



## Parameters of the National Fundraising Scheme

### Introduction

The National Fundraising Scheme (NFS) is a cooperative fundraising initiative run by Together for Short Lives in partnership with members of the scheme. The scheme is designed to enable voluntary sector providers of children's hospice or palliative care to benefit from England and UK wide fundraising opportunities, which as local charities they would otherwise not have access to.

### Eligibility criteria for membership

Membership of the NFS is open to organisation members of Together for Short Lives which are charities providing children's hospice or palliative care in the UK or in the Crown dependencies (Jersey, Guernsey and Isle of Man) and that meet **all** of the following criteria:

- Provide children's hospice or palliative care services for 0-18 year olds or a sub set of that group, with the service separately identifiable from other services they may run
- Operate on a local or regional basis and not England or UK wide
- Have an ongoing minimum expenditure on children's hospice or palliative care of £250k per annum and a maximum of £20m per annum
- Have a minimum of 1 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) fundraiser employed by the service and can support the scheme at a local or regional level
- Without first speaking to the Director of Fundraising at Together for Short Lives as early in the bid process as possible (see below for further information), do not bid for partnerships where the company requires its charity partner to have an England or UK wide coverage **and/or** will involve more than one NFS member combining to make a proposal.

### Operation of the scheme

#### *England and UK wide partnerships*

England and UK wide corporate partnerships are the remit of the NFS. Together for Short Lives acknowledges that in some circumstances the boundaries may not be black and white and that each corporate partner is unique in what they are looking for from their charity partnerships.

When members of the NFS are considering bidding for a corporate partnership that:

- requires its charity to have an England or UK wide coverage, **and/or**
- will involve more than one NFS member combining to make a proposal,

the Director of Fundraising will speak with the Director of Fundraising at Together for Short Lives at the earliest possible opportunity to discuss the best course forward.

In very rare circumstances where no agreement can be reached at Director of Fundraising level, discussions will take place between Chief Executives of both organisations.

#### *Deduction of costs*

Together for Short Lives incurs costs in order to raise the funds, including a team of staff. These costs will be deducted from the gross income raised before it is distributed to members. While the level of costs and return on investment will vary from year to year, we will endeavour to achieve a return of investment of at least 3:1. Together for Short Lives will provide a breakdown of expenditure at the end of each financial year.

#### *Together for Short Lives share*

Together for Short Lives receives 15% of the net income of the scheme to support our UK wide work for the children's palliative care sector, enabling us to continue to provide support to organisations, professionals and families, with the overall aim of improving the lives of children and young people.

#### *Restricted funds*

Although varying from year to year, a significant proportion of income to the NFS is received from corporate partners who specify which members of the scheme they want their money to go to, often by twinning their local sites with local services.

#### *Unrestricted funds*

Unrestricted funds (income not restricted to a particular service) will be allocated in proportion to members' expenditure on children's palliative care. There will be a minimum level that no member's allocation will fall below, currently set at 1.75% of the total unrestricted income. Expenditure will be based on the figures in the Annual Report and Accounts for the preceding year. Where services support children over the age of 18, members must calculate the expenditure on the care of 0-18 year olds and have this confirmed by their auditors.

#### *Distribution of funds*

The net income raised from the scheme will normally be distributed in March each year based on the results of the previous 12 months.

#### *New entrants*

Organisations that approach Together for Short Lives to join the scheme must meet the above criteria. When smaller charities first reach the threshold of a minimum expenditure on children's palliative care of £250k, the requirement is to have "ongoing" income of over £250k. Where the increase was due to a one-off legacy or grant for example, that charity will not be able to join the scheme.

Organisations who submit their audited accounts to us before 31 March in any year would be eligible to join the scheme for the following financial year (April to March).

## National Fundraising Scheme membership agreement

The National Fundraising Scheme is a cooperative fundraising initiative run by Together for Short Lives in partnership with its NFS members. In order for an organisation to be part of the scheme, its Chief Executive must agree to the following statement:

*I confirm that my organisation is compliant with the eligibility criteria and agree that the organisation will operate within the parameters and spirit of the scheme as outlined in this Membership Agreement. In particular I confirm that*

\_\_\_\_\_ (name of Organisation)

	Please tick
Provides children's hospice or palliative care services for 0-18 year olds or a sub set of that group, with the service separately identifiable from other services they may run	
Operates on a local or regional basis and not England or UK wide	
Has ongoing annual expenditure on children's hospice or palliative care of between £250k and £20m	
Has a minimum of 1 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) fundraiser employed by the service and can support the scheme at a local or regional level	
Will not, without first speaking to the Director of Fundraising at Together for Short Lives as early in the bid process as possible, bid for partnerships where the company requires its charity partner to have an England or UK wide coverage <b>and/or</b> will involve more than one NFS member combining to make a proposal.	
Has expenditure on children's (0-18) palliative care in the last financial year of:  (If the service supports young people over 18, the quoted figure on expenditure on the care of 0-18 year olds has been confirmed in writing by the auditors).	Please enter amount:

Name:

Role at organisation: Chief Executive

Date:

Signature: