

F2C ANNUAL REPORT 2013

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

In what has been an interesting year can I thank the members and board for all their hard work in 2012/2013? And to those people behind the scenes who are keeping F2C going and keeping us being a proper, respectable organisation, I cannot thank you too much.

For the first time since the smoking bans dating from 2006 and 2007, we have finally beaten the anti smoking industry. Plain Packaging is not going to be implemented, along with minimum pricing of alcohol. It also seems that the nanny state temporarily, but probably alas not permanently, has run out of steam. Not only on the basis that drinkers and eaters believed that they were next, but also Nigel Farage of UKIP ubiquitously seen with a pint and a fag has more than helped our cause.

Our input against Plain Packaging was appreciated by fellow campaigners and I think that over the last six years we can also count on many successes: here is a brief list.

- Exposing hypocrisy of the G20 smoking rooms
- The first organisation to get outside smoking bans at some hospitals repealed
- Partly responsible for getting Junior Health Minister Gillian Merron deposed from her Lincoln constituency in 2010
- With the information supplied by Chris Snowdon in the media getting the British Medical Association to retract the 22x toxicity factoid of smoking in cars
- Increasing and effective media presence in journalism, radio and TV
- High political profile in Westminster
- Continuing to point out the anti smokers' junk science on passive smoking
- Evangelising and warning that other groups were next in the firing line

These are the ones off the top of my head: there must be more.

The anti tobacco industry never sleeps but the European Tobacco Directive does seem to be floundering. Current Junior Health Minister Anna Soubry has managed to upset everyone, including Parliament, with her cavalier attitude to democracy.

It is still a massive disappointment that there has not been an amendment to the indoor smoking ban and it is still something that F2C will continue to fight for with other campaigners and activists. We also have to be wary of continued pressure to ban smoking in cars, parks and other outside bans. Murmurs of banning smoking in homes with children has been muted.

So we must continue the fight: as I liken it to walking up a 'down' escalator, the moment you stop you are going backwards.

My thanks to everybody for all their support, advice, encouragement and above all hard work for F2C. We have much to be proud in what we have achieved.

**Dave Atherton
August 2013**

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Freedom To Choose

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STRUCTURE AND ADMINISTRATION

Freedom2Choose is an unincorporated membership association, formally constituted in October 2007.

Its objects are:

- to promote freedom of choice and to oppose any coercive restraints upon that freedom by any lawful means and with particular reference to the negative effects of smoking bans on individuals, groups, businesses and organisations and
- to advance public education in all such matters.

The Association is managed by an Executive Committee elected by the members at their annual general meeting.

Committee members serving during 2012 - 2013 were:

Dave Atherton
David Bunn
Carol Cattell
Belinda Cunnison
Andy Davis
Pete Jackson
Tony Ward
John Watson

Officers were:

Chairman	Dave Atherton
Treasurer	Belinda Cunnison
Committee Secretary	Carol Cattell
Membership	Pete Jackson
IT	Tony Ward
Press	John Watson

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

The Committee has held full meetings every month, receiving regular written reports including Finance, IT, and politics. These meetings have written agendas and are fully minuted.

F2C's media presence has increased, particularly on radio and TV. The monthly newsletter continues to be published, as do the blog and webpage articles.

Active participation in the F2C Forum has continued to decrease. This is in line with many other forum groups, as other social media (Facebook, Twitter) have become more popular. Nevertheless, the Forum is often visited, not least to read the useful daily news postings by two of our members.

Plain Packaging has featured prominently in pro-choice campaigning, and we were pleased to see any legislation on this matter has been put on the back burner by the Government.

We are hindered, as always, by the lack of active volunteers.



FINANCIAL REPORT

Accounts – Belinda Cunnison

**FREEDOM 2 CHOOSE
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE PERIOD 1 JULY 2012 TO 30 JUNE 2013**

	Ending	2012		Ending	2013
INCOME			INCOME		
Donations	£ 348.39		Donations	£ 120.51	
Standing orders	£ 980.00		Standing orders	£ 428.78	
Membership	£ 43.88		Membership	£ 10.00	
Renewal	£ 526.02		Renewal	£ 496.51	
Advertising	£ 22.36		Advertising	£ 0.00	
Shop sales	£ 102.50		Shop sales	£ 0.00	
NET interest	£ 0.24		NET interest	£ 0.34	
Scotland income**	<u>£ 63.30</u>				
	<u>£ 2,086.69</u>				
				<u>£ 1,056.14</u>	
EXPENDITURE			EXPENDITURE		
Marketing	£ 183.00		Marketing	£ 0.00	
Post & phone	£ 101.18		Post & phone	£ 0.00	
Travel & accommodation	£ 221.91		Travel & accommodation	£ 40.00	
Miscellaneous*	£ 46.75		Miscellaneous*	£ 18.00	
Corporation tax**	£ 0.00		Corporation tax**		
Website fee	£ 0.00		Website fee	£ -	
Paid to Scotland**	<u>£ 63.30</u>				
	<u>£ 616.14</u>				
				<u>£ 58.00</u>	
SURPLUS/DEFICIT OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE				<u>£ 998.14</u>	

*TICAP membership £8; admin charge from bank

**Freedom2Choose has been zero-rated for corporation tax as it has negligible trading income and bank interest. This situation will be reviewed in five years.

***Income collected on behalf of and paid to Freedom to Choose (Scotland) (largely through Paypal).

Cont../...

**FREEDOM 2 CHOOSE
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30 JUNE 2013**

Notes	30 June 2013	
	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS		
Bank Current Account		5,101
Paypal Account		61
Total		<hr/> 5,162
LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Taxation		0
Total		<hr/> 0
CURRENT ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<hr/> 5,162
CAPITAL AND RESERVES		
Carried forward (bank/Paypal)		4,164
Corporation tax 10-11		0
Surplus of Income over Expenditure during the period		998
		<hr/> 5,162
		<hr/>

Account Notes:

I have presented two years' accounts together in order to show differences. Our surplus has dropped by about 50 per cent, and our expenditure has plummeted, leaving the clear conclusion that exec members are meeting telephone/postal expenses personally.

Renewals have almost kept pace with last year; one-off donations are about one-third. New members are down to one this year.

We have been zero-rated for corporation tax as our accounts do not show significant trading income.

I have reviewed the books and invoices of Freedom to Choose and find the attached Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet to be a true representation of the position at 30 June 2013



H J Woolnough