

Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Charity Number SC044849

Annual Report

1st June 2025 to 31st May 2026

Charity Name:	Disability Beyond Borders
Charity Number:	SC044849
Charity Principal Address:	6 Elmvale Auchterarder Perthshire PH3 1QQ
Principal Contact:	Keith Robertson Volunteer Access Inclusion Manager 6 Elmvale Auchterarder Perthshire PH3 1QQ
Email Address	disabilitybeyondborders@btinternet.com
Website	www.disabilitybeyondborders.org

Names of Trustees serving on date of approval of Annual Report

Name	Office Held	Dates acted if not for whole year	Persons entitled to appoint Trustee
General Statement			Having recognized that we had got into a situation by where three of the trustees were coming up for election at the same time the members present at the AGM on the 10th of October 2025 agreed to stagger the election by electing Leigh Crighton for three years, Dougie McDonald for four years and Shelly McRae for five years. This will avoid any clash of the election of trustees in one year, Members present at the AGM agreed to unanimously to this proposal.
Shelly MacRae	Convener		Shelly was ratified as a Trustee by members

			present at the AGM on 6th November 2022. Shelly was re-elected as a trustee for five years at the 2025 AGM. Shelly will come up for re-election in 2030.
Leigh Crichton	Honorary Treasurer		Leigh's was re-elected as a trustee for three years at the 2025 AGM. She will come up for re-election in 2028.
Dougie McDonald	Trustee		Dougie was re-elected as a trustee for four years at the 2025 AGM. His tenure will come up for re-election in 2029.
Isabel Melville	Trustee (Vice Convener)		Isobel was ratified as a Trustee at the AGM on 8th October 2023. Isobel's tenure as a trustee comes up for re-election at the 2026 AGM. Isabel has agreed to put herself up for re-election.

Structure, Governance and Management of Charity

Type of Governing Document	The charity became a SCIO on 24th October 2014. The Charity is administered in accordance with the Constitution of the organisation.
Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees.	As already stated above trustees found themselves in a position that 75% of trustees were up for re-election in the same year. To avoid this happening in the future the members present at the 2025 AGM agreed to stagger the re-election of Leigh Crighton, Dougie McDonald and Shelly MacRae. As a consequence of this Isabel Melville will come up for re-election at the 2026 AGM which will be held on Sunday, the 25th of October 2026. Leigh Crighton

	will come up for re-election in 2028, Dougie Macdonald in 2029, along with Isabel Mellville and Shelly MacRae will come up for re-election in 2030. In agreeing to the re-election measures undertaken at the 2025 AGM by members present we have ensured that the re-election of trustees in the future will be staggered as above. Trustees are acutely aware that in an ideal world we do require another one or two trustees and will consider persons to fill this post(s) when suitable persons come forward.

Objectives and Activities

Charitable Purposes	1. The promotion of equality and diversity by: a. Providing, free of charge, manual wheelchairs to the many disabled people resident in Ukraine in need of a wheelchair, who otherwise have no means to gain or improve their mobility to enable them to take a more active role in their community and live a life with dignity, respect, choice and independence. b. Supporting disabled people by providing, free of charge, a means for disabled people to gain access to their homes or place of residence and other buildings. c. Being available to contribute to Ukraine, and other countries, on consultations and discussions concerning accessible environments for disabled people, thus contributing to treating disabled people equally in society even if that means treating them more favourably. d. Providing, from time to time, the same services to disabled people in other countries who are equally disadvantaged because of their disability. 2. The relief of those in need by reason of age, ill-

	health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage by: a. Contributing to the relief of life restrictions of disabled people by working with other organisations to ensure the standard, delivery and security of wheelchairs and mobility aids to those in most need in their respective communities. b. To provide Aid, Assistance and Respite to those disadvantaged because of Social, Economic or Armed Conflict and Natural Disaster.
Summary of the main activities in relation to these objectives.	In the annual report last year we reported that the charity had somewhat got over the death of our founding convenor, Michael Dunlop, but we have discovered throughout this year that Michael's sad passing has had a much bigger impact on the charity then we first thought and were not aware of in last year's report. A considerable amount of funds that were regularly donated came from people that Michael either knew or was friendly with but unfortunately we have since discovered that with Michael passing these generous donors have ceased to support the charity financially. This has put a considerable strain on the charity finances this year especially when most of our donations have come via collection boxes placed in establishments that support the aims of Disability Beyond Borders and a few fundraising events where we promoted the charity and had collection boxes on the promotion tables that we had set up, during this year this was principally in a couple of supermarkets but have been successful. When a business, shop or venue agrees to take one of our collection boxes when we empty the box we give that business or venue a laminated certificate stating how much was raised in the box and thanking them and their clientele for their generosity. We feel that this is a way of showing our gratitude for peoples generosity.

	Even though our income this year has been minimal we have still carried out a considerable amount of work and although we have not been pushing our Services so much in Scotland we, nevertheless, have never turned away any disabled person, their carer or relatives and have successfully supported quite a number of disabled people through various events or crisis in their lives. In order to achieve this although Keith, the manager, has retired as a paid employee he has stayed on as the Volunteer Access and Inclusion Advisor, this has enabled him to continue to support disabled people over various avenues in life both in Scotland and in Ukraine. Although it would have been preferable to still have paid employees and work out of a commercial office it was necessary to cut back on our expenditure as much as we possibly could. We have cut back to only paying for our Zoom account, QuickBooks for our accounts, Ionos for our website and emails and our Insurance and subscription to the Information Commissioner. At the trustees meeting on 18th June trustee took the decision to divide up many of the responsibilities that had previously been administered by the manager. This process is still being carried out and will be for some months to come. There have been further difficulties in shipping wheelchairs and mobility aids that were previously purchased in China because of the USA and Iranian war in the Strait of Hormuz. To get round the combined problem of shipping and lack of funds we managed to secure a number of used wheelchairs that were in good condition and in cooperation with another charity we managed to ship them to Lviv in Ukraine. We keep in regular contact with the National Assembly of Organisations for Disabled People in Ukraine and individual contacts, some of whom are actually members of our charity.

	At the trustees meeting on 13th November 2025 trustees decided to concentrate activities on fundraising and to increase support to disabled people, carers and relatives as well as injured veterans of the war, in Ukraine. This does not mean that we would not be working in Scotland and have indeed supported over thirty disabled people across various aspects of life to ensure that disabled people in Scotland could live as independently as possible, however, while ensuring that we never turn anyone away that is in need of support, our efforts will be concentrated on supporting disabled people, carers, their relatives and veterans in Ukraine. And making this decision trustees have, in effect, focused the charities aims as they were in the beginning. Trustees will continue to develop new funding streams and look to working even closer with colleagues and other organisations which over the past year has included the Scottish and Westminster governments. Moving forward we will continue to work with colleagues and other organisations and collecting mobility aids that are in good condition and getting them shipped to Ukraine. Further, we will continue to seek greater funding so that we can again purchase wheelchairs in particular from China and ship them to those in need in Ukraine.

Achievements and Performance

Financial Review

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the financial period	Over the past year we have had to cut back on many of our outgoings but still remain an effective and efficient charity supporting disabled people in need in Scotland and in Ukraine. However, in recognising that funding has become much more difficult, and we simply do not have the same funds as we have had prior to the passing of our founding convenor, trustees have decided to concentrate much of their efforts in increasing our funding activities. Also, in deciding to prioritise disabled people in need in Ukraine, as was the charities principal purpose when it was formed, we hope to be able to support as many disabled people, carers, their relatives and military veterans as funding will allow. Although our work moving forward will be concentrated on Ukraine we have not turned away any disabled person, their carers or relatives in Scotland and have indeed supported in excess of 30 individuals ranging from issues of access, housing, mental health, physical disability, cognitive impairment and sensory impairment. We have supported two quite severe mental health cases over the past year and have successfully managed to support these persons in this desperate time in their lives. We have and continue to work with other organisations and agencies from both the statutory and voluntary sectors, such as housing associations, local authorities, health trusts, occupational therapists and other charities and NGOs, where working in collaboration means that we can improve and/or maintain the independence of disabled people. We continue to ensure that disabled people have the tools and accessibility to be able to live lives with dignity and respect and with choice and independence.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves	The charity has a 'Reserves Policy' but until such time as we have funds in excess of our yearly costs and outgoings we are not in a position to actually secure any reserves. Obviously, as and when any funds in excess of our service delivery are identified those funds would be put into reserves as per our reserves policy.
Donated facilities and services	As reported in last years annual report it was the intention of the manager to retire in 2025. In effect this has not happened, as such, but the manager has retired from being a paid employee to being the Volunteer Access and Inclusion Advisor. At this moment in time the ex-manager is still delivering most of the work that he was delivering as the manager, however, as reported above trustees have made a conscious decision to divide the tasks necessary for the charity to not only function in meeting our aims and objectives but hope to grow and support even more disabled people via a volunteer model of service delivery as oppose to paid employees. As already reported above funding has become more difficult principally because of the passing of our founding convenor and losing his contacts and some of the conflicts currently active across the globe that are making funding for smaller charities and organisations much more difficult with the larger organisations on the ground during these conflicts and requiring much needed urgent lifesaving funding . Consequently, funding continues to be difficult with more organisations chasing the same pots of funding when there isn't enough to go around in the first place. Although we have been quite fortunate in managing today's funds through donations and fundraising when setting up promotional tables in various sites we are still spending more than we are managing to raise. Trustees are acutely aware that in

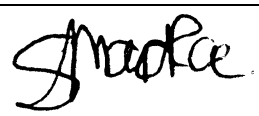
	the long-term this is not sustainable, hence the decision to narrow our fields of activity and concentrate on raising funds until such time as our income exceeds our expenditure and not the other way round. We have continued to be signed up to the DfT (Department of Transport) 'Rebuild Ukraine' project because we believe that access and inclusion for disabled people must be at the forefront of everything that needs rebuilt and replaced across all of Ukraine. However, as much as we would have liked to have attended the 'Rebuild Ukraine' conference in Warsaw, Poland we unfortunately do not have the funds to be able to do so but we continue to correspond via email. We also remain in contact with the National Assembly of Organisations for Disabled People in Ukraine and correspond with them electronically as gaining access into Ukraine still proves challenging, to say the least. We continue to work with the Scottish government in general and in particular Transport Scotland on the Roads for All Forum and Dualling of the A9 and A96. We have carried out some work with our local authority where we did not only rewrite their Equality Impact Assessment but pulled together the Fairer Scotland duty into the same assessment document as equality. Unfortunately, this type of activity does not gain any funds for the charity but certainly helps considerably with promoting our charitable activities. We continue to work on ensuring that accessibility and inclusion is at the forefront of government policy both and Westminster and Holyrood. We continue to collaborate with other voluntary organisations and NGO's working in partnership in ensuring the continued advancement and development of

	accessibility and inclusion for disabled people. All funds raised go towards meeting our charitable activities and promoting Disability Beyond Borders.

Declaration

The trustees declare that the trustees' report above has been approved by those present at the Annual General Meeting.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature	
Name	Shelly MacRae
Position	Convener
Date	25th October 2026