

Document Title:	POLICY ON RINGING FOR PUBLIC AND COMMUNITY EVENTS		
Document Reference/Register no:		Version Number:	1.0
Document type: (Policy/ Guideline/ SOP)	Policy	To be followed by:	Ringers and bodies who are requesting ringing
Ratification Issue Date: (Date document is uploaded onto the website)	01/02/2020	Review Date:	January 2023
Developed in response to:	Requests for ringing for public and community events		
Issuing Workgroup:	CCCBR Executive		
Author/Contact:	Clyde Whittaker – Exec member Vicki Chapman – CCCBR Public Relations Manager		
Consultation:	CCCBR Executive Communications & Marketing Workgroup		
Approved by: (Asset Owner)	Simon Linford – CCCBR President	Date:	31/01/2020

Document Review History:			
Version No:	Authored/Reviewer:	Summary of amendments/ Record documents superseded by:	Issue Date:
1.0	Clyde Whittaker / Vicki Chapman	First draft for consultation	8 January 2020

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1 Introduction

The Central Council is often asked to support and arrange mass ringing for high profile celebratory, commemorative and secular events. Official requests come from many sources - the Church, government, public bodies and high-profile individuals. Sometimes these requests are a result of consultation and planning whilst others come as a surprise and appear in the public domain before the ringing community is aware.

How the Central Council responds to such requests depends on many factors:

- Who is requesting;
- What is being requested;
- Why it is being requested;
- The need for consistency;
- What is the public mood in supporting the event

Requests received from the Church generally come with a very strong influence, as do some requests from government (e.g. commemorative ringing for the 100th anniversary of the end of The Great War). Nonetheless, wherever the request comes from any ringing that takes place should have agreement between the ringers and clergy or equivalent authority; are ringers available, willing and able to ring and will the clergy or equivalent allow it.

The Central Council does not endorse ringing requests for overtly political reasons and events, although all requests will be given appropriate consideration.

Most decisions on whether to ring are taken by the owner of each set of bells (normally the incumbent clergy) and local ringers, bearing in mind that the vast majority of ringers are volunteers, with work and other commitments.

Individuals or organisations who would like to hear their bells rung in support of a specific event or good cause are therefore encouraged to contact their local tower or ringing association as early as possible (details of ringing associations and towers can be found on the Council's website).

In addition, the Central Council will promote ringing in the UK and overseas for specific national and international events, which are defined below. This policy sets out the way in which the Council will assess and respond to requests for ringing at national and international level in support of specific events or good causes.

2 Scope

The Central Council offers national and overseas support for bells to be rung in support of one of the following three types of major event:

1. Major national and international events where a request is received from the UK Government or from the Church of England;

2. Events whose purpose or outcome will support the Council's object to promote "the practice, heritage and appreciation of bell ringing as an enjoyable mental and physical exercise and unique performing art for the public benefit of both church and community". Typically events which fall in this category will be those which:
 - encourage the growth and public appreciation of bell ringing;
 - promote strong relationships with the church, stakeholders, the media and others outside the bell ringing community;
 - foster the continuing recruitment and retention of ringers;
 - promote excellence in ringing
3. Exceptionally, other events or campaigns which will not necessarily promote the art of bellringing, but where the sound of church bells can make an important contribution to the community, by bringing people together, as agreed by the Council's Executive.

The Central Council does not promote requests for ringing for:

- Politically divisive issues;
- where supporting the event is something that could bring ringing into disrepute.

3 Roles and Responsibilities

3.1 CCCBR Public Relations Officer (PRO)

The PRO is responsible for:

- making a decision on all requests for ringing for public and national community events based on the criteria in section 2 of this Policy;
- referring the request to members of the CCCBR Executive and/or relevant workgroup leads if the situation is unclear or if further advice is required;
- responding to those making the request;
- issuing any statement or information via the CCCBR website and social media sites and The Ringing World, diocesan contacts, affiliated societies PRO network and CCCBR All Members network, as appropriate;
- liaising with any media companies as appropriate;
- gathering appropriate additional resources for major events that are to be supported;
- submitting updates and report to the CCCBR Executive for major long-term campaigns that have been supported;
- reviewing this Policy every 3 years.

3.2 Workgroup Leads

The workgroup leads are responsible for:

- providing any additional information, resource or advice to the PRO, as per section 3.1 in a timely and comprehensive manner.

3.3 CCCBR Executive

The CCCBR Executive is responsible for:

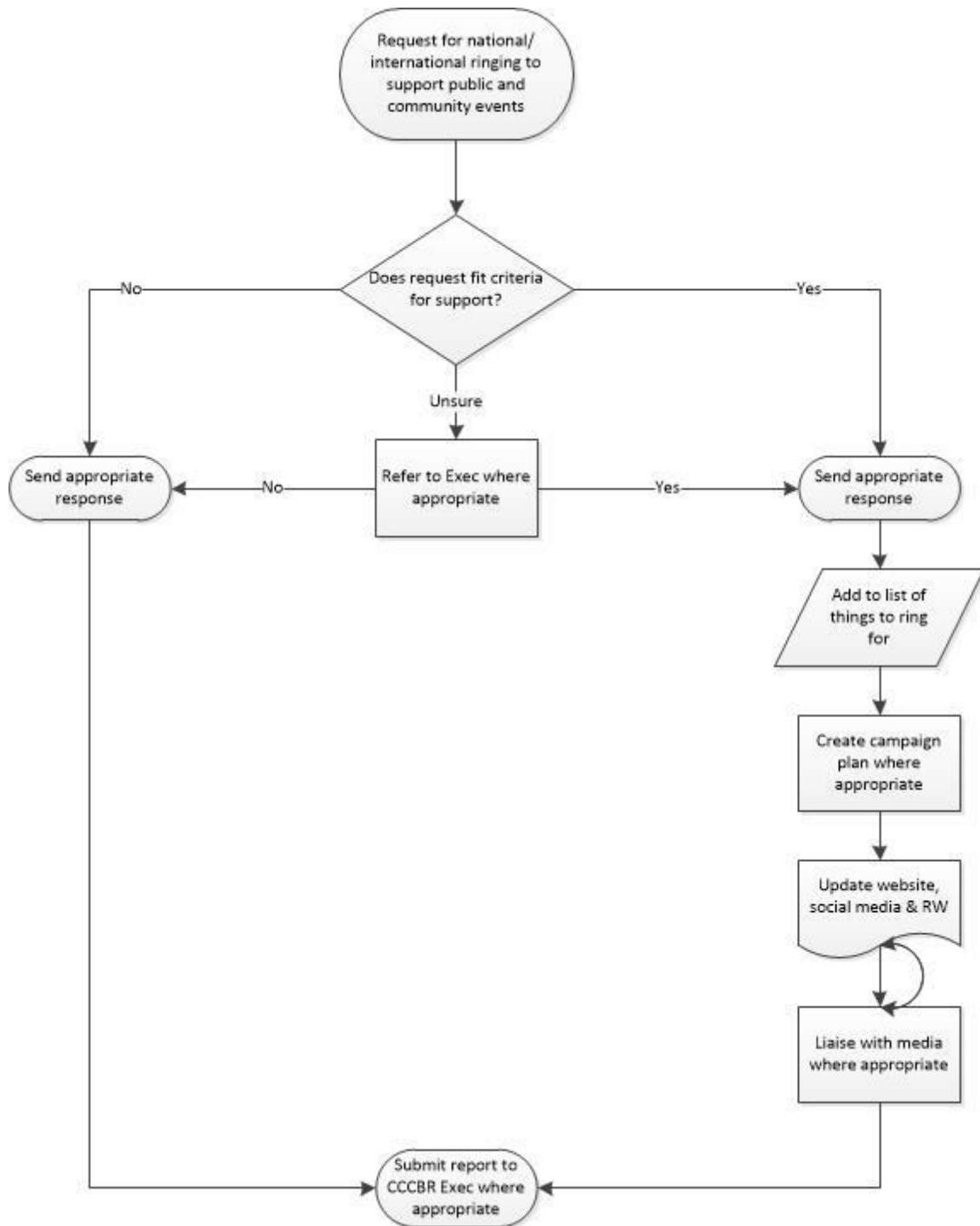
- providing any additional information, resource or advice to the PRO and Workgroup Leads, as per section 3.1 in a timely and comprehensive manner.
- ratifying this Policy after each review.

3.4 CCCBR President

The CCCBR President is responsible for:

- providing any additional information, resource or advice to the PRO, Executive and Workgroup Leads, as per section 3.1 in a timely and comprehensive manner;
- liaising with any media companies as appropriate;
- formal sign off of this Policy.

4 Process



5 Monitoring and Audit

For major campaigns that are supported by the CCCBR regular reports must be submitted to the CCCBR Executive providing an update on progress, budget, perceived and actual benefits, perceived and actual issues and outstanding actions.