



## **Birmingham Friends of the Earth's Fundraising FAQs**

### **1. Data protection:**

Birmingham Friends of the Earth complies with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulations and the Data Protection Act. No personal data is held on individual members and supporters without their prior permission.

The reason for holding the data is explained, for example, "please keep me informed about other BFoE events and activities" and it is only held for the period of time necessary for that purpose. For example, information about people signing petitions is not retained after the petition has been submitted unless the person signing has asked to be kept informed.

All personal data is held in a secure and safe way. Database records are held on a secure database which is password protected and only accessible to staff or volunteers who specifically need to access it. For example, to send out a newsletter, email or a fundraising appeal. Paper records such as completed petition forms that are waiting to be handed over are kept locked and are only accessible to BFoE staff.

### **2. Inclusion and diversity**

Birmingham Friends of the Earth has always been committed to creating a diverse and welcoming environment that is open to everyone irrespective of their personal characteristics, background or beliefs. We are fully committed to compliance with both the spirit and the letter of the Equalities Act 2010.

We will not tolerate behaviour from individuals within our campaigns group, or from individuals or groups using our building, that promote intolerance or hatred towards other people based upon their personal characteristics, background or beliefs. To this end we may ask people to leave meetings or leave the building and choose not to accept room bookings from such groups.

In terms of action and advocacy, BFoE recognises that the people who are subject to the most negative impacts of climate change and the



environmental crisis, both in the UK and internationally, are often those who are marginalised in other ways by their personal characteristics, background and beliefs. An example within Birmingham is the communities closest to the Tyseley incinerator which are both economically marginalised and ethnically diverse.

BFoE seeks to engage diverse groups of people in its campaigns activities and to work on issues that address the environmental impacts upon diverse communities. Examples include the campaigns on local air quality, against the widening of the Dudley Road, and against the continued use of the Tyseley incinerator, and in favour of public transport and cycling infrastructure in the more deprived as well as more affluent parts of the city and region.

The Climate Refugee Art Project provided a powerful and moving opportunity for people personally impacted by climate change to tell their stories and we have been actively engaging with people from a wide range of faith communities in Birmingham on taking environmental action for nearly 20 years.

In terms of management and governance, we are proud that our campaigns strategy group, workforce and Board of Directors include individuals with a variety of ages, sexual orientations, beliefs, dis/abilities and ethnicities, but we recognise that there is still work to be done in terms of diversifying our wider membership and supporter base, which has traditionally been concentrated in the more affluent suburbs of South West Birmingham.

### 3. Safeguarding

As part of the Friends of the Earth England, Wales and Northern Ireland network, we have adopted FoE EWNI's safeguarding policy for campaigns' activities. This covers both people under the age of 18 and vulnerable adults. We may ask individuals under the age of 18 and/or vulnerable adults not to attend or participate in some activities.

We use the NHS England definition of Vulnerable Adults as follows:  
"[Individuals] aged 18 years or over who may be in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness; and



who is or may be unable to take care of him or herself, or unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation.”

See

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/adult-pocket-guide.pdf>

In terms of fundraising, we will not accept funds for anyone under the age of 18 or vulnerable adults. We also comply with data protection rules in terms of sharing images of individuals and seek the necessary consent where applicable.