



GUIDELINES ON CAMPAIGNING IN THE COWLEY ROAD CARNIVAL PROCESSION

These guidelines have been issued by Cowley Road Works, the charitable trust which runs carnival. They aim to give guidance to participating acts and to those groups considering taking part in the procession.

Participating in the procession is open to all, and we welcome people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds to showcase their talents and traditions.

We want to ensure that the procession groups take part in the spirit of carnival, and take the opportunity to showcase their costumes, dance and music, and to provide an all round visual spectacular.

The procession is not an appropriate forum for any individual or group to make any form of party political, political, religious, protest, or campaign statement. This means we ask individuals and groups to respectfully observe:

- No party political, other political or religious protests, messages, slogans, banners, placards or information leaflets
- No campaign statements, slogans, banners, chants or representations
- No swearing or offensive language or behaviour which may cause offence to others
- Not do anything that moves away from the spirit of Carnival and celebrating talent, cultures and the diverse community in which we live.

Whilst protest and campaign groups have taken part in the procession in previous years, feedback to carnival organisers has shown that many participants and spectators of carnival find the messages inappropriate, too overt, and in some cases offensive. The spirit of carnival is one of celebration, not protest, and it is within this context that these guidelines have been written.

Approved 18 April 2017