



NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Patron: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
President: HRH THE PRINCE OF WALES KG KT GCB
Chairman: JOHN WEBSTER
Chief Executive: ANDREW MERCER

NRA Press Release in response to Charity Commission Outcome Report

7th February 2020

The Charity Commission issued a concluding statement to its report into the National Rifle Association on 7th February 2020.

The Trustees recognise that the promotion of recreational shooting is not consistent with promoting the Efficiency of the Armed Forces. The NRA website, social media presence and publications did not demonstrate the separation of competitive and recreational shooting with sufficient clarity. The Trustees continue to review and update all these materials to ensure that they are compliant with Charity Commission guidelines.

Non-competitive or “recreational” shooting is a commercial activity, which must be and is carried out by the National Shooting Centre Limited, not the NRA.

The NRA welcomes the Commission’s confirmation that the Trustees of the NRA were correct in seeking the best return on commercial tenancies with non-charities, thus resolving this important issue.

The improved documentation and procedures that the Trustees have put in place as a result of the action plan issued by the Commission will be of significant benefit to the charity. These include greater clarity around the separation of the NRA and its commercial subsidiary, National Shooting Centre Limited, new governance structures, a new Disciplinary Code and new procedures for the granting and renewing of leases. The Trustees appreciate the help and advice that they have received from the Charity Commission on these issues and feel strongly that the NRA is in a better position for the future having implemented the action plan.

The Trustees also agree wholeheartedly with the sentiments expressed by Helen Earner, Director of Operations. Trustees are rightly expected to uphold high standards of common decency and behaviour.

The NRA organises a number of shooting competitions as part of its charitable purpose. Its Annual Prize meeting just celebrated its 150th anniversary. The involvement in these competitions by members of the military, police and cadets contributes to the Efficiency of the Armed Forces. Going forward, the Trustees will actively measure the involvement of the military, police and cadets in these competitions and report the results to the Charity Commission to demonstrate the contribution these events make to this charitable purpose.

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