

# Campaigns and Non-Political Activity Policy of The Leamington Society

Issue 1: 18-09-23

## Policy Statement

The Leamington Society recognizes the importance of civic engagement and the ability to advocate for issues that align with its objectives. This policy establishes guidelines and procedures for engaging in campaigns and non-political activities while ensuring compliance with legal and ethical standards. The policy applies to all trustees, volunteers, and members representing The Leamington Society.

## 1. Objectives

The key objectives of the Campaigns and Political Activity Policy are as follows to:

- 1.1. Maintain The Leamington Society's nonpartisan status and neutrality in electoral politics.
- 1.2. When appropriate, promote The Leamington Society's objectives and values through advocacy and engagement in campaigns.
- 1.3. Ensure compliance with relevant laws and regulations governing the Society's activities.
- 1.4. Provide guidelines for trustees, volunteers, and members engaging in non-political campaigns and activities.

## 2. Non-partisanship and Neutrality

- 2.1 Non-partisanship: The Leamington Society will maintain a nonpartisan stance, and it will not support or endorse any political party or candidate. This applies both to the committee and to individual members of this committee.
- 2.2 The Leamington Society's will remain neutral in local, regional and national politics to preserve its integrity and impartiality.
- 2.3. Actions in a Personal Capacity: trustees, volunteers, and members engaging in electoral political campaigns or electoral political activities should make it clear that they are acting in their personal capacity and not on behalf of The Leamington Society.

## 3. Campaigns and Political Activities

- 3.1. Issue Advocacy: The Leamington Society may engage in campaigns and advocacy on issues that align with its objectives and values. Such activities may include promoting awareness, education, and public discussion related to those issues.
- 3.2. Political Activity Restrictions: The Leamington Society will not engage in partisan campaigning, lobbying, or make financial contributions to political candidates or parties.
- 3.3. Candidate Endorsements: The Leamington Society will not use its resources, including facilities, equipment platforms, or official communications to endorse or oppose any political candidates.

#### 4. Communications and Public Statements by Trustees

4.1. Personal Disclaimers will be necessary when individual trustees make public statements beyond their remit as a trustee of The Leamington Society or engage in political activities. They are required to include a personal disclaimer that the views expressed are their own and not representative of the society.

4.2. Formal Media Engagement will be at the discretion of the Chair of the Leamington Society and, if necessary, devolved to the appropriate person to represent the views of The Leamington Society. This includes statements on issues in the media and letters or articles regarding those issues.

#### 5. Review and Compliance

This policy will be reviewed periodically to ensure its continued relevance and compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Any updates or changes will be communicated as necessary.

#### Effective Date:

This policy is effective from 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023 It replaces any previous policy or guidelines and remains in effect until further notice or revision.