

# ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

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2021-2022

“It’s helpful to know there are others out there who understand how challenging this fertility journey is.

Thank you to Fertility Network for facilitating those connections and providing the validation and support for the struggles involved.”

— Beneficiary

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# Welcome



**Jo Binding**  
Chair

## Welcome from our Chair

I joined as Chair in January 2022 and first sought to grow the Board with several Trustee appointments who would join the Board from the end of March. We then embarked on some Board training as part of their induction.

This year Fertility Network UK delivered its impactful work in the face of continuing challenges coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic. A survey we conducted showed that 58% of respondents had experienced delays being able to access treatment as a result of the pandemic, and a quarter had not been able to access emotional support or counselling.

We responded to the challenges of the pandemic by extending the reach of our one-to-one support and launching new

groups to support patients with their emotional needs, mental health, and wellbeing. We grew our reach by 39% this year, giving support and advice to 23,652 beneficiaries.

We now have 80 support groups running; an increase of 62% on last year with 5,600 members. In addition to our Trying to Conceive groups (TTC), we grew a number of other groups including weight loss, single women's, HIMfertility male only, Asian, black women, moving on from treatment, loss following treatment, More to Life and secondary infertility.

Our National Fertility Awareness Week 2021 was extremely well-received and key stakeholders in the field, including the HFEA, BFS, BICA and the RCOG, contributed during the week resulting in significant media coverage of the issues we were highlighting.

We are delighted to see our HIMfertility male only community grow with our male Ambassadors hosting a monthly group offering our 1,606 members a much-needed safe space to speak and receive support.

Our LGBTQ+ community has grown to 508 members. We hosted 15 workshops which were very well received on topics

including pathways and options, fertility treatment processes and what to expect at the clinic, donor conception support and legal implications for modern families, real stories and peer support.

Thanks to our supporters and our community for all we achieved this year.

**The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2022.**

**Included within the Trustees' report is the directors' report as required by company law. Reference and administrative information set out on page 33 forms part of this report.**

**The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102 ('Charities SORP').**

# About Fertility Network UK

## 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 information, education as well as practical and emotional support.

## Our objective

- 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, subfertility, 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.

## What we do

### Provision of information, advice, and support to people suffering from infertility

Unbiased and free information on our website ([www.fertilitynetworkuk.org](http://www.fertilitynetworkuk.org))

Telephone advice and support line via a general 'Information Line' and a nursing 'Support Line.'

Network of support groups across the nations, run either by team members or volunteers. Meetings are held at a frequency determined by the members, typically every month.

Run online groups and webinars and all support activities are publicised on the website and via social media. This year we increased services to meet the demand for support. We also post a range of content and support materials on our website.

Workshops are undertaken in conjunction with organisations to support their employees.

In Scotland and Wales, the Charity undertakes education and awareness sessions at Freshers events and throughout the academic year in universities and colleges.

### Support the provision of an equitable system of publicly funded fertility treatment

Represent patients throughout the UK lobbying for fair and equitable access to NHS funding through virtual meetings with policy makers. We met with MPs, MSP's and MLA's and gave support for the production of Parliamentary Questions and other briefings. In Northern Ireland Stormont was re-established with several MLA's demonstrating their support in Parliament.

Meet with the parties in Scotland and work with the Government to maintain the Gold standard and equitable service currently in place.

### Advancing public education

We believe that fertility education is essential, not only for those experiencing fertility challenges but also for young people so that they know how to care for their future if they might wish to have children one day.

We are engaged in several activities to raise awareness and educate the public, including working across TV, print, radio, web and social media.

### To encourage and assist research in its broadest sense into infertility and its various effects

We are widely perceived as the leading national fertility patient organisation, providing patient representation on several professional committees.

We regularly represent the patient voice on many academic and scientific research projects. We founded and continue to chair the Association of Fertility Patient Organisations, AFPO.



# Achievements of the Year

We gave support and advice to

**23,652** people this year  
which is a 39% increase on last year.

We ran four

**six-week**  
mindfulness sessions.

We now have **80** support groups  
running, an increase of 62% on our  
previous year – a total of 5,600 members.

We grew our reach and engagement on  
social and digital channels, **growing by**  
**a third on Facebook** and making big  
gains on Twitter and Instagram.

Our free Supportline is run by two  
former fertility nurses, available five  
days a week. We supported **5,431**  
beneficiaries over the year.

A survey of nearly **400** patients  
explored the devastating impact of the  
COVID pandemic on those waiting for  
fertility treatment.

We hosted

**17 webinars**  
over the year reaching 5,170 people.

Working across the nations  
and regions of the UK to

**deliver locally.**

**The 9th annual National Fertility  
Awareness Week (NFAW) 2021.**

We had widespread attention and  
support across digital and traditional  
broadcast media for the five days of  
the week; including being high up the  
agenda on ITV lunchtime news (despite  
COP26) and on Sky News. We were also

featured on ITV Wales, Channel 5 news,  
BBC Look Northwest and in the HuffPost,  
Pink News and Daily Mail together with  
a South Asian and Indian online news  
channel. We were featured on Woman's  
Hour, ITN News, BBC News, Talk Radio, BBC  
Worldwide and multiple BBC local and  
other network radio shows.

## Highlights



**Providing valuable  
help to more people**

We **expanded our groups offering** to  
include topics like weight loss, moving on  
from treatment, loss following treatment,  
More to Life and secondary infertility  
groups as well as groups for single women,  
HIMfertility male only, as well as groups  
for asian beneficiaries and for black  
women. Our forums are moderated by the  
supportline team.

**Our groups are growing** in engagement  
with 931 members in More to Life and 449  
members in our Pregnancy support forum  
which commenced in December 2021. We  
have 51,484 TTC group members which is  
a 56% increase from 20/21.

Our free **Supportline** is run by two  
former fertility nurses, available five days  
a week. It has been described on many  
occasions as a 'lifeline' by those dealing  
with fertility issues. Diane and Janet  
cannot diagnose but will try to answer and  
support people through their queries and  
worries. We supported 5,431 beneficiaries  
over the year.

We **hosted 17 webinars** over the year  
reaching 5,170 people with the recordings  
available on our YouTube page. The  
content was highly valued by patients  
and the top three most engaged with  
webinars were The Two Week Wait (1,259),  
HIMfertility Fireside chat (488) and  
Preparing for Fertility Treatment (527).

Over the course of the year, we  
continued to host **health and wellbeing  
workshops** to help empower our  
community to better manage their  
health and journey, by providing Yoga,  
Mindfulness and Nutrition programmes.

We ran four 6-week **mindfulness  
sessions** which were delivered on zoom  
by Veronica Ellis. The programme included  
a course e-manual along with recordings  
of the mindfulness practices to use each  
week at home between sessions. Many of  
the 80 participants have remarked on the  
feeling of connection and intimacy that  
they have experienced from attending the  
online meditations and classes.

**Diet** is an important tool for both men and  
women when trying to conceive. Whether  
someone is trying to improve their  
reproductive health or reaching a target  
weight for treatment, nutritional therapist  
Sarah Trimble discussed ways to stay healthy  
and improve reproductive health, including  
advice for nutritious comfort food, exercise

and sleep during this 4/6/7-week course. This compliments our Fertility Weight loss group with 308 participants, as many of our beneficiaries struggle with BMI.



**Growing our digital services**

We **grew our reach** and engagement on social and digital channels, growing by a third on Facebook and making big gains on Twitter and Instagram.

On our **website** we had on average 24,000 unique visitors each month.



**Leveraging the profile of Fertility Week to highlight key issues and drive engagement**

The 9th annual **National Fertility Awareness Week** (NFAW) 2021 continued as a platform for the charity to raise awareness and provide support to all those struggling with fertility problems. It was extremely well-received and key stakeholders in the field, including the HFEA, BFS, BICA and the RCOG worked with us during the week.

We had widespread attention and support across **digital and traditional broadcast media** for the five days of the week; including being high up the agenda on ITV lunchtime news (despite COP26) and on Sky News. We were also featured on ITV Wales, Channel 5 news, BBC Look Northwest and in the HuffPost, Pink News and Daily Mail together with a South Asian and Indian online news channel.

We were **featured** on Woman's Hour, ITN News, BBC News, Talk Radio, BBC Worldwide and multiple BBC local and other network radio shows.

On **social media**, we saw increases in our reach on Twitter, Facebook (up 178%) and on Instagram (up 62.4%) including one tweet that had 140K impressions. We created content that would drive engagement with each day having a themed topic and hashtag for people to join in and engage with.

We created a range of **content** including original surveys and videos and collaborated with other stakeholders and influencers to amplify and extend the conversation, including several volunteers who bravely shared their stories. This valuable work saw our engagement on social media platforms increase dramatically: up 299% on Facebook and 64% on Instagram.

# Fertility Week

We focused on different topics each day. Our timetable is below.

**Monday 1 November 2021**  
**#FertilityFairness**

A call for fair access to NHS-funded fertility treatment for all eligible patients regardless of postcode, race or sexuality. We conducted a survey on access to NHS IVF, provided information on fertility treatment and success rates for Black, Asian and other ethnic minority fertility patients and heard the experiences of the LGBTQ+ community.

We hosted a #FertilityFairness webinar with Dr Raj Mathur, Chair of the British Fertility Society.

**Tuesday 2 November 2021**  
**#DonorDay**

On #DonorDay we highlighted the work of the national donor recruitment campaign in Scotland, raised awareness of the need for ethnic minority gamete and embryo donors, and encouraged the public to consider gamete donation

and fertility patients who have completed their IVF family to consider embryo donation.

We hosted a #DonorDay webinar, with Nina Barnsley of the Donor Conception Network.

**Wednesday 3 November 2021**  
**#HIMFertility**

#HIMFertility is all about male fertility. Men are half of the fertility equation, and their experiences, thoughts and feelings matter equally.

Rhod Gilbert hosted a webinar in conjunction with our Ambassadors Toby Trice and Ian Stone.

**Thursday 4 November 2021**  
**#FertilityEd**

Fertility education was the focus on Thursday. We highlighted our education initiatives: Your Future Fertility which aims to

inform young people about the factors that can affect fertility, and Fertility in the Workplace which encourages employers to provide a supportive work environment and helps employees to know their rights.

We hosted a #FertilityEd webinar, with Professor Joyce Harper, co-founder of the British Fertility Society's Fertility Education Initiative.

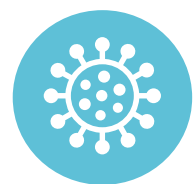
**Friday 5 November 2021**  
**#TalkFertility**

This celebrated patient voices and highlighted coping strategies for fertility patients and for people who are childless not by choice. We shared the results of our research which showed that all of England's clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) were rationing access to NHS-funded fertility treatment by introducing arbitrary, non-clinical criteria or redefining what constitutes an IVF cycle.



### The Fertility Show

We are the **charity partner** of The Fertility Show, normally held at Olympia in London at the end of Fertility Week. The show provides visitors with unparalleled access to the world's leading fertility experts, charities and many services providers under one roof. This year it was a digital summit in September 2021. We hosted four sessions per day over a 4-day period hosting 16 live talks with over 2000 views.



### Responding to the continuing pressures of the COVID-19 pandemic

As **Tertiary Services for Fertility Treatment** began to resume normally, other NHS services pre-IVF treatment continued to be impacted by COVID-19. We conducted a survey to gauge the impact on our beneficiaries. A survey of nearly 400 patients explored the devastating impact of the COVID pandemic on those waiting for fertility treatment. A majority (58%) had experienced delays being able to access treatment as a result of the pandemic, and a quarter had not been able to access emotional support or counselling.

Patients reported **widespread delays** in diagnostic testing, including blood tests and semen analysis and a range of surgical procedures from laparoscopy to surgical sperm retrieval. Delays ranged from months to more than two years. Many patients had to repeat tests which were out of date by the time they were able to access treatment, and reported appointments being repeatedly cancelled.

In December 2021 Scotland had taken the decision to pause treatment for anyone **unvaccinated** due to the growing number of pregnant women in ICU. This decision was reversed in late February 2022 as data suggested a significant reduction in both COVID-19 cases and ICU admissions.

We continued to respond to the challenge to **support the community** by extending our one-to-one support, together with groups and content on social and digital channels to support patients with their emotional needs, mental health, and wellbeing.

We continued to be represented in numerous **meetings** with BFS/ARCS guidance group, clinics, and Government led groups to resolve challenges that both patients and clinics faced. We envisage this trend will continue into 2022/2023 as some NHS services remain under

pressure whilst trying to recover from the backlog of patients created as a result of the Pandemic. Those who are currently waiting on referrals/further investigations continue to report lengthy waiting times in some areas of the UK.

The **digital transformation** of the NHS during and looking at post Covid-19 has meant that the majority of GP/clinical consultations have been delivered remotely. There continues to be a great need to ensure people can access at the earliest opportunity the appropriate educational and support information for their condition. We continue to offer support content on the Healthinote app which is used by over 3,000 GP practices across the UK, serving 29 million patients. This helps to provide support to patients at the earliest stage of their journey via digital prescription.



### Educating young people

Our project '**Your Future Fertility**' educates young people on lifestyle choices which could impact their future fertility. The project has continued to grow successfully in Scotland supported by the Scottish Government and in Wales supported by The National Lottery Community Fund Wales.

Although some physical **Fresher events** during 2021/22 remained cancelled, we worked with 35 educational establishments and reached 1,753 students. We successfully provided the content to students in digital formats and created lots of information to be used on social and digital channels, participating in Facebook and Instagram live sessions. We recruited 18 student ambassadors who assisted in producing an educational video that was shared across social media.



### Fertility in the Workplace

We seek to raise awareness and educate **employers** on fertility issues; the challenges faced by their employees and how they can support them, their partners, and colleagues. Through our workshops, we highlight the benefits to employers and employees of having a fertility policy in place and offer support to the employees. We offer consultation on establishing or improving a fertility policy in the workplace.

This year we worked with 55 organisations reaching **1,200 employees**. They included Tesco Bank, Unilever CGI, Pepsi-co, Auto trader, local authorities and Police forces around the country. We also recruited 17 Workplace Ambassadors.





**Shining a light on  
the provision of care  
across the UK**

We carried out an audit of the **provision of care** offered by CCG's which revealed a stark and damning picture of fertility care in England, the results were released on the first day of National Fertility Awareness Week 2021.

- **90%** of CCGs don't offer the recommended three full IVF cycles to clinically eligible women under 40;
- **72%** of CCGs don't offer the recommended one full IVF cycle to clinically eligible women aged between 40-42;
- **one in five** CCGs have redefined what an IVF cycle constitutes and offer partial or reduced cycles instead of full IVF cycles where all fresh and frozen viable embryos are transferred;
- **over 90%** of CCGs deny help if an infertile individual's partner has a child from a previous relationship;
- **approaching one in four** CCGs (23.3%) have introduced additional age hurdles for women, with six CCGs refusing to offer help to women over 35;
- **over two-thirds** of CCGs (69%) refuse to treat single women; and
- **over a quarter** of CCGs (26.6%) deny access to same-sex couples. Of the

CCGs who do offer fertility treatment to same-sex couples, the majority withhold treatment until couples have proved their infertility by paying privately for six or 12 rounds of intrauterine insemination (IUI).

We worked with a number of CCGs on their **fertility policy reviews**. We were closely involved with the review in North Central London, where they have now opted to improve access to fertility services to offer up to six transfers where the majority of their CCGs were previously offering just one fresh and one frozen transfer.



**Working with clinics  
on the quality of  
support offered**

This year we worked with clinics across the country to seek to influence the appropriate **emotional care and support** offered and to make patients aware of the free support services of Fertility Network UK.

This year we introduced a new **Clinic Ambassador** role, open to doctors, nurses, embryologists, andrologists, counsellors or any other interested member of clinic staff who will work with us to try to improve the patient experience. The Ambassadors will help to raise awareness of Fertility Network UK with patients and fellow clinicians, acting as a liaison between the charity and

colleagues in the clinic. In this first year of the new initiative, we recruited 40 clinic ambassadors from 34 clinics.



**Advocating for  
patients by influencing  
in the sector**

In January 2022, we participated and delivered a presentation for the **Joint Conference of the UK Fertility Societies**: the Association of Clinical Embryologists, British Fertility Society, and the Society for Reproduction & Fertility. The conference provides the opportunity annually to hear from leading experts, and to provide delegates with CPD and education and the chance to discuss key issues.

We were honoured to be invited to speak at the **RCN Fertility Nurses conference**, the British Fertility Society Study Week, round table session on assisted conception organised by Public Policy Projects and at the RCOG/BFS joint course on assisted conception. We are often invited to speak at conferences and events, including Progress Educational Trust, the Royal Society of Medicine, Fertility conference, RCOG, BICA and at several other conferences, student midwife and GP events. We were proud to support the fifth annual award of the 'Iwan Lewis-Jones Memorial Prizes' for Young Scientist and Young Clinician.

We continue to work in close collaboration with **the regulator** of the UK fertility industry, the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA). We have had regular meetings, attended Authority meetings, and continued to be part of the treatment 'add on' group both with the HFEA and Consumer and Marketing Authority providing feedback as appropriate. As well as working with British Fertility Society, European Society of Human Reproduction & Embryology (ESHRE), British Infertility Counselling Association (BICA), British Andrology Society (BAS), Association of Clinical Embryologists (ACE), Association of Biomedical Andrologists (ABA), Royal College of Nursing (RCN), Royal College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists (RCOG) and Senior Infertility Nurse Group (SING).

**"We ran an initial session hosted by Anya as an 'introduction to fertility', which was incredibly well-attended, followed by a session specifically targeted at managers to help them offer the right support to anyone in their team going through infertility or miscarriage."**



# Our work across the nations and regions

# Fertility Network UK in England



We have team members based across the UK in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, and Wales whose focus is to serve the local community with support groups and events.

They had a busy and impactful year.



We supported **7,509** people and engaged with **4,657** members of our regional groups in England. We have **35** regional fertility groups covering **41** regions/counties and we've introduced two additional groups this year and expanded others to extend our reach to a further **six** counties. Group membership has grown by **1,122** over the past year.



We now have **13** UK-wide specialist groups with a total membership of **1,573** growing a **third** since last year. Some of the specialist groups have been particularly active, such as the Black Women's group which holds regular monthly meetings with speakers organised by an excellent volunteer. The Secondary Infertility group has **466** members and two volunteers running the group. A member fundraised to provide a mindfulness course for this group.



We worked with the HFEA on a range of projects. We jointly organised a **webinar to promote their report** into ethnic diversity in fertility treatment and worked with them on questions on add-ons for patients to ask at clinics



**Presented** on the patient perspective at the British Fertility Society Study week, at a BFS course for GPs and at the RCOG/BFS Management of Subfertility and Assisted Conception course.



Continue to provide **representation** on the RCOG's Genomics Task Force and on the Reproductive Medicine group within the Task Force. We are also a member of the RCOG's Reproductive Medicine (Fertility) Clinical Study Group.

**"I'm about to begin my first round. I think joining this network has really helped me to be a bit more realistic about my expectations of the treatment. And it has been so helpful in terms of getting information and recommendations from others here."**

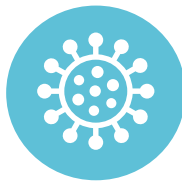
— Beneficiary

# Fertility Network UK in Scotland

## In Scotland, with the support of the Scottish government, we have...



Delivered presentations to the Community Link workers to ensure our reach to patients at GP Level, distributed **2,500** Patient Packs to the four NHS Clinics.



Attended **COVID response groups** and continued to attend regular meetings with the ACU, Complex Case, and subgroups ensuring that patients are represented.



Supported **6,483** people in 17 active support groups. The LGBTQ+ group is one of the fastest growing groups with 147 members.



**Miscarriage Round Table** – this is a partnership organisation with The Scottish Government, the Scottish Perinatal Network and the Fertility Scotland National Network, Public Health Scotland and Tommy’s.



Attended **Scottish Government** meetings, including Improvement work of the National Fertility group and subgroups to ensure Scotland leads the way in having the Gold Standard in IVF treatment in the UK.

“I heard about Fertility Network through the ‘Big Fat Negative’ podcast that a friend recommended. Ever since getting in touch for the first time Fertility Network has been a saving grace for me. I was due to start fertility tests etc. in 2020 and due to the pandemic this was obviously all put on hold, with nowhere to turn my mental health took a nosedive. It wasn’t until reaching out to Fertility Network and finding out about all the support that was available that my mindset changed, and I realised I was far from alone. A massive thank you to Fertility Network Scotland and all the volunteers from my husband and I.”

— Beneficiary

# Fertility Network UK in Wales

## In Wales, with the support from The National Lottery Community Fund Wales, we have...



Delivered **emotional impact training** to Aneurin Bevan UHB Primary Care Mental Health Services Team and Carmarthenshire County Council among others.



For our **fertility in the workplace** activities, we provided ongoing support to South & North Wales Police and ran an event with Darwin Gray’s Head of Employment & HR, Wales Fertility Institute, and the IVF Essentials. 19 organisations took part including Shiseido EMEA, Hawarden Wellness Centre, Backbase, Mudiad Meithrin and Wales National Opera.



Arranged several special **information sessions** on POI with the Daisy Network and a couples’ support session with Toby Trice and counsellor Wendy Martin.



Supported **2,235** people with 516 now in our four private groups (South & West Wales, Shropshire & Mid Wales, North Wales). Regular meetings of the All Wales group including both peer support meetings and meetings with expert speakers.



Worked closely with **Fair Treatment for the Women of Wales**, and took part in the RCN ‘From Fertility to Maternity’ work.



Provided **wellbeing support** through our Mindfulness courses and Mindful Eating courses. We provided follow-up support to this with the Fertility Weight Loss group which is run by the Wales team, and which currently has 308 members. We continue to recruit new volunteers to work alongside the staff team.



Participated in a **family planning** options for women with chronic conditions event with Bangor University and the Kidney Research Unit Wales. We worked with Diabetes UK Cymru to discuss how to offer the best support fertility patients with diabetes



We Inputted into the **Women & Girls’ Wales** health plan and attended Coalition meetings.

# Fertility Network UK in Northern Ireland

In Northern Ireland, with the support of the Health & Social Care Board, PHA Clear Fund in Belfast/Western and Belfast sit-out fund we have been able to increase our support to 2,315 people, including:



**Representing patients** on the new IVF Support Board with the NI Department of Health, NHS Regional Fertility Clinic, healthcare professionals and other stakeholders to look at the potential pledge to move to three cycles of IVF as stated in the new agreement for the reinstatement of the Stormont Executive. This has been agreed in principle with the devolved executive in Stormont and is likely to be a phased implementation as capacity allows.



Made a submission to the Department of Health 10-year **Mental Health Strategy Consultation** to highlight the impact of infertility on mental health and the need to plan for provision to provide appropriate counselling services.



Consulted with the Northern Trust about becoming a Community Partner on their **Wellness Hub** which would feature our information across the UK and will also be able to offer this information to the NI Education Authority.



Collaborated with Queen's University Belfast in the development of a **research project** to investigate the impact of fertility issues on the social and emotional wellbeing of prospective parents and those living with fertility issues with particular regard to psychological trauma.



Hosted several successful **Health and Wellbeing programmes** including Qi Gong, Mindfulness connections, CBT programmes (Living Life to the Full) for both our More to Life and Trying to conceive communities.

# Our supporters

We are extremely grateful for the support from our partners including:

**The Scottish Government**

To work with clinics and Health Boards on the provision of fertility services in Scotland; to provide a comprehensive support service to infertility patients; to raise awareness of issues surrounding fertility and infertility by working with universities, health professionals and employers across Scotland and to support our volunteers.

**The National Lottery Community Fund Wales**

Five-year project to expand our regional network of support for infertility sufferers in Wales and to deliver the Education project across the country.

**Health and Social Care Board, Northern Ireland**

To provide support services to local patient groups.

**St Anne's Cathedral**

Sit Out Fund.

**PHA Clear Project**

Western Trust to provide mindfulness support. Belfast Trust to provide mindfulness support.

Also: **Health Medica; My Family Tree; Tori Day; Broken Heart Tees; NUA; Melio** and **Sheila Lamb**.

**Our thanks go to our corporate and clinic supporters:**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Aberdeen Fertility Centre                  | I-Trust/Sussex Downs Clinic            |
| AGORA                                      | IN-OVO Clinics                         |
| Apricity Fertility UK LTD                  | IVF Matters                            |
| ARCG                                       | IVF Spain                              |
| BCRM                                       | LogiXx                                 |
| Bourn Hall                                 | MD Consents                            |
| CARE Fertility                             | Merck                                  |
| Centre for Reproductive and Genetic Health | Ninewells ACU                          |
| Chelsea and Westminster                    | NUA                                    |
| Concept Fertility                          | Orchard Clinic                         |
| CREATE                                     | Origio Ltd. / Cooper Surgical          |
| Cryos International                        | Peanut                                 |
| Edinburgh Fertility Centre                 | Pharmasure                             |
| Ferring                                    | The Hull IVF Unit                      |
| Fertifa                                    | The London Women's Clinic              |
| Gennet City London                         | The Shropshire and Mid-Wales Fertility |
| Guerbet Laboratories Ltd                   | Centre CRGW Wales                      |
| Hearts and Essex                           | Vitabiotics                            |

We are particularly grateful to all those individuals who have made donations or carried out fundraising activities for Fertility Network UK.

A special thanks to those small businesses who are donating a proportion of their proceeds to Fertility Network UK including:

**HelloTreacle** & **The Pants Project**, and **Notch**.

# Financial review

**Review of the year**

During 2021/22 financial year we continued to look for ways to diversify our income generation. Although our efforts helped us to retain funding from The Health and Social Care Board in Northern Ireland and from the Scottish Government, fertility issues continue not to be a priority for the government in Westminster. We continue to receive a further 3 year's funding in Wales through the TNL Community Fund. In March 2021 we were successful in achieving 3 years funding from TNL Community Fund England.

**Income and expenditure**

Income dropped slightly this year but this was due to the £44,995 received (and spent) re 'Tampon Tax fund' in the previous year, if you ignore for this, income has actually grown by 7%.

The majority of our expenditure (75%) goes on staff salaries, plus expenses related to the cost of delivering our activities.

**“Thank you so much, I truly enjoyed and have learnt and taken so much from it. It is changing my life. And you are wonderful Veronica, thank you so much.”**

— Beneficiary

**“For many years I have tried mindfulness, ‘self-taught’ using various apps. However, the course really taught me what mindfulness is and how to practise. The 2 key factors for me were being taught by someone so experienced; and the second was doing it in a group. I think the enquiry sessions reinforced what happens when you practise.”**

— Beneficiary



| Income by Source        |                         |          |          |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------|----------|
|                         | Restricted/Unrestricted | 2022 (£) | 2021 (£) |
| Grant income            | R                       | 232,809  | 269,731  |
| Income from fundraising | UR                      | 44,955   | 44,183   |
| Sponsorship income      | UR                      | 135,618  | 134,121  |
| Donations and gifts     | UR                      | 31,916   | 15,741   |
| Interest receivable     | UR                      | 3,737    | 705      |
| The Fertility Show      | UR                      | 1,275    | 0        |
| Advertising income      | UR                      | 1,350    | 1,860    |
| Other income            | UR                      | 0        | 1,382    |
| Total Income            |                         | 451,660  | 467,723  |

Review of designated funds

During the year the Trustees undertook a review of the amounts allocated to designated funds in the previous year’s accounts which involved liaising with the donor of these funds. As a result of this review the Trustees determined that these funds should be classified as restricted funds rather than designated funds and therefore a transfer of £12,300 was made to show these funds as restricted funds at the year end. None of the reallocated funds have been used yet, and the Trustees will ensure this is spent as specified by the donor as required.

Reserves

The charity has a reserves policy of 9 months expenditure. This is reviewed annually by the Trustees and scrutinised by the finance committee.

On reviewing the financial plan for 2022/23 it was highlighted that the amount held in reserve was in excess of the policy and the Trustees designated the excess funds as soon as they were made aware. This will be reflected in 2022/23 financial statements.

These designated funds are to be used to support the growth of the charity and the finance committee are working with the staff to recommend how these should be used to support the charity’s ambitions.

This work continues in 2022/23. Funds are expected to be spent in 22/23 and 23/24.

Structure, governance & management

Governance

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 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.

Appointment & induction of Trustees

This year a new Board was appointed with the new Chair Jo Binding joining in January and five new Trustees joining in March.

Thanks to those Trustees who departed this year, we are very grateful for your support, time and energy.

Organisational structure & decision making

The Board meets quarterly and as necessary. Please see p33 for a full list of Trustees.

The Chief Executive, Gwenda Burns is appointed by the Board of Trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of

the charity and has overall responsibility for managing the charity’s operations and employees. The Board delegates to the Finance and Risk Committee for further support and scrutiny.

Remuneration policy

It is the wish of the Trustees that the charity pay fairly. The new Board of Trustees commissioned a pay benchmarking report delivered by a third party and those recommendations were considered as part of the financial plan for 2022/23.

Volunteers

Volunteers play a vital role in the charity. Their contribution and enthusiasm is essential for us to deliver the quality of our support services.

We offer support to all our volunteers from our dedicated Volunteer Coordinator and regional staff teams.

We currently have a total of 110 active volunteers, 60 in England, 12 in Scotland, 11 in Wales and 27 in Northern Ireland.

Fundraising

We increased our capacity in Fundraising with the appointment of a Business

Development Manager. This enabled us to build varied and stable funding streams and to develop relationships with key partners. We established relationships with several new organisations as we seek to grow and diversify our income streams.

**There are 3 key sources of income that we rely on:**

**1. Grants & Trusts**

We are incredibly grateful for the grant and trust income we receive, in particular the on-going support from the Scottish Government and the Northern Ireland Health & Social Care Board. We are thrilled to have secured valuable funds from The National Lottery (TNL) Community Fund Wales for a five-year project in Wales. During the year we also successfully applied for grants from PHA CLEAR Funding Belfast and PHA Clear Funding Western in Northern Ireland. We have been successful in securing 3 years funding from TNL Community Fund (England), for a project beginning on 1st April 2022.

**2. Clinics & other Corporate organisations:**

We continue to receive income support through our clinic patient pledge and outreach scheme. The Patient Pledge remained a challenge in 2021/2022 as participating clinics who make a donation to the charity to support our on-going work had lost income from 2020/21.

**3. Individual Giving/  
Community Fundraising**

As a result of our increasing reach we have seen an increase in the number of individuals that donate to us. However, due to the pandemic the majority of fundraising events were again cancelled. Our HimFertility volunteers amazingly did complete the Everest Challenge in March 2021. Over the coming year, now restrictions have lifted events can resume.

**Principal risks and uncertainties**

The finance and risk committee meets to provide further support and scrutiny of our finances and our risk register.

The key risks identified include: loss of income from our largest donors (grants and trusts), the continuation of COVID-19 which has an impact on our ability to conduct our activities and our governance arrangements including the turnover of Trustees.

Trustees are working with the staff to put in place plans to mitigate these risks and are using designated reserves to provide support and relevant resources. Designated reserves are to be used to support governance improvement and the growth of our impact.

**Our plans for the future**

**We hope to further diversify our income next year, and secure further long term grants from several new supporters. Generating a diverse and sustainable income stream in 2022/23 and beyond is critical to the charity's future and on-going success.**

Our website and social channels will continue to offer us more opportunities to generate income by working closely with existing partners and recruiting new partners. We will work together to ensure our partnerships enhance and expand the good quality information and support we offer our service users. We will also look at expanding our successful work engaging with fundraisers.

We will build our capacity in digital and social media and will resource this to capitalise on the increased demand in this space together with technology changes.

We expect to continue to provide our services in a hybrid way, and continue to deliver many activities digitally and remotely.

**Activities**

Five initiatives we will continue to develop and grow during 2022/23:

- We aim to increase our support and seek to diversify our beneficiary base so that it is more representative of society and the auk today. We will build on our support activities for the Male fertility community.
- We will continue to build upon successful work already undertaken across the UK in the activities with workplaces.
- We will seek to deepen our role as the leading resource for information and support by both patients and health professionals
- We will extend our content offered, developing and hosting a series of webinars facilitated by Fertility Network UK with expert speakers, offered each month.

Our awareness week initiative will once again be a focus for us, providing support, raising awareness and funds, and changing perceptions. This is planned for the week 31st October – 4th November 2022. We will use hashtags to highlight some key objectives during the week as well as our campaign hashtag #Fighting4Fertility

### Get #Fit4Fertility with us during November 2022

The challenge is to complete four #5KFriday's during November – running, walking, cycling or swimming. The first #5KFriday is Friday 4 November.

### Influencing on behalf of patients

We will continue to lobby for increased funding for NHS fertility treatment in Wales, England, and Northern Ireland. We believe our work in the Nations is essential in keeping fertility on the public agenda and the channels for effective dialogue with government and parliamentary representatives open. We will continue our campaign to end the unfair 'postcode lottery' across England and increase provision in Northern Ireland and Wales.

We are proud that our work continues with the Scottish Government as part of the National Infertility Group which has resulted in Scotland having the Gold Standard in provision of treatment. We will continue to work with the Health Boards, National Infertility group and subgroups in 2022/23.

We will work in collaboration with Middlesex University to develop an emotional impact survey, results will be released during National Fertility Awareness Week.

We will continue our work with all professional organisations including HFEA, BFS, BICA and RCOG, to highlight the emotional impact, and promote the services offered by the charity.

**“Thank you for the chance to be part of this amazing community. I’m learning so much from all you amazing women.”**

— Beneficiary

# Thank you

## Thanks to donors

Thank you for your help to fund our amazing work.

## Thanks to volunteers

Thanks to our committed and generous volunteers, including those patients who bravely share their stories for the benefit of all our beneficiaries.

## Thanks to staff

We are grateful to our passionate staff who deliver our activities for our beneficiaries.

## Thanks to those departing

During 2021/2022 we said goodbye to some of our Trustees. We would like to thank them for their service to Fertility Network UK and wish them all every success in the future.

**“The pandemic has been very isolating for me, as for many others, and it has been very positive to make new friends via the network. The mindfulness course was genuinely life-changing for me. I’ve tried counselling many times and whilst useful, it really doesn’t compare to what I have gained from Veronica’s course.”**

— Beneficiary

# Statement of Trustees' Responsibility

**The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).**

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 the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material

departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements

- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable group and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The Trustees' annual report has been approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by



**Jo Binding, Chair of Trustees**

**"My wife and I found the series hugely beneficial. It was great to hear from other couples in our situation as we do not know anyone personally who is going through fertility treatment as a same sex couple."**

— Beneficiary

**"I just wanted to message on the back of my fourth yoga session with Annie online tonight to thank you for making this fertility yoga accessible in this way. Even with our cancelled FET after all other hurdles on our fertility journey, this ability to relax and feel strong is invaluable. I really appreciate it and hope that these continue."**

— Beneficiary



# Financial Statements

| Reference and Administrative Information |  |
|--|--|
| Charity name                             | Infertility Network UK (Trading name – Fertility Network UK.)<br>Changed to Fertility Network UK by resolution on 20/01/22.  |
| Charity no. (England & Wales)            | 1099960  |
| Company no.                              | 4822073  |
| Scottish charity no.                     | SC039511   |
| Governing Document                       | Articles of Association, 2016  |
| Registered office                        | The Forum at Greenwich (2nd floor office), London SE10 9EQ   |
| Trustees                                 | Hannah Grinsted, Chair (Resigned 24/01/22)<br>Ella Norden, (Resigned 29/03/22)<br>Bala Karunakaran (Resigned 01/02/22)<br>Vicky Hayes (Resigned 29/03/22)<br>Lucy Thorn, Treasurer (Appointed 21/07/21)<br>Isabel Traynor, (Appointed 27/10/21, resigned 19/09/22)<br>Jo Binding, Chair (Appointed 20/01/2021)<br>Arti Shah (Appointed 29/03/22, resigned 16/10/22)<br>Rachel Bodner (Appointed 29/03/22)<br>Francesca Raine (Appointed 29/03/22)<br>Angela Pericleous-Smith (Appointed 29/03/22, resigned 29/11/22)<br>Isla Billet (Appointed 29/03/22) |
| Key Management                           | Gwenda Burns, CEO<br>Kate Brian, Operations Manager<br>Sharon Martin, Business Development Manager<br>Catalina Chinkousky Head Office Manager<br>Catherine Hill, Communications Manager  |
| Accountants                              | McPhersons, 23 St Leonards Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex TN40 1HH  |
| Bankers                                  | Lloyds Bank, 25 Cornhill, Bridgwater, Somerset TA6 3A  |

Please see Financial Statements appended over coming pages.

Charity registration number 1099960

Company registration number 4822073 (England and Wales)

FERTILITY NETWORK UK

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

FERTILITY NETWORK UK

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF FERTILITY NETWORK UK

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Fertility Network UK (the Charity) for the year ended 31 March 2022.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the Trustees of the Charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the Charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 Charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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 financial statements to be reached.

**Ainsley Gill BA FCA BFP**  
McPhersons Chartered Accountants  
23 St Leonards Road  
Bexhill-on-Sea  
East Sussex  
TN40 1HH



Dated: 20/12/22

FERTILITY NETWORK UK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

|   |       | Unrestricted funds | Designated funds | Restricted funds | Total 2022     | Total 2021     |
|---|-------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
|   | Notes | £                  | £                | £                | £              | £              |
| <b>Income and endowments from:</b>                        |       |                    |                  |                  |                |                |
| Voluntary income  | 3     | 31,916             | -                | -                | 31,916         | 15,741         |
| Charitable activities                                     | 4     | 46,305             | -                | 232,809          | 279,114        | 315,774        |
| Investments   | 5     | 3,737              | -                | -                | 3,737          | 705            |
| Other income  | 6     | 136,893            | -                | -                | 136,893        | 135,503        |
| <b>Total income</b>                                       |       | <b>218,851</b>     | <b>-</b>         | <b>232,809</b>   | <b>451,660</b> | <b>467,723</b> |
| <b>Expenditure on:</b>                                    |       |                    |                  |                  |                |                |
| Charitable activities                                     | 7     | 186,612            | -                | 239,848          | 426,460        | 349,910        |
| <b>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers</b> |       | <b>32,239</b>      | <b>-</b>         | <b>(7,039)</b>   | <b>25,200</b>  | <b>117,813</b> |
| Gross transfers between funds                             |       | -                  | (12,300)         | 12,300           | -              | -              |
| <b>Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds</b>     |       | <b>32,239</b>      | <b>(12,300)</b>  | <b>5,261</b>     | <b>25,200</b>  | <b>117,813</b> |
| Fund balances at 1 April 2021                             |       | 217,726            | 12,300           | 132,866          | 362,892        | 245,080        |
| <b>Fund balances at 31 March 2022</b>                     |       | <b>249,965</b>     | <b>-</b>         | <b>138,127</b>   | <b>388,092</b> | <b>362,893</b> |

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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

FERTILITY NETWORK UK

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

|   | Notes | 2022<br>£ | £       | 2021<br>£ | £       |
|---|-------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|
| <b>Fixed assets</b>                                   |       |           |         |           |         |
| Tangible assets                                       | 11    |           | 491     |           | 290     |
| <b>Current assets</b>                                 |       |           |         |           |         |
| Debtors   | 12    | 42,712    |         | 21,761    |         |
| Cash at bank and in hand                              |       | 526,982   |         | 536,208   |         |
|   |       | 569,694   |         | 557,969   |         |
| <b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b> | 13    | (182,093) |         | (195,366) |         |
| Net current assets                                    |       |           | 387,601 |           | 362,603 |
| <b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>          |       |           | 388,092 |           | 362,893 |
| <b>Income funds</b>                                   |       |           |         |           |         |
| Restricted funds                                      | 15    | 138,127   |         | 132,866   |         |
| Designated funds:                                     |       | -         |         | 12,300    |         |
| Unrestricted funds                                    |       | 249,965   |         | 217,727   |         |
|   |       | 388,092   |         | 362,893   |         |

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 2022.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 20.12.22.



L E Thorn  
Trustee

Company Registration No. 4822073

FERTILITY NETWORK UK

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)

AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

1 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

2 Accounting policies

Charity information

Fertility Network UK is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 2nd Floor Office, The Forum at Greenwich, Trafalgar Road, Greenwich, London, SE10 9EQ.

2.1 Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Charity's Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, [modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value]. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

2.2 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

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.

Designated funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives. Such funds are subject to certain conditions agreed by the Trustees and used in accordance with the majority decision of the Trustees from time to time.

2.3 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the Charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

FERTILITY NETWORK UK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

2 Accounting policies (Continued)

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected.

The value of donated services and gifts in kind provided to the charity are recognised at their open market value in the period in which they are receivable as incoming resources, where the benefit to the charity can be reliably measured. An equivalent amount is included as expenditure under the relevant heading in the Statement of financial activities.

FERTILITY NETWORK UK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

2 Accounting policies (Continued)

**2.4 Resources expended**  
Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

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.

**2.5 Tangible fixed assets**  
Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Fixtures, fittings & equipment | 20% per annum on a straight line basis |
|--------------------------------|--|

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

**2.6 Impairment of fixed assets**  
At each reporting end date, the Charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

**2.7 Cash and cash equivalents**  
Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.



## FERTILITY NETWORK UK

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

#### 2 Accounting policies (Continued)

##### 2.8 Financial instruments

The Charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

##### Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

##### Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

##### Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

##### 2.9 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

#### 3 Voluntary income

|   | Unrestricted funds | Designated funds | Total 2022 | Total 2021    |
|---|--------------------|------------------|------------|---------------|
|   | £                  | £                | £          | £             |
| Donations and gifts                     | 31,916             | -                | 31,916     | 15,741        |
| <b>For the year ended 31 March 2021</b> | <b>3,441</b>       | <b>12,300</b>    |            | <b>15,741</b> |

## FERTILITY NETWORK UK

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

#### 4 Charitable activities

|   | Fundraising income | Grants receivable for charitable activities | Advertising income | Total 2022 | Fundraising income | Grants receivable for charitable activities | Advertising income | Total 2021 |
|---|--------------------|---|--------------------|------------|--------------------|---|--------------------|------------|
|   | 2022               | 2022  | 2022               | £          | 2021               | 2021  | 2021               | £          |
|   | £                  | £   | £                  |            | £                  | £   | £                  |            |
| Income within charitable activities         | 44,955             | -   | 1,350              | 46,305     | 44,183             | -   | 1,860              | 46,043     |
| Grants receivable for charitable activities | -                  | 232,809                                     | -                  | 232,809    | -                  | 269,731                                     | -                  | 269,731    |
|   | 44,955             | 232,809                                     | 1,350              | 279,114    | 44,183             | 269,731                                     | 1,860              | 315,774    |
| Analysis by fund                            |                    |   |                    |            |                    |   |                    |            |
| Unrestricted funds                          | 44,955             | -   | 1,350              | 46,305     | 44,183             | -   | 1,860              | 46,043     |
| Restricted funds                            | -                  | 232,809                                     | -                  | 232,809    | -                  | 269,731                                     | -                  | 269,731    |
|   | 44,955             | 232,809                                     | 1,350              | 279,114    | 44,183             | 269,731                                     | 1,860              | 315,774    |

FERTILITY NETWORK UK  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

|                  |  |                    |                    |
|------------------|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| 5                | Investments                            | Unrestricted funds | Unrestricted funds |
|                  |  | 2022 £             | 2021 £             |
|                  | Interest receivable                    | 3,737              | 705                |
| 6                | Other income                           | Unrestricted funds | Unrestricted funds |
|                  |  | 2022 £             | 2021 £             |
|                  | Other income                           | -                  | 1,382              |
|                  | Sponsorship                            | 135,618            | 134,121            |
|                  | The Fertility Show income              | 1,275              | -                  |
|                  |  | 136,893            | 135,503            |
| 7                | Charitable activities                  | 2022 £             | 2021 £             |
|                  |  |                    |                    |
|                  | Staff costs                            | 312,563            | 259,444            |
|                  | Depreciation and impairment            | 413                | 843                |
|                  | Activities undertaken directly         | 87,413             | 65,611             |
|                  |  | 400,389            | 325,898            |
|                  | Share of governance costs (see note 9) | 26,071             | 24,012             |
|                  |  | 426,460            | 349,910            |
| Analysis by fund |  |                    |                    |
|                  | Unrestricted funds                     | 186,612            | 77,406             |
|                  | Restricted funds                       | 239,848            | 272,504            |
|                  |  | 426,460            | 349,910            |

FERTILITY NETWORK UK  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

|    |  |             |             |
|----|--|-------------|-------------|
| 8  | Trustees   |             |             |
|    |  |             |             |
|    | None of the Trustees (nor any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Charity during the year. |             |             |
| 9  | Governance costs   | 2022 £      | 2021 £      |
|    |  |             |             |
|    | Staff costs  | 9,578       | 9,342       |
|    | Legal and professional   | 16,493      | 14,670      |
|    |  | 26,071      | 24,012      |
|    | Analysed between Charitable activities   | 26,071      | 24,012      |
|    | All costs are allocated based on estimated actual use of service provision.  |             |             |
| 10 | Employees  |             |             |
|    |  |             |             |
|    | The average monthly number employees (including full time and part time staff) during the year was:                                |             |             |
|    |  | 2022 Number | 2021 Number |
|    |  | 17          | 18          |
|    | Employment costs   | 2022 £      | 2021 £      |
|    |  |             |             |
|    | Wages and salaries   | 322,141     | 268,786     |
|    | There were no employees whose annual emoluments were £60,000 or more.  |             |             |

FERTILITY NETWORK UK  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

|    |  |       |                                |         |
|----|--|-------|--------------------------------|---------|
| 11 | Tangible fixed assets                          |       | Fixtures, fittings & equipment |         |
|    |  |       | £                              |         |
|    | Cost   |       |                                |         |
|    | At 1 April 2021                                |       |                                | 23,072  |
|    | Additions                                      |       |                                | 1,967   |
|    |  |       |                                |         |
|    | At 31 March 2022                               |       |                                | 25,039  |
|    |  |       |                                |         |
|    | Depreciation and impairment                    |       |                                |         |
|    | At 1 April 2021                                |       |                                | 22,782  |
|    | Depreciation charged in the year               |       |                                | 1,766   |
|    |  |       |                                |         |
|    | At 31 March 2022                               |       |                                | 24,548  |
|    |  |       |                                |         |
|    | Carrying amount                                |       |                                |         |
|    | At 31 March 2022                               |       |                                | 491     |
|    |  |       |                                |         |
|    | At 31 March 2021                               |       |                                | 290     |
|    |  |       |                                |         |
| 12 | Debtors  |       |                                |         |
|    |  |       | 2022                           | 2021    |
|    | Amounts falling due within one year:           |       | £                              | £       |
|    |  |       |                                |         |
|    | Trade debtors                                  |       | 35,039                         | 19,412  |
|    | Other debtors                                  |       | 2,084                          | 238     |
|    | Prepayments and accrued income                 |       | 5,589                          | 2,111   |
|    |  |       |                                |         |
|    |  |       | 42,712                         | 21,761  |
| 13 | Creditors: amounts falling due within one year |       |                                |         |
|    |  |       | 2022                           | 2021    |
|    |  |       | £                              | £       |
|    |  | Notes |                                |         |
|    | Other taxation and social security             |       | 5,544                          | 4,245   |
|    | Deferred income                                | 14    | 153,064                        | 171,535 |
|    | Trade creditors                                |       | 19,615                         | 15,716  |
|    | Accruals                                       |       | 3,870                          | 3,870   |
|    |  |       |                                |         |
|    |  |       | 182,093                        | 195,366 |

FERTILITY NETWORK UK  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

|                            |  |         |         |
|----------------------------|--|---------|---------|
| 14 Deferred income         |  | 2022    | 2021    |
|                            |  | £       | £       |
| Income received in advance |  | 153,064 | 171,535 |

FERTILITY NETWORK UK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

15 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:

|   | Balance at<br>1 April 2020 | Movement in funds<br>Incoming<br>resources | Resources<br>expended | Balance at<br>1 April 2021 | Movement in funds<br>Incoming<br>resources | Resources<br>expended | Transfers | Balance at<br>31 March<br>2022 |
|---|----------------------------|--|-----------------------|----------------------------|--|-----------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
|   | £                          | £  | £                     | £                          | £  | £                     | £         | £                              |
| Health & Social Care Board                              | -                          | 20,671                                     | (17,830)              | 2,842                      | 22,946                                     | (22,224)              | -         | 3,564                          |
| Scottish Government Health Board Project & Options      | 12,000                     | 40,913                                     | (38,149)              | 14,763                     | 44,733                                     | (44,506)              | -         | 14,990                         |
| Scottish Government Fertility Education Project         | 45,731                     | 49,240                                     | (38,718)              | 56,253                     | 49,240                                     | (48,053)              | -         | 57,440                         |
| Belfast Cathedral Sit Out Appeal                        | 535                        | 735  | (191)                 | 1,079                      | 1,000                                      | (174)                 | -         | 1,905                          |
| Scottish Government Additional                          | 10,075                     | -  | (10,074)-             | -                          | -  | -                     | -         | -                              |
| Scottish Government Fertility Network Scotland Projects | 54,001                     | -  | (10,492)              | 43,509                     | -  | (8,509)               | -         | 35,000                         |
| Restricted donations                                    | -                          | -  | --                    | -                          | -  | -                     | 12,300    | 12,300                         |
| Scottish Volunteer Project                              | 852                        | 8,998                                      | (9,035)               | 815                        | 9,500                                      | (8,998)               | -         | 1,317                          |
| Tampon Tax  | 1,160                      | 8,829                                      | (9,989)               | -                          | -  | -                     | -         | -                              |
| TNL Community Grant                                     | 7,063                      | 76,167                                     | (70,527)              | 12,703                     | 72,946                                     | (75,941)              | -         | 9,708                          |
| Scotland Covid Funding                                  | -                          | -  | -                     | -                          | 20,460                                     | (19,459)              | -         | 1,001                          |
| Match funding for Wales                                 | 901                        | -  | -                     | 901                        | -  | -                     | -         | 901                            |
| London Funder   | -                          | 6,500                                      | (6,500)               | -                          | -  | -                     | -         | -                              |
| Tampon Tax fund   | -                          | 44,995                                     | (44,995)              | -                          | -  | -                     | -         | -                              |
| PHA Clear project Western Trust                         | -                          | 4,936                                      | (4,936)               | -                          | 4,991                                      | (4,991)               | -         | -                              |
| PHA Clear project Belfast Trust                         | -                          | 4,936                                      | (4,936)               | -                          | 4,991                                      | (4,991)               | -         | -                              |
| PHA Clear project Western Trust                         | -                          | 1,414                                      | (1,414)               | -                          | 1,000                                      | (1,000)               | -         | -                              |
| PHA Clear project Belfast Trust                         | -                          | 1,395                                      | (1,395)               | -                          | 1,000                                      | (1,000)               | -         | -                              |
| Awards for All England                                  | 3,323                      | -  | (3,323)               | -                          | -  | -                     | -         | -                              |
|   | 135,639                    | 269,730                                    | (181,525)             | 132,866                    | 232,808                                    | (239,846)             | 12,300    | 138,127                        |

(Continued)

15 Restricted funds

Health & Social Care Board - Successful bid for tender to provide a part-time support coordinator, a confidential telephone helpline service, practical information services and the coordination and delivery of support to local patient groups.

Scottish Government - Funding to allow us to continue to provide a comprehensive support service to infertility patients throughout Scotland, to provide patient representation by participating in the various meetings following on from the National Groups and increase awareness of the services offered in Scotland, 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.

St Anne's Cathedral Sit-Out Fund - To run workshops for the More to Life Group in Northern Ireland and provide some funding for Fertility Network Support Groups not covered by other funding.

Scottish Volunteer Project - Match funding from the Scottish Government to employ a Volunteer Coordinator.

TNL Community Grant - Funding to allow us to continue to provide a comprehensive support service to infertility patients throughout Wales, to provide patient representation by participating in the various meetings following on from the National Groups and increase awareness of the services offered in Wales. To raise awareness of issues surrounding fertility and infertility through working with universities, health professionals and employers across Wales to introduce ways of ensuring people are better informed about how their fertility can be conserved.

Awards for all England - Funding to allow us to expand and improve our digital presence providing support throughout England regardless of your geographical location.



FERTILITY NETWORK UK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

|    |   |             |
|----|---|-------------|
| 15 | Restricted funds  | (Continued) |
|    | Tampon Tax - Community funding to build social networks for women and girls, build skills and confidence and improve health and well-being.   |             |
|    | Wesleyan - Fertility Yoga - Funding towards a project to promote positive health and well-being.  |             |
|    | Tampon Tax Fund - for wellbeing projects. All projects for Fertility Yoga, Qi Gong and Mindfulness and 2 CBT 'Living life to the full' programmes.  |             |
|    | PHA Clear project Western Trust - Mindfulness for Life 8 week programme for TTC group of up to 20 people with 6 weekly follow on sessions.  |             |
|    | PHA Clear project Belfast Trust - Mindfulness for Life 8 week programme for MTL group of up to 20 people with 6 weekly follow on sessions.  |             |
|    | PHA Clear project Western Trust - Enhancement funding of 4 weekly additional sessions to increase mindfulness personal practice for TTC group and introduce mindfulness to some additional new group members. |             |
|    | PHA Clear project Belfast Trust - Enhancement funding of 4 weekly additional sessions for MTL group to focus on using mindfulness to address deep grief and loss using resourcing and listening spaces.       |             |
|    | All of the above grants were received after successful application for funding by Fertility Network UK.   |             |
|    | All of the grants are restricted to expenditure as agreed with the grant body during the application process.   |             |

FERTILITY NETWORK UK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

|    |   |                         |                       |                       |            |
|----|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| 16 | Analysis of net assets between funds  | Unrestricted funds<br>£ | Designated funds<br>£ | Restricted funds<br>£ | Total<br>£ |
|    | Fund balances at 31 March 2022 are represented by:  |                         |                       |                       |            |
|    | Tangible assets   | 491                     | -                     | -                     | 491        |
|    | Net current assets/(liabilities)  | 249,474                 | -                     | 138,127               | 387,601    |
|    |   | 249,965                 | -                     | 138,127               | 388,092    |
| 17 | Related party transactions  |                         |                       |                       |            |
|    | Remuneration of key management personnel  |                         |                       |                       | 2022<br>£  |
|    | There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2021 - none).       |                         |                       |                       |            |
|    | Aggregate compensation  |                         |                       |                       | 113,214    |
| 18 | Donated services and gifts in kind  |                         |                       |                       |            |
|    | There were no donated services and gifts in kind provided to the charity during the year. |                         |                       |                       |            |

