL 2015 - MARCH 2016

This is my first report as Chair of Infertility Network UK Limited, more commonly known by the name Fertility Network UK. Having been a Board member since February 2012, I was voted on as Chair in February 2015 when Rachel Watson stepped down from office. Our sincere thanks go to Rachel for her excellent leadership throughout her tenure.

It has been an eventful year. All members of the third sector have had to reassess their strategic direction in the light of government austerity measures and our charity is no exception.

I am most grateful to our Board members for giving voluntarily of their time and expertise so willingly to address the challenges we faced. With a continued decrease in government funding in England via the Department of Health, we took the decision to increase our activity towards gaining new corporate partners. This action allowed us to continue our core business of supporting and campaigning on behalf of all those affected by fertility issues while maintaining our independence from individual clinics. The Scottish government continued to give us great support as we explored new avenues of preventative spend in reaching out to the student population and working more closely with GPs and Practice Managers in Scotland highlighting the issues that affect fertility.

Our Treasurer, Louise Evans, appointed in July 2014, has been instrumental in directly supporting our Chief Executive, Susan Seenan, with regard to the charity's finances. With great support from the staff, the charity is now in a much healthier financial state. We also were recipients of a substantial legacy and, as a result, were able to use a part of it to commission research from Middlesex University into the emotional effects of fertility treatment. The results will help inform our work and priorities going forward.

The profile of the charity has continued to be raised by increased use of social media and the PR work undertaken by our Chief Executive and our Media Relations Officer, Catherine Hill, in particular.

Liz Ascham, a More To Life Board member, resigned in February 2016 and will be missed. I would like to thank her for her unfailing support. We wish her well in her career. Pauline Broadway joined us in July 2015 but resigned in January 2016 due to family commitments.

In terms of corporate governance, we reviewed and updated our risk register, led by Antonia Rodriguez, taking action where required, our annual Business Plan contained agreed SMART objectives, and staff appraisals were aligned to them. Staff continue to gather statistics in order that performance can be measured and the Board be provided with an overview of the charity's strategic direction.

My thanks to Nicky Murray for a very professional Annual Report on last year, and to Jessica Hepburn for leading the review on our Volunteer Programme.

My personal thanks must go to Susan Seenan for her professional approach to leading the charity forward. Susan is, however, the first to say “it is a team effort”. This is undoubtedly so, and I would like to thank **all** staff for their outstanding efforts over the past year.

I could not complete my report without mentioning our Board member, Jessica Hepburn’s, fundraising in August when she swam the English Channel. We are all in awe of her achievement. The charity is grateful to all who have undertaken fundraising on our behalf. We cannot thank you enough. I should also like to record my thanks to The Lister Hospital for allowing us to hold our Board meetings in their offices.

Sylvia D Shearer, MBA
Chair



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1. REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity Name:	Fertility Network UK
Charity number (England and Wales):	1099960
Company number:	4822073
Scottish Charity Number:	SC039511
Registered office:	Charter House 43 St. Leonards Road Bexhill on Sea East Sussex TN40 1JA
Reporting Accountants:	McPhersons CFG Limited 23 St. Leonards Road Bexhill on Sea East Sussex TN40 1HH
Bankers:	Lloyds Bank 25 Cornhill Bridgwater SOMERSET TA6 3AY

2. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee, and is therefore governed by Articles of Association. The number of Trustees shall not be less than 4 and not more than 10 (unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution) individuals over the age of 18, all of whom must support the Objects. The Board meets quarterly and as necessary. The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, who served during the year, were:

Board of Trustees	
Melissa Asare	<i>(Resigned 11th April 2016)</i>
Elizabeth Ascham	<i>(Resigned 16th February 2016)</i>
Louise Evans	<i>Treasurer</i>
Jessica Hepburn	
Melissa Hillier	
Carol Hulley	
Jill Martin	
Nicola Murray	
Maria Rodriguez Portela	<i>Vice Chair</i>
Sylvia Shearer	<i>Chair</i>

The Trustees are each members of the company and have no beneficial interest therein and guarantee to contribute £1.00 in the event of a winding up.

The Chief Executive, Susan Seenan, was appointed on 1st January 2014 and remains in post.

The Chief Executive is appointed by and reports to the Board of Trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity and has overall responsibility for managing the charity's employees. As at 31st March 2016 there were a total of four full time and twelve part time employees. The Chief Executive is co-chair of Fertility Fairness which is supported by a wide range of organisations involved in the field of infertility, including infertility charities such as the Donor Conception Network and the Daisy Network; healthcare professionals societies such as the British Fertility Society and the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, and the pharmaceutical industry.

The charity includes two onward networks; ACeBabes for those who have been successful in their efforts to have a family, either through fertility treatment, adoption, fostering or surrogacy, and More To Life (MTL) which provides help and support to those who will remain childless.

The charity is widely perceived as the leading, national fertility patient organisation, providing patient representation on several committees including:

- *Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority*
- *British Fertility Society*
- *National Infertility Group* in Scotland
- *All Wales Fertility Advisory Group*
- *National Gamete Donation Trust*
- *European Society of Human Reproduction & Embryology Psychology Guideline Development Group*
- *Fertility Europe*
- *Reproductive Medicine Clinical Studies Group* for the Royal College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists
- *Regional Fertility Clinic Gynaecological Liaison Group*
- *All Party Group on Infertility*, N. Ireland
- Meetings/Conferences called ad-hoc during the year

The charity continues to enjoy excellent relationships with its sister organisations working in the field of infertility. The charity founded and Chaired the *Association of Fertility Patient Organisations* (AFPO), extended AFPO membership by including a further four organisations and co-ordinated two meetings during this financial year.

3. OUR MISSION

Fertility Network UK aims ...

...to continue being the leading charity across the UK in the provision of a comprehensive support network for those facing fertility challenges at all stages of their journey, providing authoritative information as well as practical and emotional support.

4. OUR OBJECTIVES

The charity's objectives are subject to review each year to ensure it continues to deliver value to the individuals, couples, communities and entities it supports.

- ❖ To **relieve** the suffering from infertility particularly through the provision of information, advice and support;
- ❖ To **uphold** the provision of an equitable system of publicly funded fertility treatment throughout the UK for all sufferers of infertility, sub-fertility and secondary infertility;
- ❖ To **support** the needs of persons suffering from infertility through the provision of inter alia, a network of local support groups, a support line service, a website and a regular magazine and e-newsletter;
- ❖ To **advance** public education about all aspects of fertility and infertility;
- ❖ To **raise** the profile of issues concerning fertility and infertility in the media and in general, in an informed, responsible manner; and
- ❖ To **encourage** and assist continuing research of the broadest nature into infertility and its various effects.

5. OPERATING HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The charity had anticipated and budgeted for a ‘no loss, no gain’ during the year ending 31st March 2016.

We succeeded in accomplishing this objective in a number of ways during the past year. The charity is proud to highlight and précis some of these operating highlights and achievements below, with more detailed descriptions and statistics on each in the *Appendices* at the end of the report. We have captured these under four major themes:

INCOME

REACH

INFLUENCE

QUALITY

5.1 INCOME

The most significant and far-reaching operating highlight in terms of the life of the charity and our ability to continue to provide the vital support and services we offer remains our income generation.

With grant funding increasingly difficult to obtain, we followed an income generation strategy with particular focus on growing revenue across the UK. Our services are in demand, often providing a lifeline to those experiencing fertility challenges. Research shows around one in six couples in the UK will experience difficulties in conceiving - currently this translates to around three and a half million people.

We successfully encouraged individual supporters of the charity to fundraise for us and our general fundraising income grew by around thirty percent. The loss of three partners from our partnership programme: Ceuta Healthcare, Gideon Richter (UK) and Hologic UK Ltd over the course of the year was offset by our gaining an additional 10 organisations that invested in our partnership programme.

Income, from the successful expansion of our corporate supporters during the year, will be reinvested in our services to progress efforts to meet this demand (*see the section on Looking Ahead for more details of our income generation strategy for the upcoming financial year*).

Our third National Fertility Awareness Week (NFAW) 2015, continued to serve as a platform for the charity to raise awareness and generate income. We again asked clinics to support our Embryo Challenge whereby clinics could support us by way of a donation for each embryo created during the week, and other fundraising initiatives included our ‘Helping Hands’ initiative where holistic therapists could offer their support, as well as repeating our successful ‘cake bake’ initiative. More details can be found at <http://www.nfaw.org.uk>

5.2 REACH

We continued to work proactively with the media to raise the profile of issues concerning fertility and infertility including sustaining our positive work with the BBC, this time on a storyline for the *Doctors* programme. Many of our staff members took part in media interviews and similarly our volunteers continued to help raise awareness of these issues by sharing their personal stories. We recruited a new Press Officer during 2015 and this appointment contributed hugely to our goal to raise the profile of all fertility related issues in the media (*see Media Activity summary in Appendix 10.1*).

We continued to pursue a more proactive approach to the use of social media and our website in order to target and attract visitors from a much wider and more diverse area and demographic, which resulted in a significant rise in our overall reach (*see the activity numbers in Expanding our Reach summary in Appendix 10.2*).

Our trained, part-time nurse ran our professional supportline again this year, offering support to anyone experiencing fertility issues at any stage on their journey. Over two thousand eight hundred enquiries from patients were handled during the year, reflecting yet again an overall thirty percent increase on the previous year, including almost fifty percent increase in responses to posts on our *HealthUnlocked* forums. Our head office diligently supports patients and individual callers calling in on our helpline. Again after considering changes in the way people seek support, we continued to increase the amount of information we made available online to ensure as much information as possible was accessible at the point of initial contact (*see actual numbers in the Support Line and Help Line summary in Appendix 10.3*).

We maintained our provision of support to those facing involuntary childlessness as well as to those who have been successful following fertility issues through our two onward networks - *More To Life* and *ACeBabes*.

The charity sustained its efforts to distribute information to as many patients and professionals throughout the UK, by way of both printed literature and downloads from the charity's website. We expanded our social networking efforts during the year and the charity now has active groups for Fertility Network UK, Fertility Network Scotland and Fertility Network Northern Ireland with separate groups for *More To Life* and *ACeBabes* on Facebook, Twitter as well as a growing community on *HealthUnlocked*. During the year we launched our new *HealthUnlocked* community for our *More To Life* group (*see the statistics under Information Dissemination Appendix 10.4*).

Our information events this year deserve a special mention, most noteworthy, our work done in association with Intuitive Events Ltd at The Fertility Show that took place on Saturday 31st October and Sunday 1st November 2015. Notably, this show is the largest and most publicised annual fertility event in the United Kingdom. Our involvement again included topic guidance, media promotion and the provision of speakers. Additionally, we hosted another information event at the prestigious Stormont building in Northern Ireland that proved most successful.

Our education project funded by the Scottish government that originally commenced in July 2012 with the appointment of two part-time development workers, based in the North East and South West of Scotland, received renewed funding for the fourth consecutive year from July 2015.

The project's main aims are:

- 1 To provide fertility information and education in universities, to GPs and in the workplace to ensure that people are better informed on all aspects of fertility issues; how to take care of their fertility and how and when it declines.
- 2 To raise awareness amongst young people in university of fertility issues and to educate them about those issues that can impact their fertility, such as Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) and lifestyle choices.
- 3 To reduce the instances of infertility through improved outcomes in terms of sexual health and lifestyle.
- 4 To help alleviate the effect on those already affected by this illness through information, self help and support by providing information events throughout Scotland.

This project proved a tremendous success as evidenced by the positive comments received from GPs, nursing staff and young people alike (*see feedback, comments and ratings in Appendix e*).

We had hoped to extend this successful project across the UK, and we applied for funding for a pilot project in England from the Department of Health. However during the year we heard that our application had not been successful.

Charity staff again attended numerous patient evenings and days during the year, held at clinics throughout Scotland

5.3 INFLUENCE

We kept up our campaigning initiatives during the year in an ongoing effort to improve the equality of access to NHS funded fertility treatment, including numerous approaches to MPs and Peers in England, approaches to MSPs in Scotland, to AMs in Wales and to MLAs in Northern Ireland. We have also continued our work on the Health Board Project, funded by the Scottish Government, and on the All Party Group on Infertility in Northern Ireland (*for detailed summaries of the campaigning initiatives undertaken by geographical region see Appendix f*).

We were asked to join a new multi-disciplinary *Fertility Preservation Group* (FP-UK) in the capacity of a key expert. FP-UK is set up to tackle the issue of unfair access to fertility preservation to those requiring access to fertility preservation following treatment for a variety of medical conditions, including but not exclusively, cancer treatment. This group has now been adopted as a *Special Interest Group* (SIG) by the British Fertility Society, highlighting the importance placed on this issue.

As envoys on behalf of patients, our involvement in research was further strengthened this year. We conducted our own research project with Middlesex University looking into the overall impact of fertility problems on individuals, including the impact on relationships, whether there is sufficient knowledge and support from GP level to tertiary care, employment issues and the availability of NHS treatment.

We provide patient representation on the *Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists Reproductive Medicine Clinical Study Group*, and have been involved with a number of other research studies. We continue to represent patients on the multi-centre *Hyaluronic Acid Binding Sperm Selection* (HABSelect) and *E-Freeze* clinical studies, and we are co-applicants on the *Endometrial Scratch* trial. We took part in a symposium at De Montfort University on "Postponing childbirth, extending fertility: biotechnologies and the transformations of reproductive life."

Similarly, we presented at a Society of Reproductive and Infant Psychology funded workshop focusing on service delivery arrangements and perceived needs of parents who establish families using IVF. Our presentation was entitled 'A multidisciplinary research, theory and practice workshop on the early parenthood experiences of non-donor infertile couples after successful fertility treatment.' We were also invited to join the Key Stakeholder Board of the *Cohorts on Health in Assisted Reproduction Technology* (CohART). This is a programme to standardise Assisted Reproduction Technology (ART) follow up studies across Europe.

Furthermore, we supported the preliminary work on a project led by Cardiff University to develop a software application for individuals and couples unsuccessful in becoming parents. We were invited to be a non-academic reviewer on De Montfort University's ESRC study on the experiences and well-being of egg donors, and likewise, invited to serve as a stakeholder partner on the University of Adelaide project "Does Metformin improve fertility and pregnancy outcomes in women with *Polycystic Ovary Syndrome* (PCOS) based infertility" for *Patient-Centred Outcomes Research Institute* (PCORI). We continue to support researchers at Oxford University on their Taking pART and *Prolonged Effects of Assisted Reproductive Treatment* for women and their children a *Record Linkage project for England* (PEARL) through their patient and public advisory group.

Finally, we actively supported many PhD and masters students by helping them with their research projects and enabling access to patients.

5.4 QUALITY

From 1st August 2016 we changed our name to *Fertility Network UK* and adopted an exciting new logo. This rebranding was undertaken for a number of reasons, but primarily, to better reflect our role in providing support and information for everyone, whatever their experience of fertility issues and stage of fertility journey. The word 'infertility' is often seen as very negative, and in rebranding we are building a more positive image for the charity. The help and support we offer does not focus on negatives, despite the fact that fertility treatment is often stressful and a successful outcome is not guaranteed.

We want to highlight that we are here:

- for anyone considering their future fertility
- for those trying to become parents
- for anyone facing the challenges of childlessness
- for people successful after fertility issues

Many have described our services as a 'lifeline', providing support and a listening ear when no one else is there. We hope that our new name and our new brand will make us more accessible and will enable us to widen and enrich the quality of care and support we offer.

6. FINANCIAL REVIEW

Faced with unrelenting reductions in grant funding year on year, the 2015/2016 financial year once again proved challenging as we continued to look for ways to diversify our income generation. Although our efforts helped us to secure funding from *The Health and Social Care Board* in Northern Ireland and from the Scottish government, it can be argued that fertility issues have not been a priority for the government in Westminster. Accordingly, we have been unable to secure any funding from them over the past four years. As such, we will persevere with our income diversification initiatives to safeguard against this trend in decreasing government funding for fertility-related charitable work, especially in England where the funding gap is most pronounced.

We are extremely grateful for and would like to acknowledge, the support of the following organisations and funders. These entities provided us with new or continued grant and project funding during the year, an invaluable lifeline enabling us to sustain and develop the services we offer (*see our funding sources in Funders Appendix 10.7*).

Funders

- ❖ Belfast Cathedral Sit-Out
- ❖ Enkalon Foundation
- ❖ Health & Social Care Board N Ireland
- ❖ Scottish Government
- ❖ The Big Lottery Fund
- ❖ N Ireland Electricity Board Staff Charity Fund
- ❖ Merck Serono

We are equally grateful to our corporate and clinic partners who have supported us during the year, including our first UK Gold Clinic Partner (Create Fertility).

- ❖ Access Fertility
- ❖ Casmed
- ❖ Clinica Eugin
- ❖ Create Fertility
- ❖ Embryolab
- ❖ Ferring Pharmaceuticals
- ❖ Ferticentro
- ❖ IVF Spain
- ❖ IVI Group
- ❖ LogixX Pharma Solutions Ltd
- ❖ Merck Serono
- ❖ Merck Serono Fertility Technologies
- ❖ My Healthcare Clinic
- ❖ OvaScience
- ❖ Pharmasure
- ❖ The Stork
- ❖ Vitabiotics

We extend our gratitude to all those who have made donations and raised much-needed funds for the charity during the past year. This includes our fundraisers who raised almost £23,000 for the charity during the year.

7. OUR RESERVE POLICY

Before we turn to our future plans, it is important at this juncture to draw attention to the charity's reserve policy.

It is our policy that unrestricted funds, excluding designated funds that have been ring fenced for specific use, are maintained at a level equivalent to a minimum of approximately nine months of fixed costs.

The justification for this increase from six to nine months is twofold: (1) due to the minimum cost of closure of the charity that has been estimated at around three months fixed costs, assuming it pays the statutory minimum in redundancy costs. (2) in the event of a severe financial shock not dissimilar to that experienced during the financial crisis of 2008, Fertility Network UK would require a minimum of six months to assess whether the situation could be turned round, whether it could merge with another charity to maintain its services or whether it would need to close down.

So, given the grant-sensitive nature of the charity's income stream, Louise Evans, our Treasurer, recommended setting a policy that will continue to hold a minimum of nine months fixed costs in reserves. Moreover, that those reserves should be held in cash with UK institutions and spread so that the charity does not hold more than the FSCS government guaranteed balance in any individual institution. The reserves policy will be reviewed annually.

8. LOOKING AHEAD

Our future plans for the upcoming year fall under the following main areas of focus:

8.1 Operating Activities

8.2 Funding & New Business Development

8.3 Campaigning Work

8.4 Staffing & Recruitment

8.5 Our Service Offering

8.6 Media & Communication

8.7 Business Planning

8.1 Operating Activities

Our National Fertility Awareness Week in November 2016 forms a key focus for us once again. We will use this initiative to:

- ❖ Promote the importance of fertility education by increasing young people's awareness of the facts about fertility; dispelling myths and equipping a new generation with information that can help them make informed decisions about their futures.
- ❖ Help all those struggling with fertility issues to feel less alone and isolated, and bring people into a community where others understand and can empathise and share.
- ❖ Help the wider community to understand what their friend, partner, family member or work colleague is going through.

We will continue our campaign for enhanced emotional support for those struggling to conceive. This is an area of need highlighted in our 'Impact of Fertility' survey, conducted in association with Middlesex University, the full results of which will be published this year.

We will, as we have in the past, assist the organisers of the annual Fertility Show in November 2016 with communication, media, promotion and the provision of speakers. Fertility Network UK will have a prominent stand at the exhibition. We will also hold an event in Scotland during the forthcoming year, supporting, informing and empowering individuals in those areas.

In an effort to raise the need for fertility education, we will participate in the British Fertility Society Health Summit.

8.2 Funding and New Business Development

We will continue to extend the creative ways in which we use the website and social media to generate income by working closely with our existing and newly recruited corporate partners, and advertisers to build optimum alliances. The focus will be to work together to ensure their valuable investment in the services we offer is used wisely.

8.3 Campaigning Work

We will continue to co-chair Fertility Fairness, look to extend our work with the Clinical Commissioning Groups in England. Following submission of the National Infertility Group report to the Scottish government, we will continue to work with the Health Boards and National Infertility Group in Scotland to ensure the recommendations to widen access to treatment, as well as to increase the number of cycles provided, are implemented. We will lobby for increased funding in Wales and N Ireland. We believe our work in these regions is essential in keeping fertility in the public agenda and the channels for effective dialogue with government and parliamentary representatives open.

8.4 Staffing and Recruitment

As part of our branding objectives, we will continue to look for funding to recruit the necessary regional resources in areas where we currently have no representation, namely the North East, North West, Midlands and South West of England. In the interim and as a first step to reach out to those who need our services in England, we recruited a National Co-ordinator for England funded by revenue from our successful efforts to diversify and grow our income. We will also continue to reinvest income from our corporate and clinic partnerships to extend the services we provide, not only for those dealing with fertility issues but also for those facing the challenges of childlessness.

8.5 Our Service Offering

As part of our ongoing review into our service offering, we have taken a decision after much consideration and due diligence, to change the name of the charity, to reflect the support and services we offer in a more positive way. Infertility is often negatively perceived and particularly as much of our focus is around fertility, including fertility education, we will finalise the planned rebrand of the charity, moving forward as Fertility Network UK to more accurately reflect our role providing support, advice, help and understanding for individuals whatever their experience of fertility issues. We will also undertake a review of our marketing strategy to ensure we are reaching out to as many individuals who need our services as possible, including a review of the way we market out information events.

8.6 Media & Communication

Contact with the NHS and private clinics by means of talks, information sharing and the provision of our newly rebranded literature, will be undertaken by regional staff in areas where we have coverage. The rebranding project will afford us an opportunity to raise the profile of the charity across a variety of media platforms.

8.7 Business Planning

We will regularly review our business plan at each board meeting and this will be updated annually to accurately reflect the changing needs of the charity and those we support. We will also continue to look for ways to work creatively with organisations both within and outwith the fertility sector, raising awareness of fertility issues as well as tackling the need for more fertility education particularly for young people.

9. TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for the financial year. In doing so the trustees are required to:

1. Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
2. Make sound judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
3. Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enables them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees 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.

Reporting Accountants

McPhersons CFG Limited were appointed Reporting Accountants to the company.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees

10. APPENDICES

10.1 Media Activity

Vibrant press activity culminated in four significant outcomes this year. These four outcomes are reflected in the table below.

Medium	Quantity	% Increase Year/Year
Press releases	39	100%
Press comments	55	100%
Media requests	265	Approx. 40%
TV/Radio interviews	47	100%

We achieved consistently strong press coverage of our press releases on a national and regional level through TV, radio and print media throughout the year. Relatedly, our Chief Executive and Fertility Network UK media volunteers were frequently recognised in interviews and statements. Funding-related themes remained the dominant area of focus. Examples of such coverage include a full-page spread that appeared on page five in the Daily Mirror in May 2015 about West Essex CCG's decision to fund fertility treatment for some by cutting back on services for others and the Guardian's October 2015 coverage of North East Essex' decision to cut NHS funding for fertility treatment.

We launched a campaign at the start of 2016 to encourage patients to write to their Ministers of Parliament (MPs) to highlight the inconsistencies in the provision of NHS-funded fertility services across the UK. We also conducted surveys on fertility education, fertility treatment and counselling and produced information sheets on the top 10 fertility facts and the five ages of female fertility.

At the start of National Fertility Awareness Week, the latest audit data on the provision of NHS fertility services in England from Fertility Fairness made the front page of the Independent. Additionally, we worked together with the BBC and ITV extensively leading up to their broadcasts investigating fertility funding issues in early February 2016 by supplying research data and suggesting potential UK media volunteers. This was followed in late February with the Independent, the BBC and other media broadcasters reporting extensively on the news that Somerset CCG is reducing the number of IVF cycles it offers from two to one, making the South West an IVF blackspot.

During National Fertility Awareness Week our #1in6 campaign to highlight that 1 in 6 couples in the UK suffer fertility problems proved a great success on social media with many people joining us by tweeting and sharing their #1in6 stories. Likewise, our survey in association with Nuffield Health on male fertility achieved substantial press coverage.

We worked in May 2015 with BBC Radio 4 to publicise their documentary *Drawing the Line: looking at knowing when to stop IVF*. Subsequently, we were involved in follow-up discussions on BBC *Woman's Hour*.

We collaborated on two national fertility supplements in November 2015 and in February 2016 and contributed a foreword for a forthcoming US book, titled: *Contemporary Fertility and Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART): Advancing Global Discussion in Theory, Practice, Policy and Research*.

Social media plays an increasing role in how we engage with, inform and support our community. At year-end 31st March 2016 we had 7,526 followers on twitter - an increase of 1,726 followers over the year period. We also received over 4,125 *likes* on our Facebook page, up over seventy percent on the previous year. Our social media reach grew from an average of 15,000 per week to an average of over 34,000, and peaked at a record level of 68,381 during our *Fertility Awareness* week to close the year-end of March 2016 at 57,583.

During the year we reviewed our social media strategy concerning bumps and baby images and can confirm that our policy regarding this will remain unchanged, hence we will continue not to use these types of images on social media. In concluding this section on media activity, we can confirm that we are updating our social media strategy document and guide, whilst our media volunteers contact list has been substantially updated.

10.2 Expanding our Reach

As at year ending 31st March 2015 there were almost five thousand members registered on the charity's website (4,851), a twenty percent increase on the previous year. The website received almost three hundred and forty thousand visits during the year (339,552), of which almost two thirds were unique visitors (216,450), and over two thousand people were signed up to receive the charity's free e-newsletter (2,235).

Our reach, however, extends far beyond our registered membership, with social media playing an increasing role in how we inform, educate and support a broader segment of the population as has already been detailed in Appendix 10.1 Media Activity. Our *HealthUnlocked* community grew by over sixty percent during the year reaching over four thousand five hundred members (4,529) via this platform alone. During the year we set up a new *HealthUnlocked* community for those facing the challenges of childlessness and at year-end we had sixty-one (61) registered individual members. Both communities now also have a 'contact our nurse' forum.

10.3 Support Line and Help Line

Our trained nurse on our professional support line handled five hundred and forty six (546) calls during the year. And in continuing to reflect the changes in the way people seek support, she also dealt with over eight hundred (800) enquiries via email and through our website - an increase of thirty six percent over on the previous year - and almost fifteen hundred (1,500) enquiries through our *HealthUnlocked* forum, an increase of fifty percent on the previous year. So, almost two thousand three hundred (2,300) patients were supported via email, forums and through the charity's *HealthUnlocked* community. Our nurse continues to expand her expertise and has recently completed an Open University course: 'The Science of Medicines'.

Our staff at head office once again dealt with almost one thousand telephone calls and email enquires during the course of the year, and supported many more patients through social networking.

10.4 Information Dissemination

- ❖ Over sixty comprehensive factsheets covering fertility, infertility and related topics were made available to download from our website, including the patient factsheet on single embryo transfer recently updated in conjunction with the HFEA.
- ❖ The charity received funding from the Scottish government to continue to produce and distribute information in Scotland including over seven hundred (700) information packs to all fertility clinics in Scotland, and almost seven hundred (700) patient factsheets on single embryo transfer.
- ❖ As part of the Health & Social Care Board Contract in N. Ireland, six hundred (600) information packs containing I N UK, MTL and local patient support group posters, along with a covering letter, were posted to all GP Practice Managers, Fertility Clinics, Healthy Living Centres and professionals with an interest in infertility.
- ❖ During the year, the charity's head office distributed over eleven thousand (11,000) pieces of literature in total, including leaflets, posters and information cards to clinics across the UK.

- ❖ The charity and its volunteers continued to distribute literature at infertility related conferences and on an ad-hoc basis.
- ❖ Two thousand eight hundred (2,800) Infertility Network UK magazines were printed and circulated during the year.
- ❖ Four hundred and twenty five (425) More To Life newsletters were printed and distributed before this publication moved to an e-publication only medium.
- ❖ The electronic Infertility Network UK magazine grew in circulation, reaching over eight thousand five hundred (8,500) subscribers at year-end.
- ❖ At 31st March 2016 we had a total of two thousand five hundred and seventy four (2,574) subscribers to our free e-newsletters and during the year we published six editions of the I N UK e-newsletter. This included our special *Fertility Show* edition as well as one to launch our campaign urging patients to write to their MP for better access to NHS treatment. These were circulated to over thirteen thousand (13,000) subscribers.
- ❖ In addition, we circulated three editions of the MTL newsletter, which was received by just fewer than one thousand (1,000) subscribers.
- ❖ Our social media engagement continues to grow and we now regularly reach over thirty four thousand (34,000) regular followers each week, well over twice our reach during the previous year. As this figure continues to grow it provides us with a platform to share informative and educational information, as well as to raise awareness of the support we provide.

10.5 An Education Project in Scotland

The Scottish government funded education project, *Your Future Fertility*, began in 2012 and is the first of its kind in the country. The project creates awareness by providing information to a range of organisations including colleges, universities, voluntary organisations, GPs, sexual health clinics and many more.

With fertility problems affecting 1 in 6 couples in Scotland we believe we need to empower young people to make informed choices by providing education surrounding all aspects of fertility. This should include factors that may affect their fertility in the future. Hence, the purpose of the project is to provide appropriate fertility information and statistics to help improve their chances of conceiving in the future.

Typically, evaluation forms are distributed and the results collated at all events. Results to date confirm that very few female students are aware that their fertility declines rapidly by the time they are 35 - 37 years-old due to their egg reserves dwindling considerably in terms of numbers and quality. Additionally, a high number of students are unaware of the effects of smoking on sperm motility or how it can deplete ovarian reserve. Many are also unaware of the damage that can be caused by sexually transmitted diseases including chlamydia and gonorrhoea and surprised to hear that a body mass index (BMI) of between 34 and 40 can result in a 23% to 43% less chance of achieving pregnancy compared to women with a BMI below 30.

We deliver the information in a way tailored to each group's needs and make it fun where appropriate - which we hope will help to get the key messages across and leave a lasting impression. Our reach is expanding each year and we now provide information to other healthcare professionals, including sexual health student nurses, and student midwives. Testimonials include:

"The opportunity for my students to hear from two such passionate knowledgeable advocates for infertility care and support is not only inspiring but prepares these future midwives for the realities and complexities of clinical practice. They left the session with new and detailed knowledge regarding the physiological and legislative aspects of infertility delivered vicariously and sensitively by Norma as well as the emotional and psychological dimensions which were wonderfully articulated by Jackie. It was both an invaluable and engaging learning opportunity for our students and I look forward to welcoming both Norma and Jackie back in the future."

During our annual visits to university and college fresher's and health event weeks we carry out surveys. Results from the 2015/16 survey of 625 students (69% female, 31% male) are included below. The age range of the students was: 47% aged 16-21, 38% aged 22-30 and 15% age 30 or over.

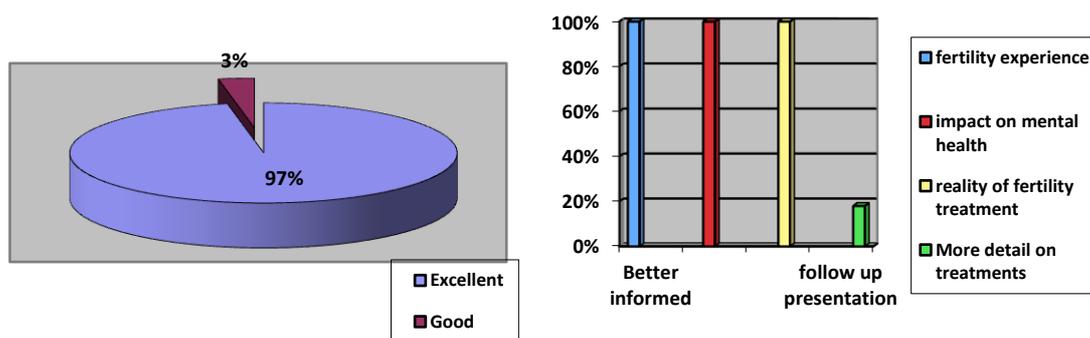
- 23% of the female students indicated they were aware of lifestyle issues that could affect fertility prior to discussions with I N Scotland staff:
 - ❖ Smoking 5%
 - ❖ Alcohol 5.5%
 - ❖ Illegal substances 4%
 - ❖ STI's 3%
 - ❖ Age 1%
 - ❖ Eating disorders 2%
 - ❖ Weight 2.5%

- 19% of male students said they were aware of lifestyle issues that could affect fertility prior to discussions with I N Scotland staff:
 - ❖ Smoking 3.5%
 - ❖ Alcohol 7%
 - ❖ Illegal substances 7%
 - ❖ STI's 0.5%
 - ❖ Age 0.5%
 - ❖ Steroid use 0.5%

- 99.5% of respondents indicated that they would give more consideration to present and ongoing lifestyle choices that could affect their future fertility after speaking with I N Scotland staff.

The presentations to student nurses and midwives were also evaluated (167 feedback forms) and these results showed:

- ❖ 97% rated the information provided as excellent
- ❖ 3% rated the information provided as good
- ❖ 100% felt better informed about the patient experience
- ❖ 100% felt better informed about the impact of fertility problems on mental health
- ❖ 100% felt better informed about fertility treatments
- ❖ 18% would like a follow-up presentation on specific IVF treatments



Comments from the student health professionals included:

- ❖ *'statistics and facts raised my awareness'*
- ❖ *'personal stories put infertility into perspective'*
- ❖ *'the presentation made the fertility journey real'*
- ❖ *'great speakers, extremely useful information'*
- ❖ *'such an inspiring and emotional story'*

Finally, we offer presentations and interactive workshops to other voluntary organisations and to employers.

10.6 Campaigning Initiatives

We continued to co-chair *Fertility Fairness*, an umbrella body aimed at supporting the provision of an equitable system of publicly funded fertility treatment through the UK and to provide the press office for their campaign.

England & Wales

Forty-one (41) personalised approaches were made to MPs and Peers in the UK and we secured action (be it a meeting, letter to a CCG, PQ in parliament or attendance at our Parliamentary Reception) from 18 MPs and peers.

Together with Fertility Fairness we helped to conduct an in-depth survey on the level of funding for fertility treatment across England, and built on the previous year's work by investigating issues of cost and oversight. The results of this information were made freely available to the general public, and were used heavily to drive engagement with local CCGs and MPs.

In building on our existing collaboration with Fertility Fairness we also held meetings with representatives of the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA), NHS England and the Department of Health. We met the Minister for Public Health, who is responsible for reproductive health policy. She indicated her support for our aims and ambitions and has taken steps to try to tackle service deficiencies.

We are actively engaged in a comprehensive campaign to try to protect and enhance funding for services, which is directed at all of the major national institutions with an interest in fertility, as well as many local and third sector bodies.

Lastly, through our work with Fertility Fairness, we have continued to feed into local consultations run by CCGs on the provision of fertility services. This work is particularly important as a number of areas have disinvested in services or are threatening to do so. We are working hard to try to stem the flow of these and to reverse decisions where they have been made.

And in Wales specifically, we have pursued our outreach to Welsh politicians, with a number of meetings at the Assembly. The purpose of these meetings is to protect funding for the existing two cycles of IVF as well as to push for funding to be increased up to the NICE recommended standard of three cycles of IVF.

Scotland

The National Infertility Group in Scotland, first established in 2010 by the Scottish government to address the inequities in NHS funding for fertility treatment and which was re-convened in 2014, continued to meet during the year. Our Chief Executive, our Head of Business Development and our Scottish Branch Co-ordinator continue as patient representatives on the Group and have successfully advocated for: (1) the implementation of three full cycles of treatment within the NHS in Scotland, and (2) the reconsideration of the criteria, which excludes couples from accessing treatment

when “a child is living in the home”. Their efforts have been met with success in the gaining of a brand new policy to deliver upon both these outcomes (1) and (2).

Our Scottish Branch Co-ordinator continued to maintain the important work of our Health Board Project, liaising with Health Boards, attending Health Board meetings and facilitating the sharing of good practice to bring about full implementation of government recommendations for the treatment of those with fertility problems. The Scottish Branch Co-ordinator also continued to represent patient views on several working groups including waiting times, gametes group, access criteria, and data group. Additionally, she co-ordinated a number of letters that were sent to Members of the Scottish Government (MSPs) and attended several meetings with MSPs.

Northern Ireland

Our Regional Organiser for Northern Ireland leads on the campaign in the region. Northern Ireland currently only commissions one cycle of IVF treatment for eligible patients, this only allows for the transfer of one frozen embryo, contravening NICE’s definition of a ‘full’ cycle.

Over the last year our Regional Organiser has organised several meetings with the All Party Group on Infertility to try to secure an increase in funding in the region. We expect shortly to meet with the Department in Northern Ireland to discuss next steps following the election there earlier this year.

And lastly, we organised a patient information day that was very well received and was attended by Alistair Campbell, the Deputy Director of Secondary Care at the Department of Health and Social Services.

10.7 Our Funders

- ❖ Enkalon Foundation - towards the cost of an information day in N Ireland.
- ❖ Health & Social Care Board - awarded to provide a part-time regional organiser, a confidential telephone helpline service, practical information services and the coordination and delivery of support to local patient groups, as well as to fund a part time ACeBabes Co-ordinator in N Ireland.
- ❖ Scottish Government Health Board Project - to work with Health Boards to bring about full implementation of recommendations for the provision of fertility services in Scotland and to produce patient information packs.
- ❖ Scottish Government Section 16B Grant - received to assist with the cost of a Scottish Branch Co-ordinator including salary plus all expenses of the role such as production of information and travel for staff and volunteers.

- ❖ Scottish Government - received to allow us to continue to provide a comprehensive support service to infertility patients throughout Scotland and to provide patient representation by participating in the various meetings following on from the National Groups.
- ❖ The Big Lottery - towards the provision of a new website.
- ❖ Merck Serono - to extend the regional network in N Ireland.
- ❖ Merck Serono - to employ a Regional Organiser for London and the South East to help patients and liaise with health professionals and commissioners in the region.
- ❖ Scottish Government Fertility Education Project - to raise awareness of issues surrounding fertility and infertility through working with universities, health professionals and employers across Scotland to introduce ways of ensuring people are better informed about how their fertility can be conserved.
- ❖ The Big Lottery - received to expand our current regional network to provide support and information at local level for infertility sufferers in Wales.
- ❖ Belfast Cathedral Sit-Out - funding towards information day and support group meetings in N. Ireland.
- ❖ Northern Ireland Electricity Staff Foundation - towards speakers for support groups.

11. BOARD OF TRUSTEES AS AT 31.3.16

Sylvia Shearer - Chair



Carol Hulley



Louise Evans



Jill Martin



Jessica Hepburn



Nicky Murray



Melissa Hillier



Antonia Rodriguez



12. CONTACT INFORMATION

The Fertility Network UK

Charter House

43 St. Leonards Road, Bexhill-on-Sea,

East Sussex

TN40 1JA

See more at:

www.fertilitynetworkuk.org

Chief Executive



Susan Seenan

Email: susan@fertilitynetworkuk.org

Twitter: @SusanSeenan

Charity Registration No. 1099960

Company Registration No. 4822073 (England and Wales)

**THE INFERTILITY NETWORK (UK)
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

T/A 'FERTILITY NETWORK UK'

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

THE INFERTILITY NETWORK (UK)
T/A 'FERTILITY NETWORK UK'
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
<u>Incoming resources from generated funds</u>						
Voluntary income	2	16,872	17,889	40	34,801	103,492
Investment income	3	4,416	-	-	4,416	3,009
		<u>21,288</u>	<u>17,889</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>39,217</u>	106,501
Incoming resources from charitable activities	4	53,638	-	177,720	231,358	210,938
Other incoming resources	5	99,105	-	3,215	102,320	98,644
		<u>174,031</u>	<u>17,889</u>	<u>180,975</u>	<u>372,895</u>	416,083
<u>Resources expended</u>						
Charitable activities						
Direct Charitable expenditure		162,066	3,450	162,999	328,515	284,850
Governance costs		13,834	-	1,050	14,884	17,417
		<u>175,900</u>	<u>3,450</u>	<u>164,049</u>	<u>343,399</u>	302,267
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers		(1,869)	14,439	16,926	29,496	113,816
Gross transfers between funds		<u>(2,492)</u>	<u>881</u>	<u>1,611</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net (expenditure)/income for the year/ Net movement in funds		(4,361)	15,320	18,537	29,496	113,816
Fund balances at 1 April 2015		<u>200,238</u>	<u>94,398</u>	<u>44,758</u>	<u>339,394</u>	225,582
Fund balances at 31 March 2016		<u>195,877</u>	<u>109,718</u>	<u>63,295</u>	<u>368,890</u>	339,398

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

THE INFERTILITY NETWORK (UK)
T/A 'FERTILITY NETWORK UK'
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2016

	Notes	2016 £	£	2015 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9		496		312
Current assets					
Debtors	10	17,622		35,721	
Cash at bank and in hand		648,436		442,022	
		<u>666,058</u>		<u>477,743</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(176,551)</u>		<u>(120,324)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>489,507</u>		<u>357,419</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>490,003</u>		<u>357,731</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	12		<u>(121,113)</u>		<u>(18,333)</u>
Net assets			<u><u>368,890</u></u>		<u><u>339,398</u></u>
Income funds					
Restricted funds	13		63,295		44,762
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds			109,718		94,398
Other charitable funds			195,877		200,238
			<u><u>368,890</u></u>		<u><u>339,398</u></u>

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2016. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of these accounts.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

THE INFERTILITY NETWORK (UK)
T/A 'FERTILITY NETWORK UK'
BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 MARCH 2016

The accounts were approved by the Board on

.....

Ms L Evans
Trustee

Company Registration No. 4822073

THE INFERTILITY NETWORK (UK)
T/A 'FERTILITY NETWORK UK'
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", issued in March 2005 and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 Incoming resources

Gifts in kind such as donated time are not accounted for. Any intangible income is treated as both a donation and an expense if the charity would otherwise have to purchase the donated facilities.

Grants received from government bodies and local authorities are apportioned over the period to which they relate.

Any deferred income will represent amounts received for future periods and is released to the profit and loss account in the period to which it relates.

Membership subscriptions and general donations are recognised on receipt.

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

1.3 Resources expended

Fundraising and publicity costs include general advertising and promotion of the charity and its objectives.

Governance costs include costs associated with the strategic as opposed to the day to day management of the charity's activities.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

A liability will arise when the charity is under an obligation to make a transfer of value to a third party. Where costs cannot be attributed to a particular heading they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

1.4 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Fixtures and fittings	20% per annum on a straight line basis
Computer equipment	20% per annum on a straight line basis

Fixed assets purchased from restricted funds are fully depreciated in the year of purchase.

1.5 Accumulated funds

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the accounts.

**THE INFERTILITY NETWORK (UK)
T/A 'FERTILITY NETWORK UK'
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016**

2 Voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
Donations and gifts	16,872	-	40	16,912	27,936
Legacies receivable	-	17,889	-	17,889	75,556
	<u>16,872</u>	<u>17,889</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>34,801</u>	<u>103,492</u>

3 Investment income

	2016 £	2015 £
Interest receivable	<u>4,416</u>	<u>3,009</u>

4 Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
Fundraising income	27,745	-	27,745	36,738
Subscriptions	17,598	-	17,598	19,175
Grants receivable for charitable activities	-	177,720	177,720	143,754
Advertising income	8,295	-	8,295	11,271
	<u>53,638</u>	<u>177,720</u>	<u>231,358</u>	<u>210,938</u>

5 Other incoming resources

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
Other income	20,688	-	20,688	22,598
Sponsorship	78,417	3,215	81,632	76,046
	<u>99,105</u>	<u>3,215</u>	<u>102,320</u>	<u>98,644</u>

THE INFERTILITY NETWORK (UK)
T/A 'FERTILITY NETWORK UK'
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

6 Total resources expended

	Staff costs £	Other costs £	Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
Charitable activities				
<u>Direct Charitable expenditure</u>				
Activities undertaken directly	235,113	93,402	328,515	284,850
Governance costs	7,848	7,036	14,884	17,417
	<u>242,961</u>	<u>100,438</u>	<u>343,399</u>	<u>302,267</u>

7 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2016 Number	2015 Number
Average number of employees	16	16

Employment costs

	2016 £	2015 £
Wages and salaries	229,402	200,042
Social security costs	12,734	8,731

There were no employees whose annual emoluments were £40,000 or more.

THE INFERTILITY NETWORK (UK)
T/A 'FERTILITY NETWORK UK'
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

8 Financial Performance

During the year the charity generated a surplus (net income over expenditure) of £29,496 (2015:£113,816).

During the year, the charity entered into a number of multiyear financial commitments, including a rebranding exercise to relaunch as "Fertility Network UK" and a complete update of the digital platform. These projects are key to our ongoing delivery of services and support to our users and beneficiaries. The projects were scheduled for completion over the years 2016 and 2017 and some project developments mean that certain expenditure that we expected in 2016 has slipped into the year ended 31 March 2017. Therefore, approximately £12,000 of the current year surplus, will be offset by expenditure in excess of income during the current financial year. This is fully reflected in our budget for 2016/17.

As previously disclosed, the charity received a legacy during the year to 31 March 2015 of £75,556 with a further £17,889 received during the current financial year and included in the above surplus reported for the year. The trustees and staff have decided that this legacy should not be absorbed to support ongoing operational expenditure, but instead used to fund specific project work or long term commitments to enhance our ability to deliver the goals of the charity. To date, we have commissioned a study by Middlesex University to consider the impact of infertility, which we will use to enhance the delivery of our charity goals. The balance of this legacy is shown in Designated Funds, with a balance at 31 March 2016 of £109,718 (2015: £94,398).

We maintain a healthy Balance Sheet with accumulated funds of £368,890 (2015: £339,394), of which £109,718 represents the ringfenced legacy, £63,295 is Restricted Reserves and £12,000 is committed 2016/17 expenditure. Our free reserves at 31 March 2016 were £183,877 which represents approximately 7 months of total operational expenditure during the year ended 31 March 2016. The trustees have established a reserves policy that the charity will maintain at least nine months of operational expenditure in free reserves, based on the forthcoming year's budget. The current reserves position meets this policy requirement. This policy is subject to annual review and represents the charities ongoing efforts to ensure that it remains on a sound financial footing with a robust background of reserves to protect itself from financial shocks.

**THE INFERTILITY NETWORK (UK)
T/A 'FERTILITY NETWORK UK'
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016**

9 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £
Cost	
At 1 April 2015	12,499
Additions	450
	<hr/>
At 31 March 2016	12,949
	<hr/>
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2015	12,187
Charge for the year	266
	<hr/>
At 31 March 2016	12,453
	<hr/>
Net book value	
At 31 March 2016	496
	<hr/> <hr/>
At 31 March 2015	312
	<hr/> <hr/>

10 Debtors	2016 £	2015 £
Other debtors	1,115	1,632
Trade debtors	15,580	33,420
Prepayments and accrued income	927	669
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	17,622	35,721
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2016 £	2015 £
Trade creditors	2,007	6,495
Taxes and social security costs	3,678	3,645
Accruals	5,713	4,725
Deferred income	165,153	105,459
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	176,551	120,324
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

THE INFERTILITY NETWORK (UK)
T/A 'FERTILITY NETWORK UK'
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

12 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	2016	2015
	£	£
Deferred income	121,113	18,333
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

13 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds			Balance at 31 March 2016 £
	Balance at 1 April 2015 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	
Merck Serono Regional Organiser London	682	12,103	(12,144)	641
Scottish Government Health Board Project & Options Packs	12,478	20,460	(19,793)	13,145
Awards For All	-	10,804	(10,804)	-
Scottish Government Fertility Education Project	16,586	54,745	(44,237)	27,094
Awards For All Wales - Info Day	744	-	(744)	-
Belfast Cathedral Sitout	445	1,000	(1,328)	117
Health & Social Care Board	1,651	19,264	(18,917)	1,998
Merck Serono N. Ireland	8,813	11,588	(10,897)	9,504
Scottish Government Section 16B grant	494	12,172	(11,137)	1,529
Scottish Government Extra	1,070	27,954	(19,757)	9,267
NI Information Day	-	4,015	(4,015)	-
Volunteer Coordinator Scotland	1,795	-	(1,795)	-
Big Lottery Wales	-	9,363	(9,363)	-
	<u>44,758</u>	<u>183,468</u>	<u>164,931</u>	<u>63,295</u>

Incoming Resources above includes a transfer of £804 from Unrestricted Funds to the Awards for All grant and £1,688 to the Big Lottery Wales grant from Unrestricted Funds.

Outgoing Resources above includes a transfer of £881 to Designated Funds from the NI Information Day grant

**THE INFERTILITY NETWORK (UK)
T/A 'FERTILITY NETWORK UK'
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016**

13 Restricted funds

(Continued)

Merck Serono - To employ a Regional Organiser for London and the South East to help patients and liaise with health professionals and commissioners in the region.

Scottish Government Health Board Project - To work with Health Boards to bring about full implementation of recommendations for the provision of fertility services in Scotland and to produce patient Information Packs.

Scottish Government Fertility Education Project - To raise awareness of issues surrounding fertility and infertility through working with universities, health professionals and employers across Scotland to introduce ways of ensuring people are better informed about how their fertility can be conserved.

Belfast Cathedral Sitout - Funding towards information day and support group meetings in N.Ireland.

Health & Social Care Board - Awarded to provide a part time regional organiser, a confidential telephone helpline service, practical information services and the coordination and delivery of support to local patient groups, as well as to fund a part time ACeBabes Coordinator in N Ireland.

Merck Serono - To extend the regional network in Northern Ireland.

Scottish Government Section 16B grant - Received to assist with the cost of a Scottish Branch Co-ordinator including salary plus all expenses of the job such as computer equipment, production of information and travel for staff and volunteers.

Scottish Government - Received to allow us to continue to provide a comprehensive support service to infertility patients throughout Scotland and to provide patient representation by participating in the various meetings following on from the National Groups.

Robertson Trust Scotland - Received to match funding already sourced from the Scottish Government to employ a volunteer coordinator in Scotland during 2014/15.

Awards for All Wales - Received to fund an Infertility Information Day in Wales.

Lloyds Bank Foundation for N Ireland - Received to fund a Fertility Information Day in N Ireland.

Northern Ireland Electricity Staff Foundation - Towards speakers for support groups.

The Big Lottery - Towards the provision of a new website.

The Big Lottery - Received to expand our current regional network to provide support and information at local level for infertility sufferers in Wales

All of the above grants were received after successful application for funding by The Infertility Network (UK).

All of the grants are restricted to expenditure as agreed with grant body during the application process.

THE INFERTILITY NETWORK (UK)
T/A 'FERTILITY NETWORK UK'
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

14 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2016 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	496	-	-	496
Current assets	493,045	109,718	63,295	666,058
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(176,551)	-	-	(176,551)
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	(121,113)	-	-	(121,113)
	<u>195,877</u>	<u>109,718</u>	<u>63,295</u>	<u>368,890</u>

**THE INFERTILITY NETWORK (UK)
T/A 'FERTILITY NETWORK UK'
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE INFERTILITY NETWORK (UK)**

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2016, which are set out on pages 1 to 11.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

The Trustees (who are also the directors of The Infertility Network (UK) for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investments (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993, the 1993 Act or under Regulation 10 (1)(a) to (c) of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (the 2006 Accounts Regulations), and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under Section 44(1)(c) of the Act and state whether particular matters have come to my attention. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination being a Chartered Accountant.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- (i) examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (the 2005 Act);
- (ii) to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- (iii) to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission and is in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - (i) to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 386 of the Companies Act 2006, Section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations; and
 - (ii) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of 396 of the Companies Act 2006, Section 44(1)(b) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities;have not been met; or
- (b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Ainsley Gill BA FCA
McPhersons CFG Limited
Chartered Accountants
23 St Leonards Road
Bexhill on Sea
East Sussex
TN40 1HH

Dated: 24 October 2016