

## **The Academy of Medical Sciences**

### **Donations Policy**

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1. The Academy of Medical Sciences fundraises to support the aims and objectives of the organisation. We are grateful to our donors for their support and aim to give all donors appropriate acknowledgement and assurance that their gifts will be used for their intended purpose.

#### **Accepting donations and due diligence**

2. We seek to be transparent in accepting donations, including those given in the form of money, as well as gifts in kind such as physical objects (eg furniture), time (eg seconded staff) and services (eg complimentary advice).
3. Prior to accepting a donation, we may require further information in relation to the source of a potential gift as it is essential that the source of any donation is not in conflict with the values or aims of the Academy.
4. In accordance with our duties we will strive to balance the need to carry out due diligence on potential donors and gifts with the avoidance of unnecessary delay or invasion of donor privacy. If there is any concern there will be discussion with the potential benefactor prior to any decision to decline a gift.
5. The Academy's process for due diligence for potential donors is detailed in the 'Due diligence for potential donors document' (annexed).

#### **Principles**

6. When offered a gift, consideration will be given to whether acceptance would:
  - a) Damage, distort or limit the operation of the Academy in fulfilling its stated objectives.
  - b) Compromise the Academy's status as an independent organisation.
  - c) Damage the Academy's integrity, public image or professional reputation.
  - d) Create a conflict of interest.
  - e) Harm relationships with other partners, funders or stakeholders.
  - f) Result in loss of support from other sources.
  - g) Conflict with the mission and organisational strategy of the Academy.
7. The Academy will not accept donations:
  - a) From questionable or inappropriate sources; or
  - b) If the donor has acted illegally in the acquisition of funds; or
  - c) If acceptance would damage the Academy's reputation; or

- d) Where the source of the donation is in contravention of the Academy's investment policy; or
- e) If acceptance would result in a net loss to the Academy.

8. The Academy will consider whether to accept a donation on the best available information at the time. If, after accepting a gift, circumstances change or information becomes available pertaining to principles outlined in sections 6 or 7, the Academy may seek to review, amend, re-deploy or, in the most extreme circumstances, return a gift, in accordance with the terms of the associated gift agreement and in line with any Charity Commission requirements.

### **Approval of gifts**

9. Initial screening will be carried out by the Fundraising Team for most new donors who are not Fellows and any concerns will be highlighted as necessary. Approval will be sought for gifts from new donors to the Academy as follows:

- Any gifts over £1,000 will be referred to the Executive Director for approval.
- Any gifts over £10,000 will be referred to the Officers for approval.
- Any gifts over £50,000 will be referred to Council, or Finance Committee for approval.

10. Referral to the Academy's Executive Director, President, Officers and Council may also be required for gifts under £1,000 if initial screening raises issues related to Principles 6 and 7 above.

### **Gift agreements**

11. We will seek to use the Academy's standard Deed of Gift for all donations, and always for donations of over £5,000. This Deed includes clauses relating to the purpose, recognition and payment of the gift, along with processes for monitoring and reporting, data protection, warranties and termination. For multi-year or gifts in perpetuity, grounds and processes for review, amendment, dispute resolution and termination will be described.

12. As described in section 8, the Academy will seek to ensure gift agreements allow for review, amendment, re-deployment or returning of a gift if circumstances change or information becomes available pertaining to principles outlined in sections 6 or 7.

13. Naming may be withdrawn by action of AMS Council where concerns arise regarding the source of the funding or the individual or organisation named.