

The legal stuff...

Everything you do when you are fundraising for the Miscarriage Association needs to be both safe and legal for you to do. Below we detail some guidelines, but if you are unsure about anything then please get in touch.

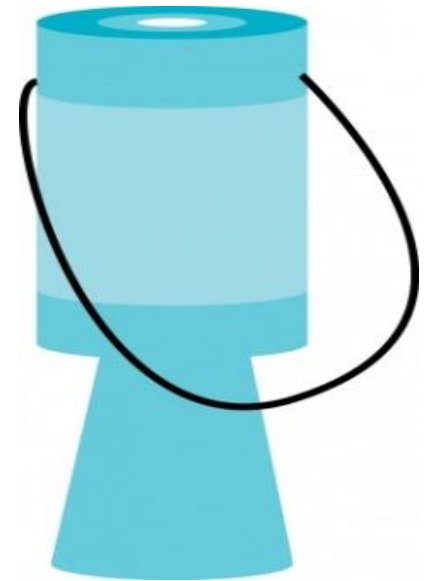
Collecting money from your friends and workmates

It's fine to have a collection tin at home, in someone else's house with their permission, at a private event that you are hosting, or at work, with the employer's permission. In all these cases:

The collection tin/s must be clearly labelled with the M.A.'s name and charity number. It must have a seal to prevent money being removed before the end of the collection (we provide seals and labels with our tins).

It should be kept as secure as possible, especially if it is kept somewhere with many people passing (that may be especially true in a workplace or shop).

Ideally, two people should count the money collected and make a note of the total. Monies raised should be sent to us within six weeks of placing the tin or you should inform us if you prefer to wait longer. The tin and its contents are the property of the Miscarriage Association at all times, not to be used or borrowed from.



Collections needing additional permissions

You need permission to have a collection tin in a pub, club or shop (unless you own or run it), or in an area such as a supermarket foyer. All of these places count as private property and you must have permission (preferably written) from the manager of the premises before you collect there. Also bear in mind that supermarket collection slots are often booked months in advance.

Some passers-by might want to ask why you're supporting the Miscarriage Association, some might not see it as a worthy cause, and others may be upset by personal memories. You might want to think in advance about what your response might be if faced with these situations so you can be prepared.

Collections which require a license

You're not allowed just to go up and down the street or round the pubs asking for donations unless it's part of a licensed collection. A licence can be obtained in advance from your Local Authority. Your application will require a full list of all the people making the collection and your exact route, or if it's a pub-crawl, your route and the name and permission of every landlord.

Street Collections

Street collections are carefully regulated and licensed by the Local Authority. You will need to contact the Licensing Department at the council and ask them how to apply for a license, which is usually free. The council will have a calendar of street collections and flag days and you'll need to apply early - possibly many months ahead, and if your application is successful, you will probably be allocated a restricted area in which to collect.

Social Events

If you are having music and dancing at your event, check that the venue has a public entertainments licence, if not you will need to apply to your local authority. These are usually free for charity events.

If you are serving food and/or alcohol, every person involved in the preparation and serving must have a basic understanding of food hygiene, and you must get an alcohol licence from your local authority, if your venue does not have one.



Raffles

Raffle tickets must not be sold by, or to, anyone under 16. You may need to apply to the local council for a licence to hold a public raffle, but private raffles don't need to be licensed so long as tickets are only sold to friends, club members, or workmates. Raffles held at social events do not need to be licensed as long as the raffle is not the sole reason for the event, tickets are only sold on the premises and the winners are drawn and announced at the event.