

Women and Children First Complaints Policy

Policy statement

Receiving feedback and responding to complaints is an important part of improving Women and Children First's accountability. Ensuring our stakeholders can hold us to account will improve the quality of our work in all areas.

Scope

This policy applies to Women and Children First and is global in its application. A complaint can be made by any supporter, partner organisation, community or individual with whom we work, or any member of the public whether an individual, company or other entity, in the UK for anywhere else in the world.

Definitions

A complaint is an expression of dissatisfaction about the standards of service, actions or lack of action, by Women and Children First or its staff and associated personnel, including contractors, suppliers and volunteers. It is a criticism that expects a reply and would like things to be changed. Complaints could include the following (which is not an exhaustive list):

- Concern from someone we work with about the quality of programme delivery
- Concern from a member of the public or supporter about a particular fundraising approach or campaign action
- Concern about the behaviour of staff or associated personnel

A complaint has to be about some action for which Women and Children First is responsible or is within our sphere of influence.

A complaint is not:

- A general inquiry about Women and Children First's work
- A request for information
- A contractual dispute
- A request to amend records e.g. to correct an address, cancel a donation
- A request to unsubscribe from a Women and Children First service e.g. a campaign newsletter or email

The complaints procedures do not apply to complaints that are subject to current investigation by any regulatory body or other legal or official authorities in the UK or other countries in which we operate. Such issues will be dealt with by the relevant regulatory body.

Procedures for making a complaint

It is hoped that most complaints or concerns about Women and Children First's work or behaviour can and will be dealt with informally by staff or volunteers at a local level. However, it is recognised that not all issues can be resolved in this way and that a formal complaints mechanism is required for those occasions when an individual or

organisation wishes to make their complaint a matter of record and to receive a formal response.

How to make a complaint

All formal complaints should be made in writing either directly from the individual or organisation making the complaint or via someone acting on their behalf. See below for details about to whom to address a complaint.

Who can make a complaint?

This policy is global in application. A complaint can be made by:

- Any supporter
- Partner organisation
- Community or individual with whom we work
- Any member of the public whether an individual, company or other entity in the UK or around the world.

How to make a complaint

In the first instance, contact the Chief Executive Officer:

info@womenandchildrenfirst.org.uk

0207 700 6309

For the Fundraising Regulator, visit www.fundraisingregulator.org.uk/complaints or phone 0300 999 3407.