

National Long Term Survivors Group Reserves Policy

1. National Long Term Survivors Group believes that it is appropriate to hold a sum sufficient to cover the cost of any single weekend retreat that it organises. Whilst the charity has not had to cover in full the cost of a weekend retreat, given the uncertainty of HIV funding the Board of Trustees agrees that, in holding this money, the charity will be able to function, should all statutory funding cease, whilst alternative funds are sought.

2. The charity has a policy which provides support for those who wish to attend a retreat weekend and are unable to secure funding from either a statutory or voluntary body and, therefore, have to personally fund the cost of the weekend. This policy was adopted in observance of the charity's Equal Opportunities Policy. The Board of Trustees believes that any amount over and above that needed as indicated in (1) above, should be used for the purpose of covering the cost of those unable to secure funding.

3. Given that the charity went through a financial crisis in the late 1990s, the Trustees believe that the current level of reserves should be maintained to ensure the future survival of the group. The Trustees are also very conscious of the increasing difficulty in statutory funding for HIV and believe that, by maintaining the current level of reserves, the group has a greater chance of securing alternative funding, should the need arise, and provide the necessary continuity in the group's work.

4. National Long Term Survivors Group offers financial assistance to those who wish to attend the weekend retreats but cannot do so, despite the policy as indicated in point (2) above, because of any additional costs incurred as a result of attending a weekend retreat. This may include such costs as child-care and travel. The Trustees believe that sufficient reserves should be held to meet any claim for assistance that might arise.