



6 March 2015

## **Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust response to today's Charity Commission statement**

As a Quaker Trust, we reject all violence, and believe profoundly in the rights and worth of every human being. We believe that to break cycles of violence, we need due legal process for all, including those suspected or accused of terrible crimes. In pursuit of our charitable objectives we support organisations that address the root causes of conflict and injustice. The Trust does not necessarily agree with every action or statement of those that we have funded.

The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust has previously funded Cage to promote and protect human rights. In December 2013, the Charity Commission opened an operational compliance case in respect of this funding relationship. We have co-operated fully with the Commission's enquiries over an extended period.

Our last payment to Cage was in January 2014. In the last week, we have been put under intense regulatory pressure to rule out any future funding of Cage regardless of any future changing circumstances.

In the light of regulatory pressure, and to protect the interests of all our grantees and the other work of the Trust, we have decided to publicly confirm that we will not fund Cage either now or in the future.

Notes:

- The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust will not be conducting interviews on this issue and will be making no further comment at this time.
- The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust ([www.jrct.org.uk](http://www.jrct.org.uk)) is an entirely separate body from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation ([www.jrf.org.uk](http://www.jrf.org.uk)) and Joseph Rowntree Reform Trust ([www.jrrt.org.uk](http://www.jrrt.org.uk)). To avoid any confusion, any references to this Trust should use our full name.
- The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust has made three grant awards to Cage in 2007, 2008 and 2011, making a combined total of £305,000. Of this, £271,250 was ever paid. Grants are paid in instalments and the last instalment of the 2011 grant was paid in January 2014.

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