

Too Cute Baby Bank

Meeting Minutes



Date: Thursday 17 April 2025 at 6:15pm
Venue: Community Room, Buckie High School
Attendees: Chantelle Warren (CW), Daska Murray (DM), Elaine Wilson (EW), Emma Reid (ER), Holly Mayne-Garrow (HMG), Kerry Reid (KR), Meghan Skene (MS), Nicola Warren (NW), Peter West (PW)

Item	Discussion	Action
1. Introduction and Handover	<p>PW opened the meeting and explained that, to prevent its closure, it has been agreed that Too Cute Baby Bank will operate as a sub-group of the Community Council. This arrangement will enable the group to have access to support for things like banking and contacts. HMG and MS will oversee the running of the service.</p> <p>KR works with Moray Council's Moray Pathways as parental support for the region. KR may be able to assist in accessing funding but also connecting up with other services or sources of support.</p>	
2. Premises and Access	<p>The Baby Bank will be temporarily located in the upstairs room at the Buckie Legion. However, this means that access is limited to their opening hours – typically evenings between 6pm–10pm, weekends and occasionally during the day.</p> <p>There is a need to seek more permanent premises. MS will make a public appeal for help finding suitable premises on Facebook.</p>	MS
3. Volunteer Coordination / Operational Structure	<p>MS suggested introducing a weekly rota, with teams of two volunteers to handling the collection and sorting of donations, and assembling new packages.</p> <p>Donation buckets could be placed in accessible community locations, and larger items such as prams and cots may need to be co-ordinated separately.</p> <p>The referral system will be retained (e.g. midwives and health visitors) however there may also be self-referrals to be considered. There may be a need for professionals to collect packages during working hours, but the community shop might be willing to assist with daytime collections.</p> <p>Volunteering will be flexible, allowing people to contribute as they are able. PW offered to look into setting up an online rota system or shared diary to capture and co-ordinate volunteer availability.</p> <p>KR suggested contacting Forres Preloved to learn how they run it. DM suggested Moray Fresh Start who do not have a baby bank, but</p>	PW

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	<p>might also be a useful contact in terms of learning how they operate.</p> <p>Initially, the priority will be on establishing a smooth running system. However, the idea of applying for charitable status will be revisited later, as it may open up further funding opportunities.</p>	
5. Stock Management	<p>A session will be organised at the Legion to sort, label, and catalogue donations. Larger items like prams and cots may need to be posted online if there is no space for them.</p> <p>Guidelines will be developed regarding what items can and cannot be accepted. A system for tracking stock and managing requests will also need to be put in place.</p> <p>There was a discussion around the benefits of having a referral form. KR offered to supply a sample from Moray Baby Bank.</p> <p>It was agreed that MS will also put out a call for donations of storage boxes, shelving, and baby boxes via Facebook.</p> <p>KR suggested including period products in the packages and will share contact details for sourcing these.</p>	<p>MS</p> <p>KR</p>
7. Promotion and Awareness	<p>Once the service is up and running, focus will shift to raising awareness and promotion. The group plans to have a presence at the Buckie Car Show in August and will look into other fundraising opportunities to support the Baby Bank's work.</p>	
Next Meeting	<p>Date of next meeting TBC.</p> <p>PW will confirm availability of Legion room for sorting session.</p> <p>A WhatsApp group has been created for coordination and rota planning. MS will add anyone who is interested in joining.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 7:20pm.</p>	<p>PW</p> <p>MS</p>