



PeCAN policy on campaigning and advocacy

PeCAN will consider engaging in campaigns and advocacy directed at policymaking bodies including local and national government provided that:

- it is on topics that support PeCAN's objectives,
- it remains a secondary part of our activity,
- we are balanced in our approach to political parties,
- we are respectful in tone, specific and constructive.

PeCAN is a non-political non-partisan organisation. PeCAN may choose to distance itself from advocacy or campaigning carried out by its members and supporters that is not carried out in this way.

Date first adopted: 11 November 2020

Last reviewed: 6 December 2023

Next review: Dec 2024

Context:

Charity law sets limits on the political activity and campaigning that can be carried out by charities. The legal requirements include that:

- An organisation will not be charitable if its purposes are political.
- Campaigning and political activity can be legitimate and valuable activities for charities to undertake.
- Political campaigning including campaigning for a change in law or policy must be undertaken by a charity only in the context of supporting the delivery of its charitable purposes.
- A charity's involvement with political parties is balanced.
- A charity must not give support or funding to a political party, nor to a candidate or politician.
- A charity cannot be used as a vehicle for the expression of the political views of any individual trustee or staff member.

The full government guidelines can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/speaking-out-guidance-on-campaigning-and-political-activity-by-charities-cc9>