



Ethical Fundraising Policy

This policy sets out how the Nene Valley Railway manages the ethical issues and social responsibility within fundraising.

Specifically, we aim at all times to be open, honest, fair and to operate in a legal way that meets not only the law, but also fundraising regulation and best practice, including the Fundraising Regulator's [Code of Fundraising Practice](#).

Everyone at the NVR who is involved in fundraising has a responsibility to be aware of and comply with the ethical issues and procedures in this policy.

We will always be honest about what we can achieve when asking for funds, submit realistic budgets, use the funds for the purpose intended and ensure that we provide any reports required on time.

We will ensure that everyone is aware of and consistently complies with the [regulatory guidance on fundraising behaviours](#) and respond promptly and effectively to any [fundraising complaints](#).

People And Organisation

Trustees

The trustees are aware of and will comply with Charity Commission guidance [CC3a](#), regarding trustees responsibilities, particularly in relation to always acting in the charity's best interests and managing any conflicts of interest.

The trustees are also aware of and follow the 6 principles in Charity Commission guidance document CC20 ([Charity Fundraising: a guide to trustees duties](#)).

The trustees have zero tolerance for abuse, including discrimination, bullying and sexual harassment, not only for fundraising staff and volunteers, but for anyone who is involved with the railway. We will maintain a culture of respect and equality, will ensure that there are processes to raise concerns that everyone is aware of and is confident to use and we will deal with any allegations of abuse promptly, sensitively and in accordance with employment and any other laws.

Supporters

Supporters have a right to expect us to provide clear, truthful information on our work, including reporting on how we spend the funding we are given and managing donors' information responsibly.

We will comply with the guidance issued by the Charity Regulators and UK law, including in respect of openness and honesty with our supporters and members of the public.

We will respect the privacy and contact preferences of our donors. We will respond promptly to requests to cease contact or deal with complaints and act to address their causes.

Beneficiaries

How we represent our beneficiaries, in our communications, is always respectful of them and portrays them in the way they would wish to be seen. We will only use personal information for which they have given consent and for the purposes they have agreed and will not disclose anything that might put them at risk, particularly children and vulnerable people.

Donors

We will ensure that there is not:

- Unreasonable intrusion on privacy.
- Unreasonably persistent fundraising.
- Undue pressure to donate.

And we will not accept a donation that is not in the railway's best interests.

Commercial Partners

We will not partner with any organisation that produces goods/services or acts in a way that is contrary to our charitable objects, or values.

We are aware of and comply with the Charity Commission guidance [RS2 – Charities and Commercial Partners](#). We will ensure that any commercial agreement represents a fair deal for the charity and.

- Clearly establishes what we expect to gain from it, prior to entering into an agreement.
- Set up appropriate systems to monitor and review the partnership.
- Take appropriate steps to identify and manage any risks.
- Ensure from the outset that the expectations of both the charity and the company have been agreed and.
- Can be managed effectively and appropriately.

We will disclose any commercial partnerships in our Annual Report.

Statutory Authorities

We will also be mindful of the Charity Commission guidance [RR7 - Independence of charities from the state](#). In particular, we will ensure that we remain independent and that any funding provided does not discharge the statutory duties of the state.

Systems And Procedures

Donations

If supporters wish their donation(s) to be used in a specific way, or for a specific purpose, they may make a restricted donation by providing written instructions with their donation. We will always respect this.

Refusals

We abide by the law which requires us, in deciding whether to accept or refuse a donation, to consider which action is in the charity's best overall interest.

Due Diligence

We will undertake reasonable due diligence of donors, to ensure they don't hold views or are involved in activities that might be incompatible with our role and damage our reputation. In terms of donations, we will ensure that any gift, whether cash or in kind, is safe to accept and, doing so, would be in the best interests of the charity. We will also consider issues, such as suspicious donations, or managing large anonymous gifts, or those from vulnerable individuals.

Version Control - Approval and Review

Version No	Approved By	Approval Date	Main Changes	Review Period
1.0	NVR Board	July 2024	First issue	Biennially
2.0	NVR Board	July 2024	Addition of 'whether cash or in kind' in Due Diligence paragraph. Removal of spurious 'your' in same paragraph.	Biennially. Before 1/7/2026

Signature of the chairman of the board of directors.....*M D Purcell*.....

Date9th July 2024.....