Guidance, Hints & Tips FOR RUNNING A GIVIG Campaign



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This Guidance was commissioned by London Funders for the benefit of the London's Giving movement. The Guidance was written and produced by 1 Red Frog.

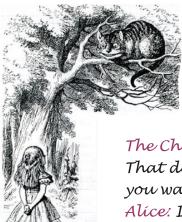






Identify Your Goals

Before diving into a giving campaign, consider why you are doing it. It may well seem an obvious question to ask, but it is vital to understand what your objectives are and what a giving campaign could achieve for you.



Alice:

Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?

The Cheshire Cat:

That depends a good deal on where you want to get to.
Alice: I don't much care where.
The Cheshire Cat: Then it doesn't much matter which way you go.

Objectives could include;

- Fundraising.
 By raising singular donations and/or recruiting regular givers.
- Driving awareness of your giving scheme.
- Educating about your giving scheme. Do you want more people to know about your giving scheme? If so, consider what it is that you want to communicate about your initiative. Is it about the brand name and driving awareness and trust or is it to educate about what your scheme does and the problems it solves?
- Recruit volunteers.
 Volunteering Time.
 Volunteering Skills.
- Acquiring supporters.
- Re-connecting with supporters.
- Recruiting Ambassadors.







Objectives may overlap – for example by fundraising you are likely to drive awareness of your giving scheme, but be clear on what your ultimate objectives are to enable you to be effective at meeting them.

Identify Your Audience



Who is your campaign targeting? Who are the different audiences are for your campaign – is there a single audience or multiple audiences?

If multiple audiences – who is your primary audience and who is your secondary audiences?

An understanding of who your audiences are and their motivations will allow you to effectively communicate with them by using relevant and meaningful content and the most appropriate communication channels.

Determining your audience will help you focus on how you can reach them through the most effective touch points in your communications.

Target Audiences could include;

- Residents.
- Voluntary sector organisations.
- Local businesses.
- Local groups e.g. schools, scouts, guides, church.
- Volunteers.
- Stakeholders including your board, steering group, staff, volunteers.
- Social media followers.







Campaign Structure

Develop the content of your campaign and consider how it is structured. Think about your target audiences and what would encourage and motivate them to participate to meet your goals. Will your campaign need one or multiple routes to participate?

If you have multiple routes for participation – how can you frame them under one campaign theme?

Both the Kensington and Chelsea Foundation and United in Hammersmith and Fulham have run campaigns with a single participation route, asking their target audience of people receiving the winter fuel allowance to consider donating it to those more in need.



Camden Giving and Merton Giving have both run successful Giving Weeks with multiple participation routes in recognition of the diversity of businesses within the borough and to encourage business audiences' participation











Guidance, Hints & Tips for running a Giving Campaign



Merton Giving's campaign featured different elements including a themed dress day as a 'mass participation' event to provide an easy access route for different audiences.



Select activity that aligns with your key objectives and appeals to your target audience. Make participation easy and with few barriers to entry. The more steps people need to go through to participate the more likely they are to not follow through. Think creatively about what and how people can get involved.



Be realistic, if you have little engagement with businesses but want them to support your campaign, think about how you can best engage with them.

Campaign activities

There is a whole alphabet of examples of campaign activity ideas, ranging from those which are fundraising driven to others which will drive awareness. The following table lists some of these.



The simple ideas are often the most effective. An activity may have been done before, but it's how your giving scheme takes an idea, owns it, themes it, puts your stamp on it and makes it your own which is important.

















Match Funding Music concert Murder mystery event Mufti Day

Night in Nearly New Sale Non-uniform day Nineties evening **Networking events**

Online fundraising Obstacle course Open garden Open mic event

Make-overs

Payroll giving Photo competition Painting evening Pamper event Picnic

Quiz night Quit Give something up for a day, week or more

Raffle Rounders tournament Rock 'n' roll evening Read-a-thon

Story-telling – how you're making a difference Softball tournament Sponsored challenge Skills - sell or donate them Silent auction Sponge throw Sports challenge Swap event – clothes/books

Texting Fundraising Talent show Treasure hunt Tea party Televised matches Tribute band evening Trivial Pursuit challenge Treadmill challenge Themed celebration

University Challenge Uniform Day Unwanted gift swap

Valentine's Ball Variety Show



Weight Loss challenge Wine Tasting Welly Throwing World Record setting Walk to work/school



Yoga or Zumba challenge **XFactor Event**

Make sure you fulfil the legal requirements for any activity you run.



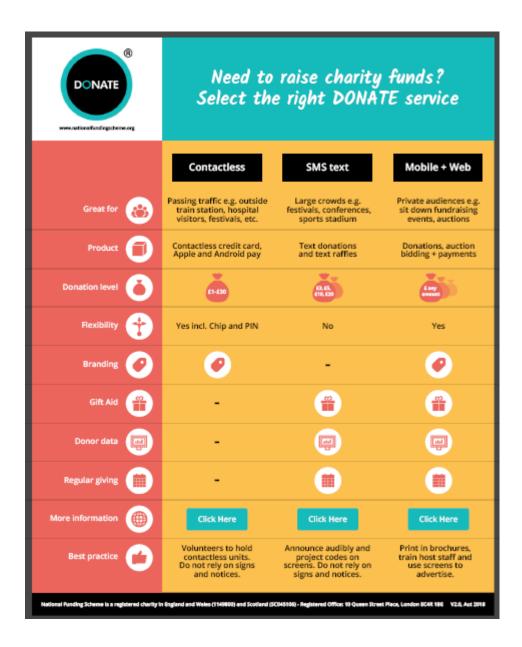




Fundraising

Different ways of giving

Giving Tuesday charity partner DONATE has created a <u>handy infographic</u> to help you choose which donation method is best for your fundraising campaign.



If asking for donations online, keep the process as simple as possible. If possible, include an option to donate on a regular rather than just one off basis and include an option for gift aid.







Match Funding

Consider maximising any fundraising elements of your campaign via match funding. Think about possible sources of match funding including those within your current contacts, corporates you have links with, local banks or established match funding initiatives such as The Big Give.

the **BigGive**

Giving Tuesday have a guide to match funding for their campaign.

GISINGTUESDAY

If Match Funding is secured for your campaign, then ensure you integrate it into your messaging to encourage more giving.

Campaign Name

Own your campaign with an impactful name. Keep it simple, so it's memorable. Consider integrating your giving scheme into the name – this will be more important if brand awareness is a key objective and more important for newer, less established schemes.







Timing

Optimise Your Timing

Decide when you will run your campaign by considering both its optimum timing and duration. In making your decision, look at the calendar, both in terms of national holidays in addition to key national events as well as cause related dates already in existence.



The market place is crowded so take a view as to whether to avoid particular times that could disrupt your momentum or to embrace particular days, which may be relevant to you, to help you leverage the profile of your campaign.

More generic days for example, such as International Day of Happiness, Random Acts of Kindness Day or 'International Women's Day' could be easier to build into your campaign and add to its momentum and potentially amplify its reach.







Conversely selecting dates of well-established, prolific national campaigns such as Comic Relief or Children in Need are likely to have a negative impact on your share of voice at this time. Look at local events in existence such as Prudential Ride London which could have an impact on your area by, for example, providing additional footfall in an area at a particular time.

Christmas is an obvious time of year for charities run both awareness driving and fundraising campaigns for their cause. As well as being a key time of the year to fundraise it is also a highly competitive space.



GINGTUESDAY If choosing this time of year, consider linking with the Giving Tuesday campaign to provide a bigger feel, reach and support to your campaign.

Giving Tuesday is a day which originated in the US by focusing on giving following the consumer driven events in a concentrated time encompassing Black Friday, Small Business Saturday and Cyber Monday. The day has spread to the UK and provides an effective platform for a giving campaign.









Another day to consider linking to is Small Charity Week.

In determining campaign timing, be mindful of any stakeholder or partner initiatives to make sure you don't have activities that are competing for share of

voice. Let key people know about your activity so they can plan accordingly and help support your campaign.

There are a number of different event calendars available to help you determine your timing. The following 'Dates to Remember' is from <u>Blackbaud</u>.









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Campaign Duration

Once you have planned your campaign timing, consider its duration. What length will allow you enough time for your audiences to engage and participate? Also think about the momentum of your campaign – will you achieve this in one day or will you need longer?

If you do decide to link into a cause related day, your campaign doesn't have to be restricted to that singular day - you can build it into a longer duration. It is also worth considering the work which has been input into your day and ensure you give yourself enough time to maximise your return on investment.

Timing and Planning

Don't underestimate the amount of time needed to both effectively plan and implement a campaign. Ensure you start planning your campaign in plenty of time and be realistic about what you have to achieve alongside the timescales and resource you have. If you need to engage with new audiences for example, then allow yourself ample time to connect with people in the run-up. This could be, for example, linking with ambassadors who could support and help amplify your campaign.







Communication Strategy

Messaging

To engage with your audience effectively, to generate interest and a desire to become involved, keep your message clear and simple and don't overload them with information.



Consistency is key to ensure that an effective message with strong association to your giving scheme brand is delivered. It will help cement brand awareness and provide cut through in a crowded market place where many causes are competing for share of voice.

Planning is key to achieving consistency which can be achieved through both through the messaging and the accompanying creative approach.

Core Messaging

Begin by developing core messaging for your campaign. Think about how you can communicate your campaign in a simple and concise format.

To help devise your messaging consider what you want your audience to Think, Feel & Do as a result of reading your message.

Break your messaging down into different elements;

What you're doing

Why you're doing it – the problem you're trying to solve

Who you're doing it for

Call To Action what do you want your audience to do?

How can they help? take part, donate, give something, spread your message

Within the messaging hierarchy, ensure that the messages work together and flow well.

Include branding in your messaging to ensure your campaign is ownable.

In your messaging, use language that your audience will understand – avoid jargon.







Messaging through your different audience touch-points

Your core messaging will be used to guide your campaign messaging for different touch points within your communication channels (for example; website, poster, leaflets, social media). All of your messaging should be based upon the core messaging to achieve consistency and aid understanding. Communication touch points where you have more time to engage with your audiences will allow for longer and more detailed messaging, for example a website page.

Campaign Phases

Segment your campaign into different phases to enable you to plan how to drive momentum and maximise interest in your campaign. Think about how your messages will adapt over the different phases of your campaign. Think about what you want to say and when you want to say it.

Pre-Campaign	Create excitement. Countdown to launch.	
Campaign Launch	Announce the campaign details. Encourage participation.	
Campaign Live	Acknowledge and showcase participation. Countdown to key campaign milestones. Feature stories of impact.	
Post Campaign	Share results. Thank supporters. Highlight how participation will help.	









Developing a Creative Approach

Your messaging and creative should work seamlessly together to engage your audience and communicate an impactful message. All elements, including colour and font, together with other design elements will affect people's perception of your campaign.

Creative Look and Feel

Consider starting the creative process by developing a campaign 'Look and Feel' which can then be applied over a number of different campaign communication elements.

Think about your target audience. Remember who it is that you are talking to. Put yourself in their shoes and consider the creative from their point of view – what will appeal to them? As with your messaging, consider what you want your audience to Think, Feel & Do as a result of seeing your communication material.

Imagery can help bring your creative to life and tell your campaign story. Use design elements that look professional as these will help tell your story.

The following two sites provide imagery.



<u>Pixabay</u> is a community of creatives sharing copyright free images and videos.

> Unsplash is a huge collection of images powered by a community that has gifted their own photos available to use for free.



Less is More

Keep it simple. Don't overload your creative and ensure that every element plays a role so the end result is easy on the eye.

Branding

Stay true to your giving scheme brand look - include your branding so your audience identify it as yours.







Flow of information

Consider how the information in your creative flows. As the eye reads from left to right it's useful to position your information in that way. Don't let the different elements fight for attention by arranging them so that your eye naturally reads through the message.

Colour

The use of colour can influence how your audience feels about your creative. It can help to make it recognisable and ownable by your giving scheme helping your audience to recognise you instantly building familiarity.

Colour can help communicate aspects of messaging for example red and yellow can be used to achieve a sense of urgency.

Font

A carefully chosen Font can achieve impact and help bring your creative to life. Use it to draw attention to different sections of messaging. Aid familiarity with your giving scheme by integrating existing brand fonts. Communicating detail? Then ensure that the font used is clear and easy to read.

Typography

Typography can be used in a powerful way to help convey and add impact to a message. A campaign for Alzheimers awareness featured a fading headline – a clever technique to underline symptoms of a sufferer.



Consistency is easier to control if you supply a simple took-kit of campaign assets for your supporters and participants to use. Keep it simple and don't overwhelm them with material. Include look and feel and key messaging for each part of your campaign.







Useful Creative Tools

There are a number of tools to help you create your own creative.



A free online graphic-design resource, Canva allows you to create designs for web and print media. An array of templates are available for you to use via a simple drag and drop format including posters and leaflets as well as social media posts.



Colorzilla is a tool to enable you to get a hex web colour code from a colour reading on your screen.



Piktochart is a template led design tool allowing users to easily create infographic, leaflets, posters and presentations.



Infogram helps to create infographics.



PicMonkey is an online photo editing and design service which can be accessed via web browser or its app.

Examples for inspiration

Take inspiration from communication material developed by some established campaigns, for example;

Sports Relief Style Guide including communication material examples

Red Nose Day Fundraising Resources







Communication Plan

Communication Channel and Audience Touch Points

Look at the different communication channels and touch points available to reach and engage your audiences. Consider those communication channels belonging to any partners and key stakeholder that could be open to you as well as your own. Examples include;

Press Release.
Email signature.
Website.
Blog posts.
Emails and newsletters.
Posters.
Leaflets.
Social Media.
Online fundraising
pages.
Digital Ads.

Your Communication Channels.

Partner & Stakeholder Communication Channels.

Plan your messaging

Use your messaging, touch points alongside your pre and post phasing to plan your messaging to ensure your communicate clearly and consistently.

CAMPAIGN MESSAGING	MESSAGE			
TOUCH POINT	Pre	Launch	During	Post
Press Release				
Email signature				
Website				
Blog Posts				
Emails				
Posters				
Leaflets				







Consider the content for each touch point and ensure that your message has clarity and consistency throughout - from press releases to interactive comments that you make on social media.

Remember the dwell time your audience has for each and adapt the message appropriately.

Expanding Core Messaging

Once your core messaging is developed and you have identified your communication touch points, look at expanding your messaging across these. Include more detailed messages in the communication touch points where your audience has a longer dwell time and stick to core messaging where they have short dwell times.

Story tell — use emotion to develop a deeper connection with your audience by telling positive impact stories that your giving scheme has contributed to. Demonstrating the value that their support can bring using real life stories will compel audiences to support your campaign.

Share updates of participation and real-time success of your campaign. Encourage a domino effect by showcasing the involvement and support of others to generate even more support. Use images to bring your stories to life. If applicable, use different segments of your audience to demonstrate the different ways to support e.g. businesses, individuals and groups.

Demonstrate the different ways people are supporting you e.g. Volunteering Time and Skills as well as Fundraising.

Share success updates - people enjoy the feel-good factor of giving, so captialise on this by sharing updates of success.







Suggested Content Areas

Press Release

Issue a Press Release to generate excitement about your campaign – outline your goals, your campaign detail and call to action.

Email signature

Create a bespoke email signature for the campaign with core campaign message, call to action and key detail e.g. dates.

Adapt a version for key stakeholders e.g. 'I'm Supporting xxxxx' style message.

Website

Campaign content with full detail of the activity and how to get involved. Integrate into different areas of your website including home page and dedicated campaign pages.

Blog posts

Write blog posts to feature on your own and key stakeholder websites. Include stories of those involved in your campaign including behind the scenes features to those showcasing participants and end beneficiaries.

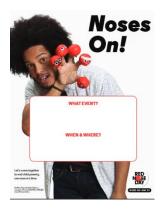
Emails and newsletters

Promote to your network by featuring news about your campaign from pre-launch through to post campaign. Consider all of your different audiences, including internal audience such as staff and key partners, through to stake holders, ambassadors and donors. Where available, use your stakeholder's email messages and newsletters to help extend your reach. Ask them to share your message to widen your reach.

Posters

Use posters to communicate your campaign. For participants, consider developing 'empty belly posters' which include an area to personalise how they are supporting your campaign. If your budget is limited, host these on your website as downloadable files for supporters to print.













Leaflets

Use leaflets to communicate the core messaging and additional detail about your campaign. Again, if budget is limited then host these on your website and attach to social media posts.

Social Media

Use your social media channels to take your audience on your campaign journey from prelaunch through to celebrating its successes.





Use all social media channels you have access to and consider setting up other social media channels that you don't currently use. In considering which social media platforms to use, think about your target audience. If you are targeting businesses for example then Linkedin should be considered.





Use a tiered approach combining scheduled posts with real-time posts to ensure on-going messaging complemented reactive posts to engage and actively create and participate in conversations.

Update your social media headers and profile images with your campaign creative to support your campaign.

Consider paying to promote key social media posts and extend your reach. Retweet/repost/share posts and engage with people participating in your activity to keep your campaign conversation going. Post updates on participation by giving shout outs and thanks to supporters and share your achievements.

Remember to be consistent with your use of messaging and develop and use any ownable campaign #hashtags which will help link all of your communication elements together. Keep it simple so it's memorable and easy for supporters to use. Consider using your campaign name, campaign goal or an abbreviation of them.

Use London Funder's #LondonsGiving to gain a bigger feel and extend your reach.

Online fundraising pages

Update presence on online fundraising pages with campaign details.







Useful Resources



Bitly is a URL shortening service and a link management platform which allows you to share and track links on social media



Hootsuite is a social media management tool allowing users to schedule and post updates to different networks in one place.



Hootlet is part of Hootsuite and allows users to schedule posts directly from the content you want to share and includes an autoschedule function.



Owly shortens links, measures traffic and is part of Hootsuite dashboard.



Buffer is a social media management tool allowing susers to schedule social media posts from different networks in one place.







Campaign Resources

Provide a simple tool kit of campaign resources for your supporters and stakeholders to make it easy for them to share your messages and ensure your campaign message is consistent.

Supply pre-written messages for inclusion in websites or emails and key creative for social media and their email signatures.

Content Format

Use different formats including Imagery, Videos & film to enhance your messages, inspire your audience and increase engagement. Video and film can be produced using free, easily available apps.

Useful Tools



Pixabay is a community of creatives sharing copyright free images and videos

> <u>Unsplash</u> a huge collection of images powered by a community that has gifted their own photos available to use for free





PowToon allows you to make videos in minutes.

> Magisto is an online video editor also available as an app enabling users to make video stories from photos and video clips.









Ambassadors

Consider recruiting ambassadors to support and influence your campaign. Capitalise on who you already know, alongside identifying people with an affinity to supporting the local community, to back your campaign.

Research potential ambassadors by searching relevant hashtags relating to your cause or local geographical local including for example your #boroughname #wards and #areaswithinwards. Look at social media chatter and follow relevant people.

In the lead up to a campaign, identify and connect/follow on social media. Ask your stakeholders including boards/committees/current supporters to help you in this task and to identify key ambassadors that could help positively influence your campaign.

Letter of Intent

If local businesses participate, have a contract or letter of intent in place. Include:

- ➤ A reminder of your campaign what you're doing and why
- ➤ How the business is supporting your campaign what activity have they committed to
- Payment and timing of how to pay any fundraising
- Campaign assets which they can use
- > Thank them for their support







In Summary

- Set clear goals
- Be clear on who you're talking to
- Choose the right moment
- Keep it simple
- Use Your networks
- Engage upfront and get people involved
- Own your activity put your stamp on it
- Have a clear story
- Select the right message for the right moment
- Be consistent in your messaging and your creative
- Plan your communications in advance
- Consider the effort versus the impact
- Make the most of tools available to you

Post Campaign - The Way Forward

Post campaign, take time to evaluate your campaign by determining what has worked, what hasn't and use the learnings to help shape future strategy by refining, improving and building on your campaign.







Useful Links

Giving Tuesday 6 Week communication timeline

Giving Tuesday Social Media Toolkit

Children In Need Fundraising Resources

Save the Children's guide to setting up an online giving page

Sports Relief Style Guide including communication material examples

<u>LikeCharity.com's top 5 tips for creating a great fundraising poster</u>

Giving Tuesday Marketing Took Kit

Giving Tuesday Complete Tool Kit (US version)

Girl Guides Fundraising Resources

Red Nose Day Fundraising Resources

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/

Eventbrite Fundraising Activity Ideas

London Funders blog about match funding

NCVO Developing a communications strategy





Guidance, Hints & Tips FOR RUNNING A CIVING Campaign