

## ESFA Update: 24 July 2019

[unable to retrieve full-text content] Latest information and actions from the Education and Skills Funding Agency for academies, schools, colleges, local authorities and further education providers.

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### Regulator finds 'trustees placed charitable funds at risk', as it announces inquiry into fund for Rohingya refugees

The Charity Commission has opened a statutory inquiry into a charitable fund for Rohingya refugees, which never registered as a charity, after concerns about how it was operating.

The inquiry was launched in April 2018, after the Commission received information from a partner agency about their separate investigation into the fund's two trustees Mohammed Hasnath and Ruksana Ali. The inquiry could not be announced until now due to the risk of prejudicing that investigation, which the Commission has been informed has now ended.

The fund raised money between July 2017 and March 2018 for the prevention and relief of poverty of Rohingya refugees, via two online donation platforms and through social media.

The fund is not a registered charity but, as it raised money for charitable purposes, it falls within the Commission's jurisdiction.

The Commission has acted to safeguard the fund by making an order under section 76(3)(d) of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act') to freeze a number of bank accounts holding the charitable funds.

The trustees are also ordered under section 76(3)(f) of the Act from undertaking specified transactions in the administration of the fund without prior written approval from the Commission.

The inquiry is examining:

- whether the trustees have properly exercised their legal duties and responsibilities under charity law in the administration, governance and management of the fund;
- whether the trustees have put charitable funds at risk by using them for

non-charitable purposes;

- whether the trustees can adequately account for the end use of the charitable funds which have already been applied;
- the conduct of the trustees; and
- the optimal way to apply the protected charitable funds to support the Rohingya refugees who are the intended beneficiaries.

Advice from the Commission on how to donate safely to charities delivering humanitarian aid to people fleeing Myanmar is available on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).

It is the Commission's policy, after it has concluded an inquiry, to publish a report detailing what issues the inquiry looked at, what actions were undertaken as part of the inquiry and what the outcomes were. Reports of previous inquiries by the Commission are available on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).

## **Ends**

## **Notes to Editors**

- While the Commission has been working closely with partner agencies throughout the inquiry, the Commission's case is separate from any other investigation.
- The Commission does not investigate criminal allegations; these should be reported to the police.
- The opening an inquiry is not in itself a finding of wrongdoing.

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## **Detailed guide: Controls of fish and shellfish diseases in England and Wales**

Reduce the risk of disease, find out where notifiable diseases have been confirmed in England and Wales.

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## **Sellafield Ltd Backs Healthy Lifestyle Programme**

The programme, which helps schools to create supportive environments for health and to engage with pupils and parents around key healthy eating and physical activity messages, has been running in Copeland for the past 2

years.

Now, with the help of this new partnership, it's set to continue for a further 3 years and will support 41 primary schools and 5 early years settings across Copeland.

### [Phunky Foods Programme](#)

Stuart McCourt, Social Impact Team Manager at Sellafield Ltd said

We are delighted to be working with our partners to deliver this programme. Adult and childhood obesity levels have been high in our community for some time now and this will be a key part of a range of programmes which will address this at an early age.

Cllr Keith Hitchen, Chair of Copeland Local Committee said:

Having seen the scheme in action I was very impressed by the involvement of the children in the project and the support from the teachers. The programme is doing great things in Copeland. I've seen the results and I fully support the programme.

Over the past 14 years the Phunky Foods Programme has amassed a strong track record across the UK in delivering real health benefits without placing undue pressure on teachers or the curriculum and now Copeland schools can look forward to the continued benefits of the programme.

Copeland MP Trudy Harrison said:

This scheme is a vital one for school children and their families in Copeland to learn about healthy eating and lifestyle.

It's wonderful news that Sellafield Ltd has stepped in with generous financial support which will ensure that this programme of activities can continue to be provided free to schools for at least another 3 years.

Caroline Elliot, a teacher from St Bridget's C of E Primary School in Parton, West Cumbria said:

We are very conscious as a school of the importance of promoting healthy living; this scheme is a very good way of getting the children to appreciate that healthy food is very tasty.

Phunky Foods Managing Director Dr Jennie Cockroft said she was delighted that Phunky Foods now had the support of a company as influential in the local

community as Sellafield Ltd, which will enhance the already well-established and successful partnership with Cumbria County Council.

She said:

Rapid increases in childhood obesity prevalence means that we must help empower children, alongside their families and communities, to take control over their wellbeing to enable them to live longer, healthier and more fulfilled lives.

It takes time to change behaviours, and ultimately lives; long-term funding opportunities like this are vital to support this important work in educational settings.

For further information please contact:

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### **Note to Editors:**

Purely Nutrition's award winning Phunky Foods educational programme for primary schools attracts the support of a number of companies with international status. These have included McCain Foods and Two Sisters Food Group (2SFG), and currently include Nestlé UK and Sellafield Ltd.

Each supporter ensures the programme is linked back to its own core, corporate social responsibility programmes, and is bound by the programme's policies to ensure it remains impartial and unbranded.

Phunky Foods is grateful for this support which continues to make a positive impact on a health issue of national importance.

Purely Nutrition is a registered company in England. Company No. 5298499

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## **Bloggers collaborate with government to challenge negative body image**

Prominent social media influencers such as Harnaam Kaur, Ashley James and Stevie Grice-Hart will today (24 July) attend an event hosted by the Government Equalities Office (GEO) to discuss tackling negative body image.