

KING'S LYNN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

ALSO KNOWN AS THE KING'S CENTRE

CAMPAIGNING AND POLITICAL ACTIVITY POLICY

Introduction

The trustees acknowledge, and will seek to abide by, the guidance from the Charity Commission: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/speaking-out-guidance-on-campaigning-and-political-activity-by-charities-cc9/speaking-out-guidance-on-campaigning-and-political-activity-by-charities>

In particular, the trustees acknowledge the following definitions provided by the Charity Commission:

Campaigning: the commission uses this word to refer to awareness-raising and to efforts to educate or involve the public by mobilising their support on a particular issue, or to influence or change public attitudes. It also uses it to refer to campaigning activity which aims to ensure that existing laws are observed. The commission distinguishes this from an activity which involves trying to secure support for, or oppose, a change in the law or in the policy or decisions of central government, local authorities or other public bodies, whether in this country or abroad, and which it refers to in this guidance as 'political activity'.

Political activity: political activity, as defined in this guidance, must only be undertaken by a charity in the context of supporting the delivery of its charitable purposes. The commission uses this term to refer to activity by a charity which is aimed at securing, or opposing, any change in the law or in the policy or decisions of central government, local authorities or other public bodies, whether in this country or abroad. It includes activity to preserve an existing piece of legislation, where a charity opposes it being repealed or amended. This differs from activity aimed at ensuring that an existing law is observed, which falls under the definition of Campaigning.

Policy statement

The trustees recognise that any campaigning, or political activity must be undertaken only in the context of supporting the delivery of its charitable purposes, which are:

1. The advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrines set out in the fourth schedule of the trust deed, and the worship of God in the county of Norfolk and elsewhere by any means whatsoever including (but not by way of limitation) the preaching and proclamation of the Christian gospel, and the teaching of Christian doctrine and principles, and the pastoral care of Christian people, and the printing and distribution of the Bible and Christian literature.
2. The relief of persons who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress, or who are aged or sick.
3. The advancement of education on the basis of Christian principles and, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the provision of such education in any educational establishment and, if the Trustees so decide, the provision of one or more charitable educational establishments for the general education of children or adults on the basis of such Christian principles.

The trustees and its representatives may choose to express support for particular policies which will contribute to the delivery of the above charitable purposes but will ensure that its independence is maintained, and perceptions of its independence are not adversely affected by any statements made or actions taken. The trustees recognise that such activity must never be party political, and the charity will not give its support to any one political party.