



6 May 2016

Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust response to the regulatory case report, published today by the Charity Commission, on the Trust's funding of Cage

The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust gives grants for work that promotes nonviolent responses to the root causes of conflict and injustice. We fund people and organisations working across a whole range of issues, whether they are promoting peace in Northern Ireland, campaigning for a living wage or freedom of information or working to protect the rights of whistle-blowers.

Since September 2013 the Charity Commission has rigorously scrutinised grants made by the Trust to Cage in 2007, 2008 and 2011, in order to ensure that we had acted within our responsibilities as a charitable trust.

The Commission's long and detailed report makes it clear that our trustees acted in good faith, and that the grants were made to further our charitable purposes. There is no evidence that any funds have been misused.

We are pleased that the Charity Commission's enquiries have now finally concluded and that no further regulatory action is planned.

The Trust would like to thank everyone who has supported us over the past two and a half years. The solidarity and backing of so many individuals and groups has meant a great deal to us.

ends

Notes:

- The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust will not be conducting interviews on this issue and will be making no further comment at this time.
- In September 2013, the Charity Commission opened an operational compliance case in respect of JRCT's funding of Cage. The Commission has now published its [final report](#).
- The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust previously funded Cage to promote and protect human rights. The Trust made three grant awards to Cage in 2007, 2008 and 2011, making a combined total of £305,000. Of this, £271,250 was paid. The Trust took the decision to suspend its final grant to Cage in early 2014. Grants are paid in instalments and the last instalment of the 2011 grant was paid in January 2014. The Trust [publicly confirmed](#) on 6 March 2015 that it would not fund Cage now or in future.
- Later in 2015, Cage was granted a judicial review hearing of aspects of the Charity Commission's behaviour in this case. JRCT provided evidence to the Court to ensure that it had a complete, fair and accurate picture of the dealings between the Charity Commission and JRCT. The case was settled between the three parties in a formal agreement, available at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/479701/court_order.pdf

- The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust (www.jrct.org.uk) is an entirely separate body from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (www.jrf.org.uk) and Joseph Rowntree Reform Trust (www.jrrt.org.uk). To avoid any confusion, any references to this Trust should use our full name.

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