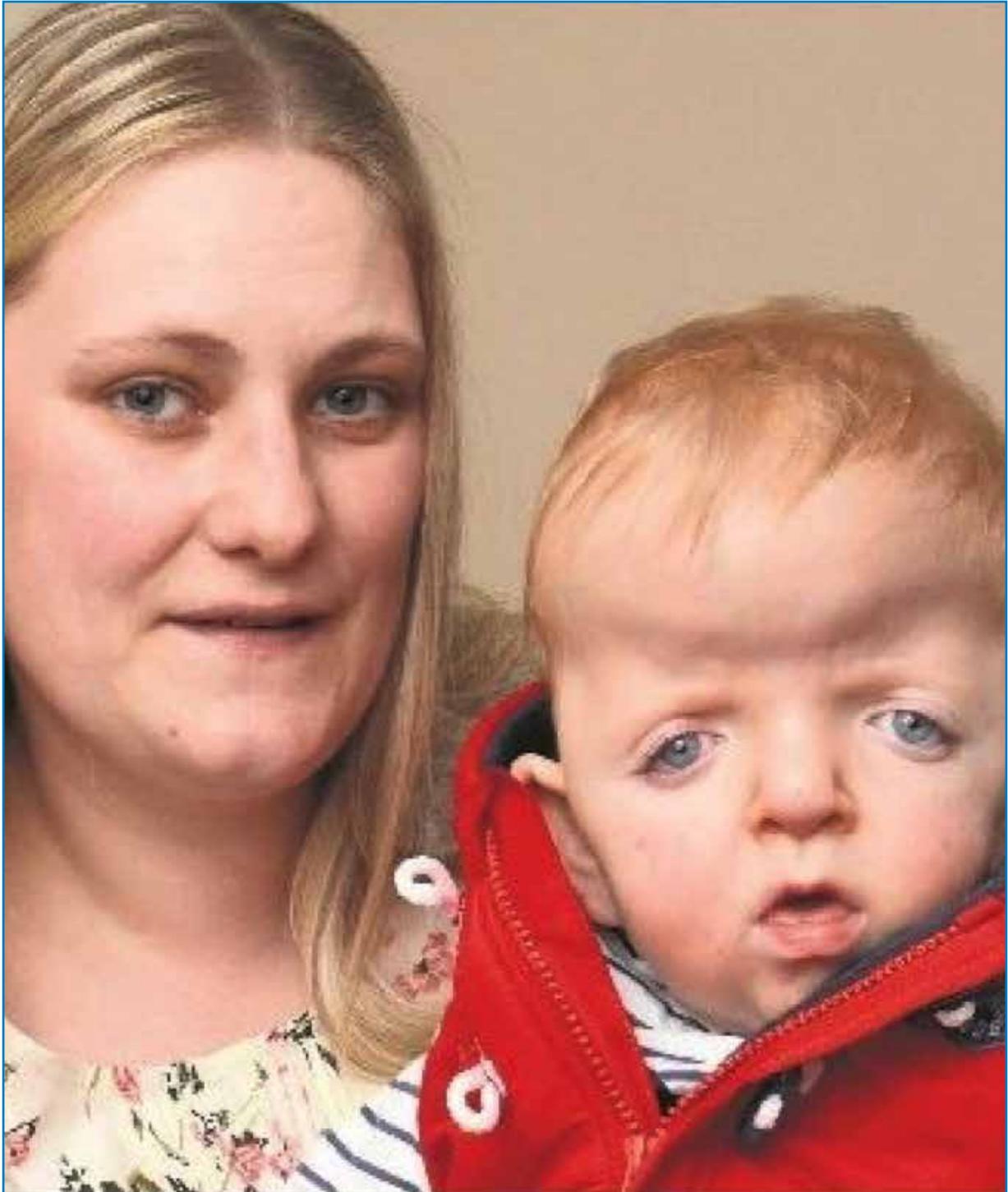


ANNUAL REPORT 2015 - 2016



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TRANSPORT FOR SICK CHILDREN

A volunteer driver scheme helping to transport children to hospital and clinic appointments



Transport For Sick Children Limited
Registered Charity No. 1110618 Registered Company No. 5454582

Transport for Sick Children Ltd.
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Directors

Chair John Sagar
Treasurer John Adams
Company Secretary John Adams
Gaynor Kershaw
Pauline Cope
Eric Houghton
George Stenson

Staff

Transport Organisers

Judith Oxley
Jacqui Meadows
Julie Livesey

Administrator

Anna Burns

Stakeholder Co-Ordinator

Beverley Hoyle

Chairman's Report



- The statistics for the year show declines in children helped, number of trips, miles driven
- most of our work involves trips to the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital and the specialist units and clinics around Greater Manchester.
- Any changes affecting children could have consequences for the charity area.

When I penned this report on the 2014 - 2015 year's work, we had no thought of moving our office although our landlord had indicated that, sometime in the future he would need to sell the property. So it came as a surprise when he said that the time had come. After considerable work by the trustees, particularly George Stenson and Secretary / Treasurer John Adams the Charity obtained a mortgage from the Charities Bank subject to approval from the Charities Commission. Unfortunately the Commission decided that spending the money for this purpose was not in keeping with our stated aims. So we have moved. The staff have settled in well and early problems with the phones have been sorted. We look forward to a period of stability.

The statistics for the year show declines in children helped, number of trips, miles driven and cancelled trips. It is not clear what effect the strike by doctors had on our work.

Beverley has worked hard to build relationships with the CCGs in Greater Manchester. The challenge for 2016/17 is essentially the same as for the previous year. To persuade those CCGs which do not fully meet the cost of transporting children from needy families to attend health appointments to increase their support whilst continuing fully meeting the demands of those CCGs which do fully fund us.

As in previous years, most of our work involves trips to the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital and the specialist units and clinics around Greater Manchester. We frequently provide transport to Alder Hey Hospital and undertake trips to Birmingham Children's Hospital, St James' Leeds, Bradford Cochlear Implant Centre, and Newcastle Heart Unit.

What the effects of changes in responsibility for funding Health Services in Greater Manchester will be is unclear. Any changes affecting children could have consequences for the charity.

I must end my report by recognising the hard work and dedication of our drivers without whom nothing would happen, the trustees for finding time and giving freely their expertise to keep the charity functioning so well. Last but not least all the office staff for smoothing drivers ruffled feathers resulting from a wasted trip or calming a referrer because "tomorrow" really is too short notice

John Sagar – Chairman

Why we do what we do

“Can I just say how fab this service is? Friendly charming, polite drivers. Always asking how the sick child is doing etc. These people give their free time to take our children to hospital. We personally would be lost without this service and we would like to thank our lovely driver Stuart today!! Thank you for being there!”

Lynn Platt, Service user, Oldham

“Excellent, helpful service that enabled a family to attend multiple daily appointments at Royal Manchester Children’s Hospital.

Flexible and good clear communication throughout the referral/booking process.

In particular, my referral for a family that had failed to attend previous appointments delaying diagnosis and treatment, by Transport For Sick Children providing transfers it enabled the clinicians to make important decisions. Thank you”

Amanda Hirst, Paediatric Epilepsy Specialist Nurse, Tameside Hospital

“Transport For Sick Children is an excellent service and is much appreciated by our families. It enables Trafford Early Development Service children to access health and therapy appointments that they may not otherwise access. TEDS families often struggle to manage multiple appointments at a time when they are coming to terms with their children’s difficulties and need support. The TFSC office staff are always supportive and helpful and the volunteers are fantastic. This is a service we can trust and would recommend to anyone.”

Sian Williams, Team Leader, Trafford Early Development Service (TEDS), Sale

“An essential service to disadvantaged families having numerous appointments. Fantastic drivers doing a great job and giving up their time – well done!”

Andrea McConville, Physiotherapy Assistant, Children and Young Peoples Physiotherapy, Central Manchester Foundation Trust

“Transport For Sick Children has been an invaluable lifeline for some of the children in Bolton who have complex health needs and who require frequent and/or often life changing appointments with the specialist medical teams at Royal Manchester Children’s Hospital and Alder Hey in Liverpool. Without this service their parents/carers would not be able or capable of taking these children for their appointments. On their behalf we would like to say a big “Thank you!”

Maria Gault, Jill Davies, Janice O’Brien – Advanced Nurse Practitioners & Helen Jameson – Specialist Nurse – Halliwell Health & Children’s Centre, Bolton

Why we do what we do

“I just wanted to thank your team so much for the invaluable service you deliver for our patients. Many of the children I need to see several times a year in clinic come from an extremely deprived part of the community, that were if not for the transport you provide, they would not be able to get to their hospital appointments. The results of not being seen and hence failing to receive treatment are literally life threatening. I am most grateful and know the families are too. Do please pass on our thanks to all your drivers and let me know if there is anything I can do to help support your work.

Dr Paddy McMaster, Consultant in Paediatric Infectious Diseases, North Manchester General Hospital

“Without your service many, many families could not get their children to hospital, through poverty, lack of English that is a block when trying to use public transport, which is also impossible due to the complex needs of their child.

Without support to the Royal Manchester Eye Hospital many children would be losing sight. Or other essential medical support that is life saving and essential as well as: - to gain equipment, hearing aids/ glasses/ splints which all help the child to be independent saving the Local Authority money.”

Linda Hoburn, Support Worker, Lancasterian School, Manchester

“I use your service for one of our patients every two weeks. It’s easy to use and reliable. I strongly recommend it for others to use”

Julia Whillis, Macmillan Nurse, Royal Manchester Children’s Hospital

“When Oliver was born I would take him to Liverpool on the train for his hospital appointments but it was incredibly difficult.

At the start he needed up to four hospital appointments a week, but that has now decreased.

When my health visitor found out I was going all that way on the train, she introduced me to Transport for Sick Children and I haven’t look back since.

The volunteers are so wonderful; they go above and beyond for you with no thought for themselves.

They’ve been happy to wait when Oliver’s appointments have lasted longer than expected, missing their own dinner to help us.

I can’t thank them enough for what they do and I don’t know what I’d do without them.”

Adele Litchfield (pictured on the cover with her son Oliver, Oldham)

Adele has tirelessly fundraised for us and donated regularly to the charity – she has raised over £500 in 2015-2016 and continues to do so.

Our Volunteers



Welcome New Volunteers

A very warm welcome to our new volunteers who have joined us this year: Judi Ellis and Stephen Woolfe from Bury, Tony Martin, Kevin Gore and Daniel Caldon from Salford, Sacha Smith from Manchester, Garry Ware, Stephen Broadbent and Norman Dale from Oldham and Nick May from Littleborough. We hope you are enjoying your time volunteer driving with Transport For Sick Children.

Our Volunteers – Judi Ellis

Neil is a recent addition to the volunteer team, joining in October 2014. Recently fully retired he finds he has more free time to help others and “put a bit back into society” by being a volunteer driver for Transport For Sick Children. Living in Whitworth, Neil covers mainly the Rochdale and Oldham areas. Like other drivers his first priority is the child and parent(s) making sure they are safe, comfortable and at ease on the journey. On their first visit to hospital parents appreciate being shown the entrance and the location of the Reception desk. Most visits are around one hour but on occasions can be very short with parents finding Neil in the café not having finished his coffee and only having read the first page of his newspaper!



In Memoriam — Colin Bradburn

It is with great sadness that we report that one of our most dedicated and loyal volunteer drivers Colin Bradburn, passed away suddenly in November 2015 after a short illness. Colin was a committed and reliable volunteer and drove over 40,000 miles for the charity since joining us in 2008. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him, staff, trustees and all the families he helped.

When we asked why he wanted to volunteer, Colin said

“I wanted to give something back – especially to those less able than me.”

Treasurer's Report



Incoming Resources totalled £139,562 (last year £165,089) in the twelve months to 31st March 2016. The sources of income were as follows:

	2014	%	2015
CCG's	74.0		96.0
Donations/Fundraising	25.1		3.0
Bank Interest	0.2		1.0

There was a decrease of income of £25,527. The key change compared with the previous year is that we have not received the generous donation of last year (£30,000) which brought with it a substantial sum (£7,700) of Gift Aid.

Income from the CCG's is by about £10,000 up due to adjustments by some Clinical Commissioning Groups brought about by negotiation. Donations totalled £4,204 includes a substantial amount from our Volunteer Drivers. Interest rates in the year continued low and the need to retain liquidity precludes long term investment, that is, one year and longer because of income uncertainty.

Expenditure has also continued to be well controlled. Key changes in the year compared to 2015 are:

	2016 £	2015 £	Difference £
Employment Costs	48,999	47,514	+1,485
Drivers Mileage	47,676	56,652	-8,976
Rent and Rates	9,271	8,832	+439
Computer and IT	4,422	2,502	+1,920
Telephone	1,236	1,483	-247
Heat, Light and Water	1,736	3,353	-1,617

Employment costs are slightly up because of salary increase. The decrease in Driver's Mileage is because of improved driver availability and location. This has reduced the journey mileage needed for a driver to pick up a patient. The substantial increase in governance costs is caused by the failed bid to purchase the property that was the charity's base. The Charity Commission would not allow the charity to purchase the property under the terms proposed. Legal costs were incurred as a result of this project.

The charity has made a surplus of £14,611 compared with last year of £32,221. If the result for the year is related to only the CCG income of £123,484 against the cost of running the service, it shows a contribution to reserves of £8,947 against last year's reduction of £9,834 on the same basis.

The introduction of compulsory staff pension schemes, will affect the charity from January 2017.

The new strategy "Healthier Together", covering the whole of Greater Manchester is probably being overtaken by the new Greater Manchester Health strategy which is in development. Any proposals related to children will be followed with interest

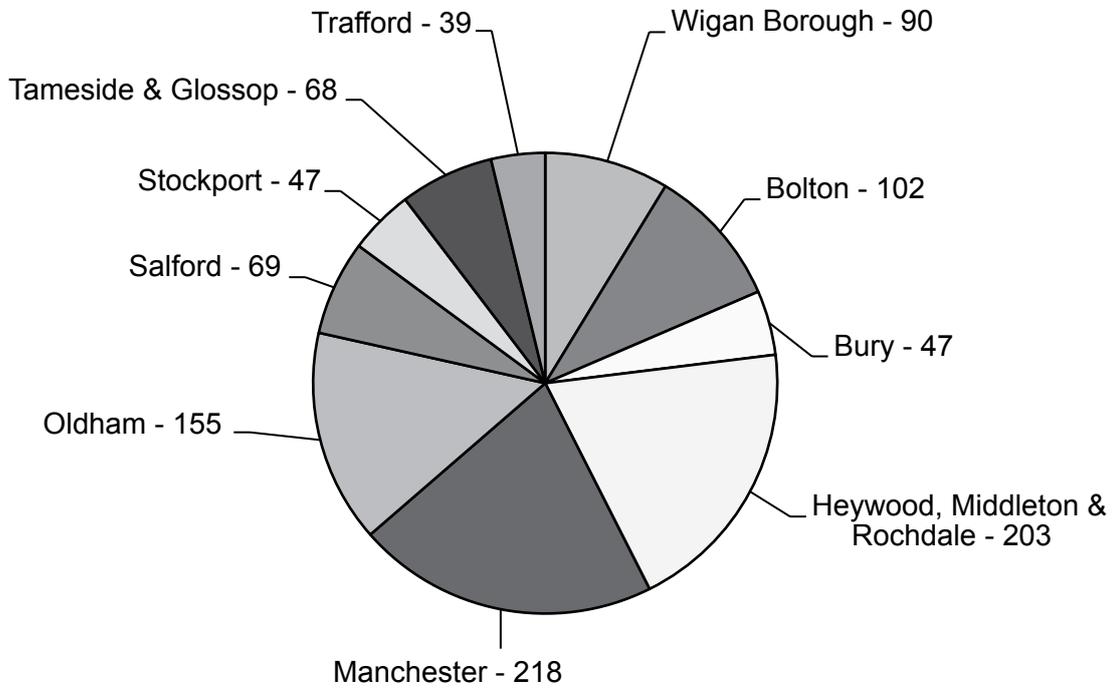
Liaison meetings with Health Visitors have continued throughout the year. The charity continues to strive to increase activity in the deprived areas but can only provide a service in line with the funding.

John Adams - Treasurer

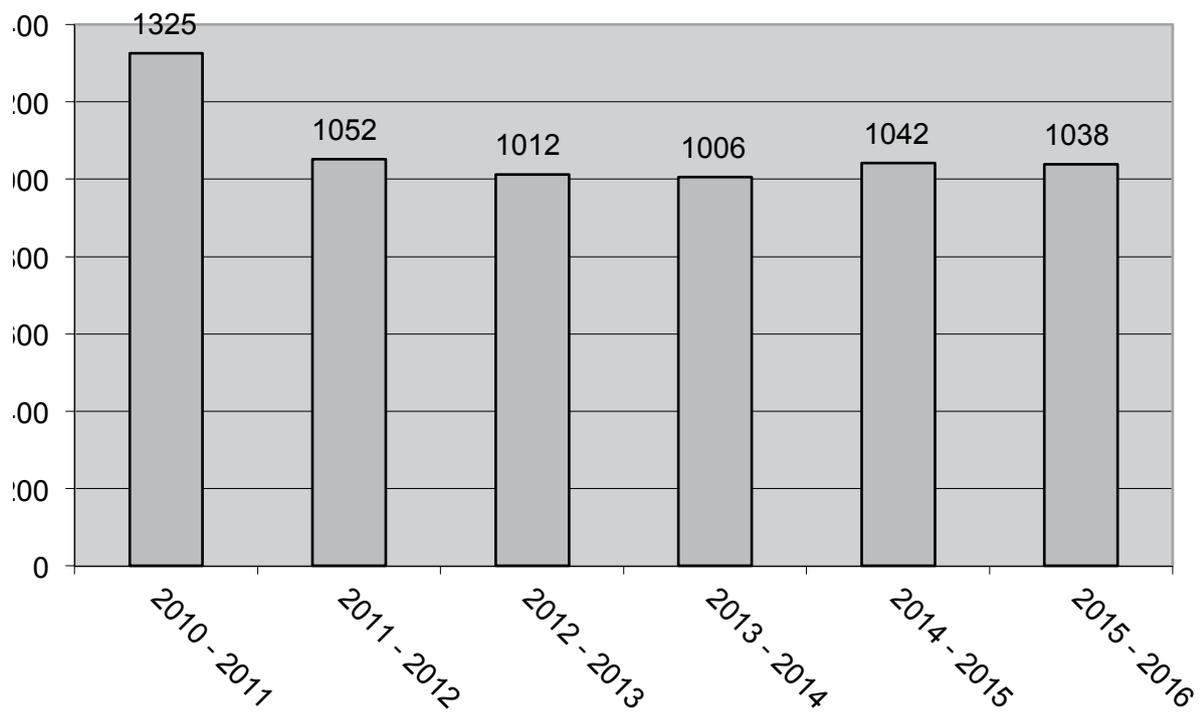
- Income from the CCG's is by about £10,000
- The decrease in Driver's Mileage is because of improved driver availability and location.
- The introduction of compulsory staff pension schemes, will affect the charity from January 2017.

Activity Statistics

Number of Children Helped by NHS Clinical Commissioning Group

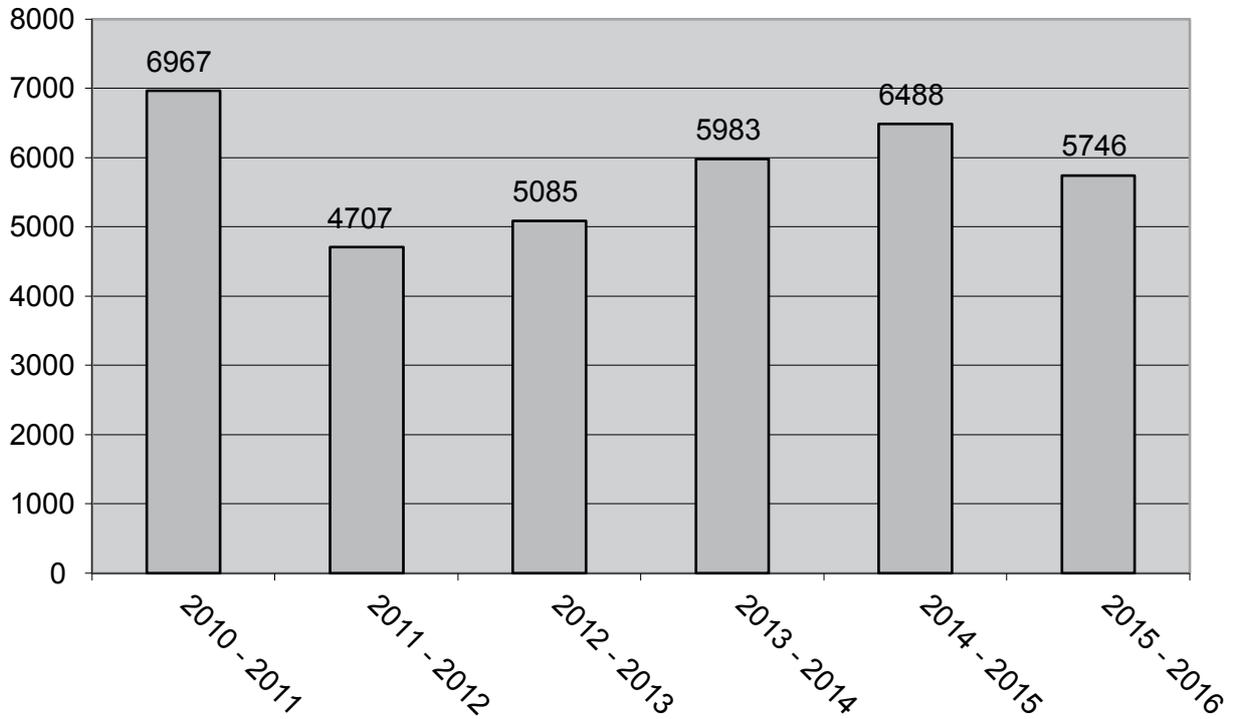


Number of Children Helped

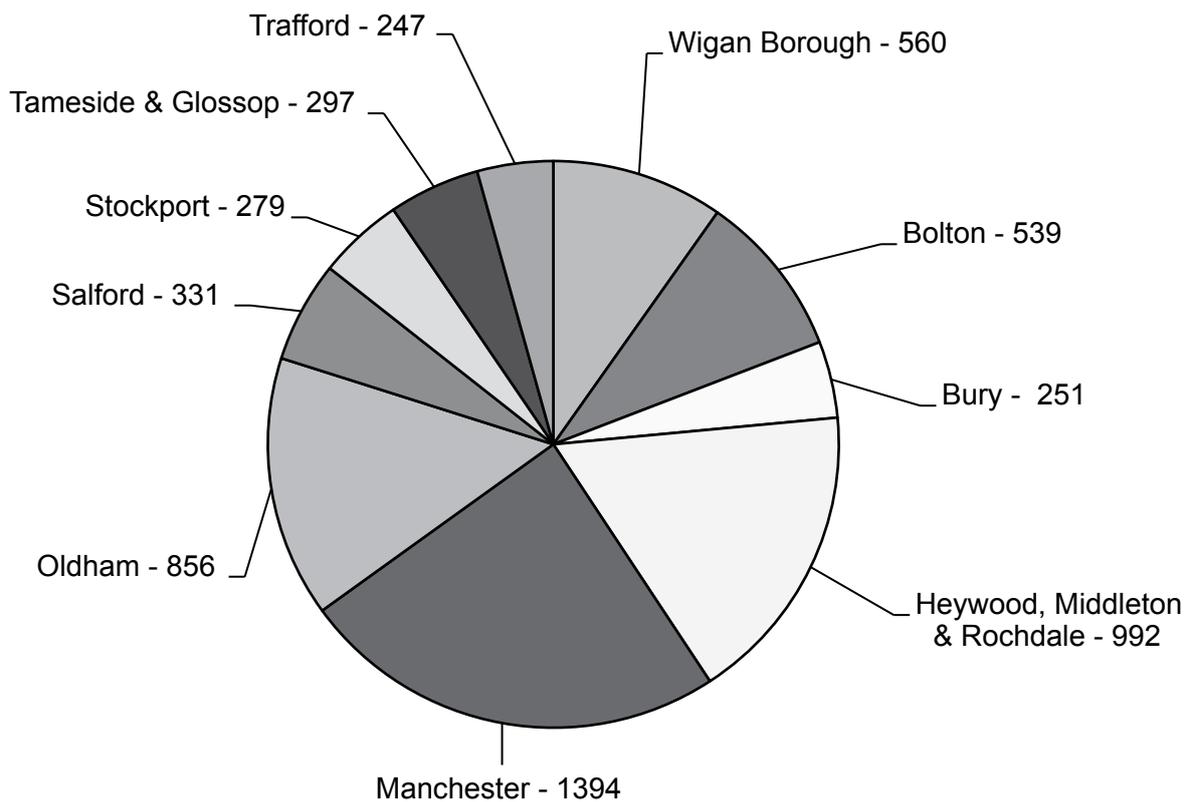


Activity Statistics cont.

Number of Trips

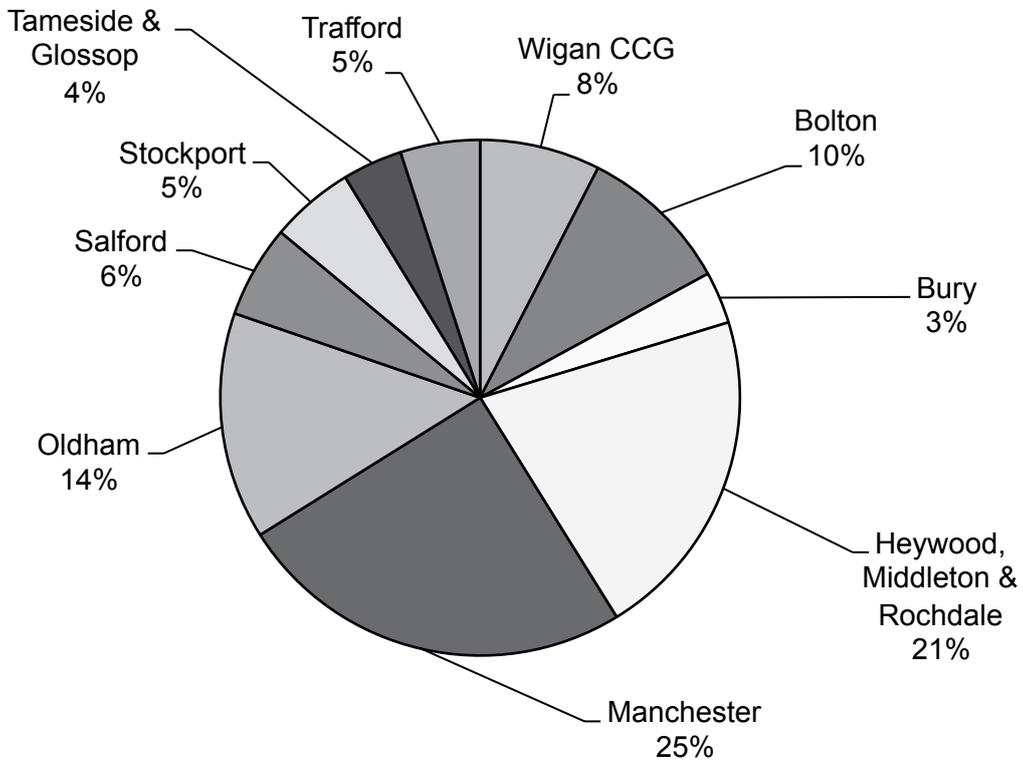


Number of Trips by NHS Clinical Commissioning Group

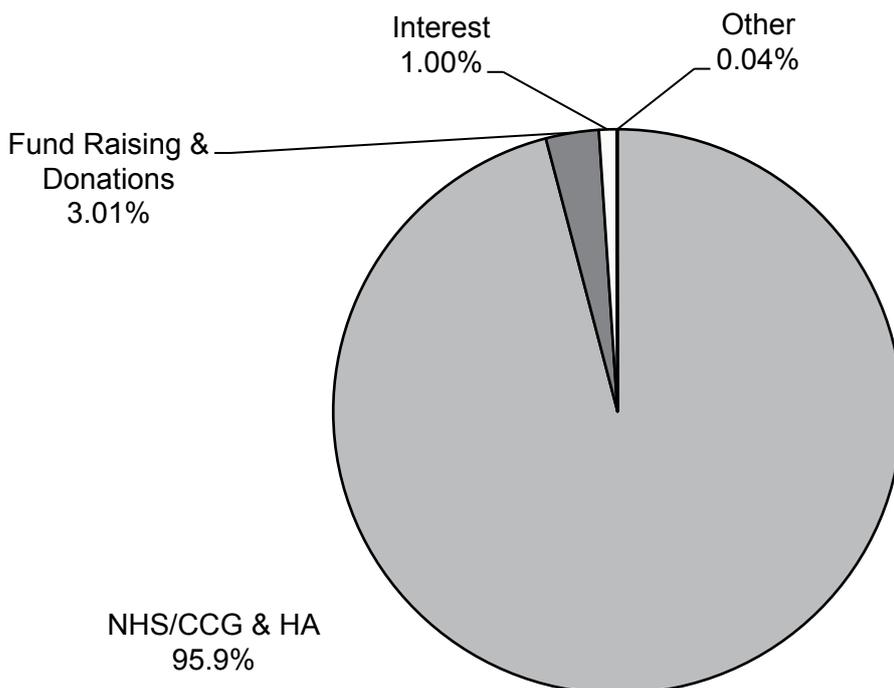


Activity Statistics cont.

Income by NHS CCG



Income %



Our Thanks To

Volunteer Drivers:

Bill Blenkhorn	Eric Houghton	Jimmy Quinn
Stephen Broadbent	Bernard Kelly	Dilip Ratan
Daniel Caldon	Wayne Kelsey	Norman Robinson
John Capstick	John Leach	Irene Sagar
Norman Dale	Thomas Luke	John Sagar
Denis Edgar	Tony Martin	Sacha Smith
Keith Edwards	Nick May	David Smithers
Judi Ellis	Bill Mitchell	Bernard Ward
Terry Fenlon	Anthony Moore	Garry Ware
Kevin Gore	Chris Murray	Chris Wellings
Neil Grayson	Ronnie Newbiggin	Sheila Whitworth
Bob Gregg	John James Parr	Stuart Wilson
Tony Gregory	Rob Porter	Stephen Woolfe
Roger Harper	Sam Pownell	

Trustee Volunteers

John Adams
John Sagar
Gaynor Kershaw
Pauline Cope
Eric Houghton
George Stenson

Other Volunteer:

Brian Ridgway

Donors:

Duchy Of Lancaster	Margaret Kirk
Adele Litchfield	Pat Brunt
Electro-Test (PAT) Services LTD	Carol Bagnall
Emerge Recycling	Sarah Drake
Heywood Charities Fete Committee	Sally Carroll MBE
Bernard Ward	Sheila Whitworth
David Smithers	Keith Edwards
Bob Gregg	Tony Loftus
Ronnie Newbiggin	Sam Pownell
John & Irene Sagar	Pauline Cope
Neil Grayson	Stuart Wilson
Kevin Gore	Manchester Evening News
Asda Gorton, Manchester	Plus Crates
Mr & Mrs Szablinskj	Family & Friends of Alan Berry (In memoriam)
Ukuhalee Band (Hale)	

Thanks to just some of our supporters



Heywood
Charities Fete Committee

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