

**Policy Name:** Ethical Fundraising Policy  
**By:** Gemma Fleet – Fundraising Manager  
**Last updated:** April 2022

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## 1. Overview

Epilepsy Scotland works with people living with epilepsy to ensure that their voice is heard. We have a diverse range of volunteers, donors and fundraisers who support our work and enable us to meet our charitable objectives.

## 2. Accepting donations

- 2.0 We assess each donation received on an individual basis for potential ethical and reputational risks, these could include association with illegal activity or activities that could have a negative impact on people with epilepsy.
- 2.1 It is the responsibility of fundraisers to ensure donors are informed how their donation supports people living with epilepsy, if a donor misinterprets the mission and work of the charity and states they believe they are donating to fund something the charity does not do, the fundraisers must clarify.
- 2.2 Donors are responded to depending on their needs and preferences as an individual so they can make an informed decision, if a fundraiser thinks a donor requires additional care and support to make an informed decision, they will not progress with the donation.
- 2.3 Fundraisers are encouraged to put the needs of the individual first, above and beyond securing a donation. If a fundraiser thinks somebody they are talking to may be vulnerable, they can offer further support by providing the Epilepsy Scotland helpline number.
- 2.4 Our Fundraising Guarantee: <https://www.epilepsyscotland.org.uk/our-fundraising-guarantee-to-you/>

## 3. Historical Donations

- 3.0 If valid concerns are raised about a historical receipt of funds, we will review and take appropriate action.
- 3.1 Where multi-year funding partnerships are in place, we review the suitability of these funding arrangements annually to consider any developments.

## 4. Partnerships

- 4.0 When entering a funding, pro bono, or gift 'in kind' partnership with another organisation we first conduct due diligence to enable us to make an informed decision on whether to commence the partnership. If approved, a Memorandum of Understanding is drawn up to outline commitments of each party with timescale for review.
- 4.1 If valid concerns are raised about a historical partnership, we will review and take appropriate action.
- 4.2 Epilepsy Scotland reserves the right to terminate partnerships without reason given if deemed to conflict with the charity objectives.