**Fundraising & Communications Policy**

The Meath Epilepsy Charity is committed to its charitable aims and fundraises to support and enhance the lives of our residents. We are proud members of The Institute of Fundraising and the Fundraising Regulator. We always practice ethical fundraising and always practice the Fundraising Regulators promise to be open, honest, fair and legal.

This policy seeks to cover the ethical issues and social responsibility within fundraising. All the Meath staff involved in fundraising have a responsibility to be aware and have a thorough understanding of the ethical issues referred to in this policy.

**Supporters**

The Meath respects the rights of its supporters to clear, truthful information on the work of our charity. We openly report how we spend donated and statutory monies and we subscribe fully to GDPR legislation and manage donors' information responsibly. Our Data Protection Lead is Ramesh Poudel and can be contacted through dataprotection@meath.org.uk . We comply with the Charity Commission and UK law in every respect.

As members of the Fundraising Regulators Scheme, we follow its Fundraising Promise, which helps to ensure that organisations raising money for charity from the public do so honestly and properly. The Meath’s registration can be seen by visiting the website www.fundraisingregulator.org.uk

We will respect the privacy and contact preferences of all donors. We will respond promptly to requests to cease contacts or complaints and act as best we can to address their causes.

**Refusals**

We abide by the law which requires us, in deciding whether to accept or refuse a donation, to consider which action is in the charity's best overall interest.

We will not, however, accept donations made by donors whose activities appear to be in direct conflict with the best interests of our patients.

We will not undertake business with companies or individuals who participate in activities which could cause detriment to the charity's reputation; which will disproportionately decrease the amount of donations to further the work of the charity.

The responsibility of the judgement on whether The Meath Epilepsy Charity should refuse a donation lays first with the Head of Fundraising & Communications, the C.E.O and ultimately the Board of Trustees.

**Commercial partners**

The Meath Epilepsy Charity will not endorse products, treatments or companies.

**Use of donations**

If supporters wish to make a donation to a specific area of The Meath Epilepsy Charity’s work, they may make a restricted donation by providing written instructions to this effect with their donation. We will always respect this, and the Head of Fundraising will ensure that the donation is ring fenced and that all relevant parties are aware of this.

**Communications**

The Meath Epilepsy Charity is committed to respecting the privacy of all our staff, residents and supporters and adheres to all of the General Data Protection Register (GDPR) regulations. Full details of our privacy and cookie policies can be found on our website [www.meath.org.uk](http://www.meath.org.uk) If you have any queries please contact the data protection lead Ramesh Poudel dataprotection@meath.org.uk

Tania Cantoni

Head of Fundraising & Communications

Policy written – February 2018

Due for Renew – February 2021