



Fundraising Ethical Policy – December 2021

Date of Next Review: December 2022

As a charity we are tremendously grateful for the generous support provided by our donors.

This policy outlines Cockpit's aims, guidelines and responsibilities with respect to donations and gifts. It is designed to ensure due diligence and an appropriately documented, fast and efficient process conducive to fundraising which is both effective and ethical.

We are required by law to determine whether to accept or refuse donations in the context of what is in the best interest of the charity. Cockpit seeks to raise money in line with our values and charitable aims to avoid any potential risk to the charity or detrimental impact on our beneficiaries while fulfilling our mission.

It is our aim and intention to build respectful and open relationships with funders and be transparent and accountable in our fundraising practices.

Guidelines

Our objective is to raise funds by active and effective means while balancing the benefits against the potential reputational risks for Cockpit. We will endeavour to avoid receiving money from any source which creates harm to people or environments.

Donations and grants from charities regulated and scrutinised by the Charity Commission for England and Wales, the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator, and the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland will not normally be subject to ethical review.

All corporate sponsors and individual supporters providing support of £10,000 or more per year will be subject to a screening of publicly available information. This screening will be focused on the activities of the donor with particular reference to any activity that might be the source of reputational or ethical risk. This will normally be a combination of news searches and a registry check (for example Companies House data). The advice and opinion of individuals who have knowledge of specific funders may also be sought. Should this screening raise any cause for concern, the donation will be discussed with the Fundraising Committee and a course of action agreed.

Given our fundraising capacity and resource we will be realistic and proportional in our approach.

Responsibilities

We will act in the best interests of our charity, carefully considering all offers of financial support.

Cockpit will only refuse or return donations in exceptional circumstances in which case we will keep a record of our decision and the reasons for it. This may include, but is not limited to, when acceptance of the funds would damage the reputation of Cockpit.

Donations will only be used for the purpose for which they are given. Cockpit will keep a record of donations that are given for specific purposes and ensure we keep to the conditions of the donation. Cockpit follows all legal accounting requirements.

Please direct any questions relating to this policy to the Head of Development in the first instance.

