WaterAid’s complaints policy

Our service
WaterAid transforms the lives of the world’s poorest and most marginalised people by improving access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene. We simply could not do this without the commitment and generosity of our supporters. It is therefore essential that all our supporters have a positive experience of WaterAid and that we provide a service of the highest standard. Our supporters are involved in many valuable ways, such as through campaigning, taking part in events, volunteering and financial support.

We aim to provide the very best service in all areas of our work, to everyone who comes into contact with our organisation, including campaigners, donors, partners, volunteers and members of the public. Click here to read more about who we are, our core beliefs and guiding values.

In order to give the public confidence in all aspects of our fundraising practice, WaterAid is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and we adhere to their Code of Fundraising Practice.

When things go wrong
There may be occasions when we do not meet our high standards. If this happens, we really want to know about it, so that we can investigate the issue, address your concerns and ensure it does not happen again.

Your feedback matters to us
We openly welcome you to contact us with your comments, suggestions and complaints. Complaints are especially important to us because they help us to see where our services, procedures and activities might be improved.

All feedback is recorded and reviewed regularly. We promise to take all complaints seriously, and to deal with them quickly, efficiently and fairly.

How to complain
You can call us, write to us or email us about your complaint and our staff will be pleased to help.

Making an initial complaint
Please contact a member of our Supporter Care team on 020 7793 4594 between 9am and 5.30pm, Monday to Friday. If you would prefer to write to us about your complaint, please send your letter, together with your name, address and contact telephone number, to our Supporter Care team at the address below. Alternatively you can email your complaint to supportercare@wateraid.org

We will always do our best to resolve any complaint immediately. If we can’t do this, because the information we need is not to hand, or because we need to carry out further investigation, then we will make a record of your complaint and agree the best way and time to contact you. This will normally be within three working days.
If you are not satisfied with our response
Please contact David Martin, our Complaints Coordinator, by phone, email or in writing, using the details below. Please set out clearly the details of your complaint, explaining why you are not satisfied with our response and what you would like us to do to put things right.

Once we have received your complaint, we will arrange for it to be fully investigated and you will receive an acknowledgment in writing within three working days. If your complaint is a little more complicated and needs to be explored further, you will receive an initial acknowledgement and then a full response within ten working days.

We will always do our utmost to fully resolve every complaint, and we welcome the opportunity to discuss your concerns in order to help us arrive at a satisfactory outcome.

If your complaint is still unresolved
Please let us know in writing, and tell us what you wish us to do next. Your complaint may be passed to our Senior Management team or to our Chief Executive’s office for further investigation and response. You can expect to receive a full response within ten working days of receipt of your letter or email.

Taking your complaint outside the organisation
If you are not satisfied with the response from our Senior Management team or Chief Executive, you can seek advice from outside of WaterAid. If the nature of your complaint is related to our fundraising work, you can contact the Fundraising Regulator, whose details are listed below. If the nature of your complaint is related to any other aspect of our charitable work, you may wish to contact The Charity Commission, also listed below.

Without support from the general public, we could not continue our work. We really do appreciate the opportunity to discuss any complaints to help us learn and improve our services wherever possible.

David Martin
Complaints Coordinator
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davidmartin@wateraid.org
020 7793 4526

Supporter Care Team
WaterAid
47-49 Durham Street
London, SE11 5JD
supportercare@wateraid.org
020 7793 4594

The Charity Commission
PO Box 1227
Liverpool, L69 3UG
0845 300 0218
www.charity-commission.gov.uk

The Fundraising Regulator
2nd floor
CAN Mezzanine Building
49-51 East Road
London, N1 6AH
enquiries@fundraisingregulator.org.uk
0300 999 3407
www.fundraisingregulator.org.uk