

## FUNDING POLICY

v1.0 (last updated Jun-25)

### Introduction

Sunshine Coast Breastfeeding Support relies on a variety of income sources to fund its services, including donations, grants, and fundraising activities. Maintaining sustainable, ethical, and transparent funding is essential to ensure we can continue to support mothers, babies, and families through our clinics, cafés, peer support, and wider community work. This policy sets out the principles and processes that guide how the charity seeks, accepts, manages, and uses funds. It ensures that all financial support received is handled responsibly, aligns with our charitable objectives, upholds our values, protects our independence and reputation, and complies with all legal and regulatory requirements.

### Principles

All funding and fundraising activities undertaken by Sunshine Coast Breastfeeding Support will:

- Be legal, honest, open, and respectful.
- Protect the reputation and integrity of the charity.
- Comply with charity law, the Fundraising Regulator's Code of Fundraising Practice, and all applicable regulations.
- Ensure transparency about how funds will be used.
- Safeguard the wellbeing of donors, supporters, and beneficiaries.
- Avoid any conflict of interest or activities that could compromise the charity's mission or independence.

### Sources of Funding

The charity may seek and accept funding from:

- Individual donations, both one-off and regular.
- Grants from trusts, foundations, statutory bodies, or local authorities.
- Corporate donations or sponsorships, provided these align with the charity's values and do not compromise its independence.
- Fundraising activities, events, or campaigns organised by the charity or its supporters.
- Gift Aid claims on eligible donations.

The charity will not accept funding where the source or terms may compromise the charity's values, reputation, or ability to act independently, or where acceptance would be unlawful or unethical.

### Grant Applications

Applications for grants will be made with the full knowledge and authorisation of the trustees. All applications will be based on accurate information about the charity's activities, finances, and needs. Conditions attached to grants will be reviewed to ensure they are appropriate, achievable, and consistent with the charity's objectives.

### Use of Funds

All funds raised or received will be used solely for the charity's stated purposes, in accordance with any donor restrictions, and in line with the charity's governing documents. Restricted funds will be carefully tracked and spent only on the designated services for which they were given.

### Transparency and Reporting

The charity will maintain clear and accurate financial records in line with our Finance Policy, including details of funds raised, sources of income, and how funds have been used to support the charity's activities. Donors may request additional information about the charity's finances and how funds are allocated and spent.

### Fundraising Activities

Fundraising activities organised by or on behalf of the charity will:

- Prioritise the safety and wellbeing of participants.
- Be inclusive and accessible wherever possible.
- Be mindful of safeguarding considerations.
- Avoid pressure or coercion of donors or participants.
- Clearly explain any costs, fees, or charges involved.

### Role of Trustees

The Board of Trustees holds ultimate responsibility for all funding decisions, activities, and actions undertaken in line with this policy. Trustees will ensure that all fundraising, grant applications, sponsorships, and funding agreements are consistent with the charity's aims,



values, and charitable objectives. Trustees will always act in the best interests of the charity, maintaining independence, transparency, and integrity. All decisions will be made free from personal bias or external influence, and in compliance with the charity's Conflict of Interest Policy.

## Volunteer Fundraisers

Volunteers who organise fundraising activities on behalf of the charity must adhere to this policy and seek approval from trustees for any public fundraising events or campaigns.

## Fundraiser Regulator

Sunshine Coast Breastfeeding Support is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and fully committed to adhering to its standards of good practice. This ensures that all our fundraising activities are conducted transparently, ethically, and respectfully, maintaining the trust of our supporters and the wider community.

## Changes to This Policy

We may update this policy from time to time to reflect changes in the law, our practices, or the charity's financial circumstances. The latest version will always be published on our website and dated clearly at the top of the page.

## How to Get in Touch With Us

If you have any questions about this Policy or how we handle your data, please contact us by email at [info@sunshinecoastbreastfeedingsupport.com](mailto:info@sunshinecoastbreastfeedingsupport.com).