

**BIG BROTHER WATCH LIMITED
REPORTS AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016**



Boxwood Accounting Ltd

83 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0HW

Big Brother Watch Limited
Unaudited Accounts
For The Year Ended 31 December 2016

Contents

Page

Company Information	1
Chairman's Report	1A
Directors' Report	2
Accountant's Report	3
Profit and Loss Account	4
Balance Sheet	5
The following pages do not form part of the statutory accounts:	
Detailed Profit and Loss Account	6

Big Brother Watch Limited
Company Information
For The Year Ended 31 December 2016

Directors	Mr William Norton Ms Heather Brooke
Company Number	06982557
Registered Office	55 Tufton Street London SW1P 3QL
Accountants	Boxwood Accounting Ltd 83 Victoria Street London SW1H 0HW

Big Brother Watch Limited
Unaudited Accounts
For The Year Ended 31 December 2016

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

Big Brother Watch works to ensure that those who fail to respect our privacy, undermine our online security or fail to protect our personal data, are held to account. We campaign on behalf of the individual to ensure your privacy and civil liberties are maintained in the digital age by government, public authorities and business.

Founded in 2009, Big Brother Watch produces unique research exposing the misuse of powers, informative factsheets explaining complex laws, and briefings for Parliament, the press and the public.

2016 marks the first year in which Big Brother Watch has operated under its own independent status. I am proud to have taken over as Chairman and I pay tribute to my predecessor, Matthew Elliott, and wish him well in his new projects. I also take great pleasure in welcoming Heather Brooke to the board of directors. Her experience and counsel, not just as the person who exposed the parliamentary expenses scandal, but as a respected commentator on digital issues and freedom of information campaigner, will be invaluable to the organisation.

The team have built on our successful heritage with three prominent and well-received reports which received considerable coverage across all media at national and local level, both mainstream and specialist: **Are they still Watching – the cost of CCTV** (February); **Safe in Police Hands? – Police data breaches** (July); and **Another Brick in the Wall – Classroom Management Software** (November).

Parliamentary activity remains a major aspect of Big Brother Watch's focus. Our work was cited during the debates on both the **Investigatory Powers Bill** and the **Digital Economy Bill**. Our submissions have been quoted in the following official publications:

- House of Commons Science & Technology Select Committee: *Investigatory Powers Bill: technology issues* (HC573, February 2016)
- House of Commons Science & Technology Select Committee: *The Big Data Dilemma* (HC468, February 2016)
- *Report of the Joint Committee on the Draft Investigatory Powers Bill* (HL Paper 93, HC651, February 2016)
- House of Commons Culture, Media & Sport Select Committee: *Cyber Security: Protection of personal data online* (HC148, June 2016)
- Department of Health Report: *Roles and Functions of the National Data Guardian for Health and Care* (July 2016)
- Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation: *Report of the Bulk Powers Review* (Cm 9326, August 2016)
- Surveillance Camera Commissioner: *Annual Report 2015/16* (November 2016)

In addition, the team gave oral evidence before the Parliamentary Public Bills Committee on the Digital Economy Bill, as well as participating in formal written consultations on Better Use of Data, a Select Committee inquiry into Biometrics and the Surveillance Camera Commissioner's Strategy. They continue to provide briefings to parliamentarians, administrators, journalists, civil society groups and other activists. We are actively involved members of the **Cabinet Office Privacy and Consumer Group**, the **Surveillance Camera Commissioner Advisory Council**, the **Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) privacy group**, **Don't Spy on Us** and the **Counter Extremism Coalition**. Our Chief Executive is also a member of the **Advisory Council for the Center of Democracy and Technology** in the USA.

Staff members addressed sixteen conferences and roundtables during the year, of which the highlights were The Chatham House Conference on privacy, the Machine Learning Conference at the Royal Society and the British Association of Public Safety Communications Officers (APCO) regarding drones, smart cities and body-worn cameras. More intriguingly, Big Brother Watch factsheets were included in an art exhibition at The Whitechapel Gallery - Cass & Bank Space Gallery about surveillance camera security, and the organisation featured in the **Our Lives in Data** exhibition at the Science Museum in Kensington.

Our prominence has naturally been reflected in Big Brother Watch's high media presence throughout the year in the press, on the radio and on television, where our specialist commentary is highly valued, reacting to news and events.

The **Investigatory Powers Bill** of course provided us with widespread coverage across the national and international media. The Chief Executive wrote an article for CNN, appeared on BBC *Newsnight* and in a range of international newspapers during the enactment of this legislation. A story about the BBC using surveillance technology to assess if people were paying their **TV licence** led to the Chief Executive being interviewed on the Radio 4 *Today Programme*, by BBC news and Sky News and in the national press. We were also active in response to the revelation that **Aviva Insurance** were scanning social media to establish what a new drivers insurance should be. As might be expected, the increasing prevalence of **drones** has involved the team to engage with the topic constantly – one such story led to 41 media hits for Big Brother Watch on one day alone.

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For The Year Ended 31 December 2016

We helped to create the **Don't Spy on Us** advertising campaign to raise awareness of the Investigatory Powers Bill. During 2016 we also featured in two **Penguin Books Podcasts**, both of which reached the number 1 slot on Apple Podcast downloads, and a documentary film about the Investigatory Powers Bill. The Chief Executive is a regular contributor on **Talk Radio's The Real Hustle**.

Just as important has been our direct public outreach work. Our website receives impressive traffic for a comparatively specialist campaign group, and our factsheets are widely recognised as the go-to source for information and no-nonsense enlightenment on complex, technical issues. We now publish thirty-one separate factsheets, covering all aspects of data privacy, and specific briefings on issues with the Digital Economy and Investigatory Powers Bills. This makes our website a unique one-stop resource for the general public. Big Brother Watch will continue to extend the breadth of topics covered, to embrace new areas such as the **Internet of Things** and the forthcoming **General Data Protection Regulation**, as well as updating our existing offerings to ensure they remain relevant.

Democracy rests upon the informed consent of the citizens. In a digital age, the public need to be engaged so that they may understand how data protection law operates, and how it is going to change. Twitter remains our strongest social media outreach route, and the staff dedicate considerable time to it. We had a 16% increase in followers in 2016, and this trend has continued into the new year. When Edward Snowden retweeted a post by Paul Waugh, the Executive Editor, Politics for Huffington Post, regarding a story they had published about our campaign on the Investigatory Powers Bill, I'm told the ensuing traffic temporarily crashed the Huffington Post server.

So, Big Brother Watch can look back on 2016 as a year of solid achievement and growth, all the more impressive for having been produced by a small, dedicated team. I would like to express my personal thanks to Renate, Dan and Henry (and also to Ben Snaith, our temporary summer intern from Queen Mary University of London. It has been an enjoyable privilege to have worked with them.

Perhaps more to the point, I would like to pay an even more heartfelt tribute to our supporters. Ours is in some ways a niche interest, but in our modern world it is one which directly touches the lives of everyone, and our work is all the more important precisely because it is so easily overlooked. We could not have achieved all that we have in terms of raising public awareness and holding the powers-that-be to account, without their assistance.

Big Brother Watch heads into 2017 in a reasonably healthy position. We have a range of reports ready and others planned; we are maintaining strong coverage in the press; and we maintain good relations with Parliamentarians, government groups and the other NGOs in this sphere. The volume of detailed, complex legislation that was debated in 2016 naturally drew our focus towards Westminster. But there is a wider world beyond SW1, and it contains just as many threats to the privacy of the individual. In 2017, then, as time and resources allow, Big Brother Watch intends to direct more attention to the private sector, in our customary innovative and engaging approach.

We are the only privacy group that is able to put forward concerns and offer advice in a down-to-earth and accessible manner, with a proven track record of success.

We have a strong vision for the next year and beyond in relation to where our voice will sit and what issues we intend to pursue. Whilst this is in some ways a move away from the initial roots of the organisation, it is a natural progression for us and keeps us relevant in these changing times.

Above all, Big Brother Watch will continue to do what it has always done: we watch the people who are watching you.

William Norton
Non-Executive Chairman

Big Brother Watch Limited
Company No. 06982557
Directors' Report For The Year Ended 31 December 2016

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016.

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing the financial statements the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company 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 company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Principal Activity

The company's principal activity continues to be that of non-trading and operates on a not-for-profit basis.

Review of Business

Directors

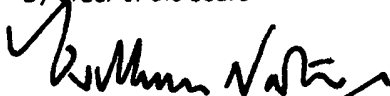
The directors who held office during the year were as follows:

Mr William Norton

Small Company Rules

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

By order of the board



WILLIAM NORTON

Date 12.6.17

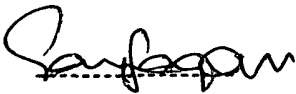
Big Brother Watch Limited
Accountant's Report
For The Year Ended 31 December 2016

In accordance with the engagement letter dated and in order to assist you to fulfil your duties under the Companies Act 2006, we have compiled the financial statements of the company from the accounting records and information and explanations you have given to us.

This report is made to the directors in accordance with the terms of our engagement. Our work has been undertaken to prepare for approval by the directors the financial statements that we have been engaged to compile, to report to the directors that we have done so, and to state those matters that we have agreed to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's directors for our work or for this report.

You have acknowledged on the balance sheet as at year ended 31 December 2016 your duty to ensure that the company has kept proper accounting records and to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view under the Companies Act 2006. You consider that the company is exempt from the statutory requirement for an audit for the year.

We have not been instructed to carry out an audit of the financial statements. For this reason, we have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the financial statements.



Date

Boxwood Accounting Ltd

83 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0HW

Big Brother Watch Limited
Profit and Loss Account
For The Year Ended 31 December 2016

	2016	2015
	£	£
TURNOVER	83,237	-
Staff costs	(60,959)	-
Depreciation and other amounts written off assets	(305)	-
Other charges	(15,357)	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
NET PROFIT	<u>6,616</u>	<u>-</u>

Big Brother Watch Limited
Balance Sheet
As at 31 December 2016

	2016	2015
	£	£
Fixed assets	1,695	-
Current assets	7,545	100
Prepayments and accrued income	4,146	-
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	(6,270)	-
NET CURRENT ASSETS	5,421	100
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	7,116	100
Accruals and deferred income	(400)	-
NET ASSETS	6,716	100
CAPITAL AND RESERVES	6,716	100

Notes

1. General Information

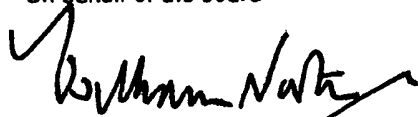
Big Brother Watch Limited Registered number 06982557 is a limited by shares company incorporated in England & Wales. The Registered Office is 55 Tufton Street, London, SW1P 3QL.

For the year ending 31 December 2016 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.
- These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the micro-entity provisions in the Companies Act 2006, Pt. 15 and FRS 105 the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the Micro-entities Regime.

On behalf of the board



WILLIAM NORTON

Date 12.6.17

Big Brother Watch Limited
Detailed Profit and Loss Account
For The Year Ended 31 December 2016

	2016		2015	
	£	£	£	£
TURNOVER				
Income - Donations		83,237		-
STAFF COSTS				
Wages and salaries	56,991		-	
Employers NI	2,514		-	
Temporary staff	1,385		-	
Staff entertaining	32		-	
Travel expenses	37		-	
		(60,959)		-
DEPRECIATION AND OTHER AMOUNTS WRITTEN OFF ASSETS				
Depreciation	305		-	
		(305)		-
OTHER CHARGES				
<i>Premises expenses:</i>				
Rates	10,268		-	
<i>General administration costs:</i>				
Computer software, consumables and maintenance	131		-	
Computer and IT consumables	200		-	
Printing	70		-	
Stationery	650		-	
Other marketing costs	1,812		-	
Website costs	400		-	
Accountancy fees	759		-	
Subscriptions	283		-	
Royalties and licence fees payable	732		-	
Bank charges	54		-	
Sundry expenses	(2)		-	
	5,089		-	
		(15,357)		-
NET PROFIT		6,616		-