

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 19:43
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: Birthday card

Please reinstate the birthdaycard for our beloved writer J.K. Rowling



From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 11:02
To: [REDACTED]@gmail.com
Subject: RE: removal of poster from Waverley Station

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 17:32
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: removal of poster from Waverley Station

Dear Mr Haines

I was astonished to read that the poster saying 'I (heart) JKR' has been removed from Edinburgh Waverley Station. Can you provide one good reason why? JK Rowling is a beloved author who has brought pleasure to millions and done more than any single individual in recent times to encourage reading and literacy in children. Can the poster's removal have anything to do with the fact that Ms Rowling has recently expressed support of scientific fact, to say nothing of common sense, that women are women. This is not a dangerous statement. It is the truth. What is also the truth is that there is a VERY small and noisy set of individuals who for their own reasons are determined to remove the protection that real women have fought long and hard to achieve. I know all about the mantra 'transwomen are women'; but they are NOT. They are men. Men who are still physically men. Who very badly want to be able to access spaces which are currently reserved for women, for very good reason.

I fear you have (over) reacted to the bleatings of this delusional and quite frankly dangerous constituency. Why did you and your colleagues jump to their command?

I would be extremely interested to learn the rationale behind this decision.



Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@civica.co.uk>
Sent: 31 July 2020 17:36
To: executivecontactofficers
Cc: Network Rail Digital Team
Subject: Letter to Andrew Haines Regarding Network Rail's definition of Political and its removal of JK Rowling Posters - 200731-000339
Attachments: Letter to AH CEO NR.docx

Hi all,

We've received the attached letter today via our contact us form, its addressed to Andrew Haines. How would you like us to log this one please?

Thank you,



- [The local government workplace of the future...](#)
- [Civica successfully completes remote deployment of Coroners software at Kent County Council...](#)
- [How catering and online payment technology can help keep schools safe during mealtimes...](#)
- [UKROEd and Civica commit to new four-year digital partnership...](#)

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From: [REDACTED]@icloud.com>
Sent: 31 July 2020 14:08
To: executivecontactofficers
Subject: Re: I ?? JK Rowling

Dear [REDACTED]

If that is indeed the case that you don't promote one view point over another. I would like to know why you sport the LGBT Emblem on your logo. It seems a contradiction. Especially since this organisation are trying to eradicate the single sex spaces of girls and women.

Look forward to receiving your reply.

Sent from my iPad

> On 31 Jul 2020, at 13:29, executivecontactofficers <executivecontactxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxx.xx.xx> wrote:
>
> Dear [REDACTED]
>
> Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.
>
> We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.
>
> Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy, so we can't reinstate it as you've asked.
>
> We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.
>
> If we can help further, please let me know.
>
> Yours sincerely,
>
> [REDACTED]
>
> [REDACTED]
>
> Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: [REDACTED]@icloud.com>
> Sent: 30 July 2020 20:09
> To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
> Subject: I ?? JK Rowling
>
>
> It is J K Rowlings Birthday tomorrow, please reinstate bill board that you removed earlier in Waverley Station.
>
> Thank you
>
> [REDACTED]
> Sent from my iPad

>

>
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>
>

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:55
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Removal of Poster

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

Our use of the rainbow colours in our logo during Pride is because we're proud to be a diverse and inclusive workplace where all our people matter to us.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 22:49
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: Removal of Poster

Dear Andrew,

I am writing to express my dismay at the decision by Network Rail to remove the 'I love JK Rowling' poster from Waverley Station. As you know JK Rowling is a world renowned author and an Edinburgh resident. She has funded charities and during lockdown wrote a book for children in weekly instalments.

JK Rowling does indeed possess political views, as do we all. I note that your own logo currently displays a rainbow which also represents a political statement on behalf of a particular group.

May I enquire as to the policy you have in place in order to decide which potential political views are allowed and which are not.

Yours sincerely



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:15
To: executivecontactofficers
Subject: Re: Birthday celebration

[REDACTED]

I didn't ask you about any poster you may have removed: I asked you whether you could celebrate the birthday today of one of Edinburgh's most celebrated authors, JK Rowling. I would appreciate a response to my suggestion.

But since you've raised the issue and say the poster *about* JK Rowling you removed was "calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another", can you explain how you came to the decision, bearing in mind all the poster said was:



Can you also say whether all posters are referred to yourselves for consideration beforehand? If not, on what criteria would your advertising partners (I assume JC Decaux) use to decide whether or not to refer any poster to yourselves for consideration? What was it about this poster of just eleven characters that you believe should have raised red flags?

You also say that the "poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy." It's my understanding that the *individual* who paid for the advert is an advocate of women's rights so I'm intrigued to know what led you to decide that this was a 'gender recognition reform group'? What do you understand by that term?

I look forward to receiving your reply.

Best regards.

[REDACTED]

On Fri, 31 Jul 2020 at 12:34, e[REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@networkrail.co.uk> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

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We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 19:03
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: Birthday celebration

Andrew

What better way to celebrate the birthday tomorrow (31 July) of one of Edinburgh's most famous and well-respected children's authors than to put up a poster telling her how much she is loved by children and adults alike.

Waverley Station would be the ideal location, don't you think?

Thans and best regards.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 30 July 2020 19:11
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: J K Rowling.

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team and I'm sorry to see the concern this has caused you.

This poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 15:03
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: J K Rowling.

Dear Sir,

I would like to advise you of my disappointment at the removal of the "I love J K Rowling" poster from display at Edinburgh Waverley. J K Rowling is standing up for female sex based rights, which are under threat if the ability to Self ID is introduced to the UK.

Females have fought for centuries for the rights we now have, including the right to single sex spaces. Defending these laws, as J K Rowling has, is not transphobic, it is pro female.

I would urge you to reconsider the removal and put it back on display for show support for female rights.

Kindest Regards.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:02
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: J K Rowling Postet

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 19:33
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: J K Rowling Postet

I am disgusted that you have removed the poster supporting freedom of speech. Scotrail obviously do t believe in the right of expression. This is shameful.

Please reinstall this poster immediately, [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@sky.com
Sent: 31 July 2020 10:32
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: Hello

Dear Mr Haines

I believe Network Rail in Edinburgh have taken down a birthday message to the wonderful JK Rowling. Why? Shes a well respected author with millions of fans. Who made NR the arbiters of free speech? Please reinstate the msg asap.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: executivecontact@officers
Subject: Re: JK Rowling Poster
Date: 31 July 2020 17:54:40
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image001.png](#)

Thank you for your response.
The poster displayed did not show any political content, however I note that you are displaying the rainbow flag which is a political/gender statement.
Please explain.
Regards
[REDACTED]

On Fri, 31 Jul 2020, 13:56 [REDACTED]@networkrail.co.uk> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 22:47
To: [REDACTED]@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: JK Rowling Poster

Dear Mr Haines

Please could you clarify why a poster stating I JK Rowling was removed as network rail feel it is a political statement? She is not a politician but a writer. I find it disturbing that Network Rail have taken it upon themselves to police the population like this. The advertising standards authority have not deemed this poster offensive so why have Network Rail?

I am most interested in your response as myself and both children like many others are fans of JK and her written works.

Regards

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 31 July 2020 10:08
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: I Love J K Rowling

Dear sir,

Could you explain to me why the recently removed "I love J. K. Rowling" poster is a political statement while your support of LGBT/pride is not? I don't believe that either statement is a message of hatred and that Network Rail have been far too quick to respond to a vocal minority (whose views do not agree with the majority of your customers) with a knee-jerk and cowardly approach. You think it makes you look progressive in fact it makes you look demented and irrational.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Haines Andrew](#)
Cc: [executivecontact@officers](#)
Subject: Re: "Advertising"
Date: 31 July 2020 16:31:22

Good afternoon,

Mr Haines, I have received a nonsensical reply on your behalf from one of your employees. Perhaps you would like to read what they wrote first? Attached below.

For your information I have checked and the group that paid for the I JK Rowling advert up, but whose name appeared nowhere on the poster, wants the existing law [Equality Act 2010, Gender Recognition Act] to remain, as I understand is JK Rowling position.
I personally think the current law seems reasonable but don't know the issues that well.

I believe other groups, including Stonewall (which started to campaign for trans issues in 2015) and Google, who has been supplying advertising under the "ask Liz" heading, are campaigning for the law to change.

Are you saying you wouldn't accept an advert from Stonewall or Google, even on an unrelated topic? If Google paid for an advert about picking up litter, and that advert didn't show their name or anything, you wouldn't allow that advert because they paid for it?

Your policy says "that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint above another"

This poster didn't do any of those things. The only viewpoint was "I JK Rowling"

Could you send a coherent response to the facts of this case? Thank you

Best wishes
[REDACTED]

> On 31 Jul 2020, at 14:32, [REDACTED]@networkrail.co.uk> wrote:

>

> Dear [REDACTED]

>

> Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

>

> We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

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>

> We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

>

> If we can help further, please let me know.

>

> Yours sincerely,

>

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

>

> Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: [REDACTED]

> Sent: 31 July 2020 08:01

> To: Haines Andrew <xxxxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxx.xx.xx>

> Subject: "Advertising"

>

> Good morning Mr Haines. I am only a woman but my husband has allowed me to write this.

>

> Network Rail Scotland accepted an advert for Edinburgh Waverley.

> The advert contained only:

> I JK Rowling

>

> The advert was booked I understand for Joanne Rowling, author, including the Harry Potter series, She lives near Edinburgh and her birthday is today. The advert was booked for one week and would have covered her birthday.

>

> withheld under s40(2) FOIA

> It appears that thi s40(2) is like of this poster has been used as the deciding factor, despite Joanne Rowling being widely popular in the UK and worldwide for her books, which have brought a generation back to reading, and her massive charitable contributions? If you would like to know about another man involved, Joanne is married to a doctor whose employer, the NHS I believe you may be thanking in your present rainbow colour way.

>

> In addition to removing the poster, your company issued a tweet including "its political nature. We do not allow advertising that is likely to support or promote one viewpoint over another."

>

> Plead can you explain the political nature of this poster and why it had to be removed?

>

> Thank you

>

> [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

>

>

>

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>

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> <https://www.avast.com/antivirus>

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>

>

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:41
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: JK Rowling

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team and I'm sorry to see the concern this has caused you.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 21:32
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: JK Rowling

Dear Mr Haines,

When women were finally granted the vote, the right to own property and the right not to be owned by men, they were also allowed to have opinions.

Not, however, in Scotland in 2020.

This is an attempt to silence women, to turn back the clock 100 years and tell us we don't count.

Well, we won't forget. And you, Sir, will need to think long and hard about how love for a Scottish children's author who has given millions to charity is a bad thing. And how silencing 51 % of the population makes you look like the driver of the misogyny train.

I look forward to your public apology and await your reply.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2020 23:02
To: executivecontactofficers
Subject: Re: JK Rowling

Dear [REDACTED]

I am not convinced you have done your homework very well. It is not surprising as we are rarely listened to and often shouted over by men.

The poster was put up in recognition of JK Rowling's contribution to women's rights and, specifically, asking that existing law be upheld.

Stonewall, whose flag you display so proudly, is arguing for change and doing so by throwing their considerable political and financial might behind their campaign.

As you are clearly mistaken, you should reinstate the poster and issue an apology. If, as you assert, you take no political advertising, I look forward to Stonewall appearing nowhere in your documentation, policy or signage.

I look forward to hearing that this is being auctioned.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

> On 31 Jul 2020, at 14:07, e[REDACTED]@networkrail.co.uk> wrote:
>
> Dear [REDACTED]
>
> Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team and I'm sorry to see the concern this has caused you.
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> We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.
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> We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.
>
> If we can help further, please let me know.
>
> Yours sincerely,
>
> [REDACTED]
> [REDACTED]
> [REDACTED]
>
> [REDACTED]
>
> Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW
>
>
> -----Original Message-----

> From: [REDACTED]
> Sent: 30 July 2020 21:32
> To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
> Subject: JK Rowling
>
> Dear Mr Haines,
>
> When women were finally granted the vote, the right to own property and the right not to be owned by men, they were also allowed to have opinions.
>
> Not, however, in Scotland in 2020.
>
> This is an attempt to silence women, to turn back the clock 100 years and tell us we don't count.
>
> Well, we won't forget. And you, Sir, will need to think long and hard about how love for a Scottish children's author who has given millions to charity is a bad thing. And how silencing 51 % of the population makes you look like the driver of the misogyny train.
>
> I look forward to your public apology and await your reply.
>
> Regards
>
> [REDACTED]
>
>
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>

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>
>

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 12:50
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Posters at Waverley

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team and I'm sorry to see the concern this has caused you.

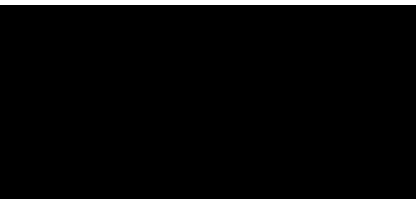
We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@hotmail.co.uk>
Sent: 30 July 2020 19:19
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: Posters at Waverley

Just a question.

What birthday wishes to a woman would, in your view, be acceptable for your station to display?

And why does JK Rowling not qualify?

She has made enough money for you ferrying tourists to Harry Potter sites in Scotland. Happy to take the money but not mention its source?

Her only sin is to defend the concept of biological sex being real and immutable? That a porn inspired outfit and makeup is not what being a woman comprises of. That women need protection as They are entitled by law in this country from male violence. And that children are not competent to consent to unlicensed drug treatments which lead to irrevocable mutilating and sterilising surgery.

ALL adverts are one sided. Gillette may not in fact be the best a man can get.

Review this decision. It reflects very badly on your company and the way you value women's rights in our society. We will not forget this treatment, especially those of us who as lesbians, you claim to support under the rainbow flag yet dump us under the bus with this action . The LGBT is not only T, though every big org seems to have dumped every other part, in thrall to the big pharma frankenstein corporations.

Your very disappointed and angry

Edinburgh

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 14:27
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Poster

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements - and how lovely to read about her work during the lockdown. Our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]@yahoo.com>
Sent: 31 July 2020 05:13
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: Poster

Hi Andrew,

I was sad to hear that a message of love and celebration of J.K. Rowling, for her birthday, has been taken down from Waverly station. I don't know if you are aware that Joanne did an amazing thing during the holidays. She released her new story The Ickabog for free and asked children to enter an illustration competition for the new book. This brought great joy to children all over the world, including Scotland.

J.K. Rowling is a national treasure. Is there a law against expressing love for our national treasure? If not, please put the poster back up in celebration of her birthday today. Thanks!

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent:
To: [REDACTED]
Subject:

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

This poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW
Mobile: [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 15:03
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: J K Rowling.

Dear Sir,

I would like to advise you of my disappointment at the removal of the "I love J K Rowling" poster from display at Edinburgh Waverley. J K Rowling is standing up for female sex based rights, which are under threat if the ability to Self ID is introduced to the UK.

Females have fought for centuries for the rights we now have, including the right to single sex spaces. Defending these laws, as J K Rowling has, is not transphobic, it is pro female.

I would urge you to reconsider the removal and put it back on display for show support for female rights.

Kindest Regards.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:56
To: Bill Cam
Subject: RE: Complaint

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]@yahoo.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 22:41
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: Complaint

Dear sir,

I never get involved in internet 'rows' but I am absolutely disgusted and flabbergasted by the decision to remove the advert applauding JK Rowling. This is a lady who has brought joy to millions of children's and adults alike. She has also been a great ambassador for Edinburgh. An extremely small minority of an extremely small minority group complained about comments she made in support of women. The woke cancel culture that is sweeping the country is being promulgated by weak decisions by corporate bodies like yours. And please don't patronise me with diversity drivel. Please can you explain this decision?

Regards

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:42
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: e jk rowling poster

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 22:03
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: Reinstate jk rowling poster

It is her birthday tomorrow and it is sad to see the Trans rejection of biology being supported by Network Rail.
I love jk rowling is a fine sentiment.
Reconsider, get some spine.
Think of the children.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@hotmail.co.uk>
Sent: 31 July 2020 11:33
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: JKR poster

Dear Mr Haynes

I am really disappointed that scotrail took the decision to remove the I?'JKR poster.

It was not a political poster. It is JKR's birthday and we wanted her honoured in the place where she lived. Her political views or otherwise are neither here nor there. JKR has been a beacon of light to many youngsters through her books. She has also brought untold revenue to the railways.

If you claim the poster is political I would like to see all the Pride posters removed from all railways stations as Pride is certainly political.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:49
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: JKR poster

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 22:41
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: JKR poster

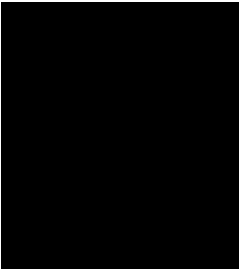
Dear Andrew,

I would like to convey my dismay at the decision to remove the 'I heart JKR' poster from Edinburgh Station. This is a message of strength to many women and men who believe that having the freedom to express free speech on matters of women's rights without vilification or repression from an often violent and regressive movement aimed at silencing and rolling back the rights of natal girls and women.

To take down such a message conveys a lack of empathy to our cause and indicates where you stand on this matter. Such a shame.

[REDACTED]

--



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@hotmail.co.uk>
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:38
To: executivecontactofficers
Subject: Re: Reinstate "I love JK Rowling" poster

Dear [REDACTED]

thank you for your prompt reply.

Your explanation seems to state that who paid for the poster is the relevant issue in getting it removed, rather than the message on the poster? Have I understood that correctly?

You also say that you cannot allow something that promote one viewpoint over another - isn't that the point of all advertising? I am not trying to be disingenuous. I am genuinely trying to understand your position.


Many thanks

[REDACTED]

> On 31 Jul 2020, at 12:41, [REDACTED]@networkrail.co.uk> wrote:
>
> Dear [REDACTED]
>
> Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.
>
> We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.
>
> Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy, so we can't reinstate the poster.
>
> We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.
>
> If we can help further, please let me know.
>
> Yours sincerely,
>
> _____

[REDACTED]

>
> [REDACTED]
>
> Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: [REDACTED]@hotmail.co.uk>
> Sent: 30 July 2020 18:47
> To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
> Subject: Reinstate "I love JK Rowling" poster
>

> Dear Mr Haines
>
> I call on you to reinstate the "I love JK Rowling" poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. It is the much loved author's birthday tomorrow and an expression of support in time for her birthday should not be considered in any way controversial.
>
> JK Rowling has written books much loved by children and adults and given millions of pounds to charity. That she speaks in a measured way about her views may be considered political by some (personally I think that supporting vulnerable women and sticking up for women's sex based rights are just decency not politics) but we have freedom of speech and a right to speak about our politics. We also have freedom to say who we like and don't like.
>
> Expressing love of JK Rowling is not political - it is being a fan.
>
> Please think carefully about why you have done this and reconsider urgently in time for her birthday on 31 July.
>
> Many thanks
>
> 
>

>
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> Network Rail Infrastructure Limited registered in England and Wales No. 2904587, registered office Network Rail, 2nd Floor, One Eversholt Street, London, NW1 2DN
>
>

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2020 17:46
To: executivecontactofficers
Subject: Web form addressed to Andrew Haines - JK Rowling poster at Edinburgh station - 200731-000386

Hi all,

We've received the below web form today regarding the JK Rowling Poster, how would you like us to log this one please?

Dear Mr Haines

I was shocked to see that you felt it necessary to remove a poster with a simple message of appreciation for much loved writer and philanthropist, JK Rowling, from Edinburgh Waverley station.

JK Rowling has recently spoken about her belief that biology matters in women's lives. The vast majority of people who use your services and pass through this station share this fundamental belief in the importance of human biology. She has expressed support for transsexuals and transgender people. But because she does not share a very recently promoted belief that people can literally change their biological sex, she has received vile rape and death threats. By removing the poster you have - very politically - aligned your organisation with the people who send those threats.

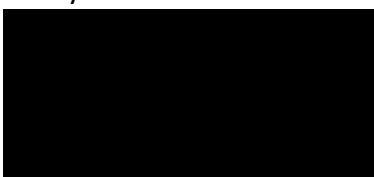
Your actions have helped legitimise the belief that anyone who states that they don't believe human beings can change sex deserves to be abused. You have effectively encouraged further abuse of JK Rowling and spat in the face of her fans and people who share her very moderate views.

You gave the reason that the poster was political - this is perhaps even more disturbing. Every advert that you agree to display will now be scrutinised for political messages, to ensure that you have not been discriminatory or exhibited double standards.

You have aligned a train operating company with a science denying movement, one with some very doubtful practices concerning children and consent. I assume you have taken advice from Stonewall but may not be aware of the petition of over 10,000 people calling on them to rethink their extremist and unhelpful approach to transgender people (which openly expands the definition of trans to include cross dressers and fetishists). <https://www.ipetitions.com/petition/dear-stonewall-please-reconsider-your-approach>

I hope you will reconsider any unquestioning alliance with Stonewall and reinstate the poster.

Many thanks



- [The local government workplace of the future...](#)
- [Civica successfully completes remote deployment of Coroners software at Kent County Council...](#)
- [How catering and online payment technology can help keep schools safe during mealtimes...](#)
- [UKROEd and Civica commit to new four-year digital partnership...](#)

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From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [executivecontactofficers](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: BIRTHDAY
Date: 31 July 2020 12:44:00

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

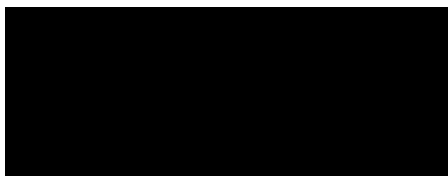
We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy, so we can't reinstate it as you've asked.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 18:56
To: Haines Andrew <xxxxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxx.xx.xx>
Subject: BIRTHDAY

Dear Mr Haines,

Please would you reinstate the I JKR poster tomorrow for her birthday. It would mean the world to so many of us who grew up with her books and really love her.

What a tribute to a wonderful philanthropic woman in this day and age. Thank you.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Via iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:05
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Removal of JK Rowling poster

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 19:36
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: Removal of JK Rowling poster

Why has Network Rail Scotland taken a political decision to remove this poster? It is an expression of love and gratitude towards a popular and much loved author. Network Rail has imparted a meaning to the poster which is not reflected in the words and therefore reflects NR's bias and politics against women.

Yours [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 31 July 2020 09:14
To: Haines Andrew
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: I heart JK Rowling poster

Dear Andrew,

I am concerned to read in The Times this morning that a poster reading "I heart JK Rowling" was removed from Edinburgh Waverley station for being too political. A spokesman for Network Rail has said: "The poster in question is against our code of acceptance for advertising in our stations owing to its political nature. We do not support or promote one viewpoint over another."

This poster conveys no viewpoint beyond an expression of good wishes and solidarity for a writer who asserted that biological sex is real, and that her biological sex has been important in shaping her experience as a woman. I would like to remind you that biological sex is a protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010. There are some organisations, such as Stonewall, that would like to remove sex as a protected characteristic from the act. I note that Network Rail is a partner of Stonewall. Would I be right in thinking that you have displayed posters or the like across your stations that include the Pride logo? If that has been the case, then Network Rail is promoting "one viewpoint over another".

Kellie-Jay Keen-Minshull (who paid for the poster) clearly feels that this is further indication that women's voices do not matter. Please reinstate the poster and prove her wrong.

I am copying this to Grant Shapps in his capacity as Secretary of State for Transport.

My thanks for your time.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 19:15
To: executivecontactofficers
Subject: Re: Removal of poster in support of JK Rowling
Attachments: Screenshot 2020-07-30 at 19.13.29.png

Dear [REDACTED]

It is JK Rowling's birthday tomorrow. Are birthdays political?

Furthermore, does this mean that you will also remove other, explicitly political affiliations and advertising - like the colours added to your logotype on social media? I'm sure you are aware that Pride, and its colours, are explicitly political. The attached evidence is from Stonewall's webpage: <https://www.stonewall.org.uk/our-work/campaigns/pride>.

Seeing that you are in receipt of public funding, transparency is clearly an imperative. I look forward to your response.

With regards,
[REDACTED]

On Thu, 30 Jul 2020 at 18:38, [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@networkrail.co.uk> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that JK Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 10:48
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: Removal of poster in support of JK Rowling

Dear Andrew,

I was dismayed to see a poster with a simple, iconic message of appreciation of a much-loved children's author and philanthropist, JK Rowling, removed as 'political'.

Have you lost all sense of proportion?

I am aware that she is being demonised in the most appalling terms by what boils down to a flat-earth cult that demands no one mention biological sex, but why on Earth a national rail operator should heed anti-scientific, bizarre nonsense is beyond me.

JK Rowling is a Scotswoman and a national treasure, a person of great integrity with so much charitable activities and popular love behind her. She may have stated the obvious, inserting some much-needed common sense into the public debate, but every demographic in the general public agree with her, according to the latest YouGov poll.

It is her detractors, and your organisation's decision, that are deeply, and controversially political.

I urge you to rethink and reinstate the message of support. In these troubled times, JK Rowling so more for the UK's image abroad than our own government does. She really doesn't deserve this appalling treatment.

With regards
[REDACTED]

Typed on tiny screen

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--

From: [REDACTED]
To: assault@networkrail.co.uk
Subject: Re: I heart J K Rowling
Date: 31 July 2020 18:34:44
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

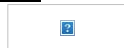
This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group

Sent from ProtonMail mobile

----- Original Message -----

On 31 Jul 2020, 14:29, [REDACTED]@networkrail.co.uk> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]
Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.
We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.
Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.
We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.
If we can help further, please let me know.
Yours sincerely,



Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2020 07:15
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: I heart J K Rowling
Andrew

I'm aghast at how the poster 'I J K ROWLING' could be deemed to be political! She is one of the most famous and successful authors to come out of Scotland, she works tirelessly to support charity's, she's recently freely given chapters of her upcoming book to children throughout lockdown, she stays in this country and paid her taxes ! And you remove this poster ! It's a disgraceful decision.

Why? That's my question ! Why?

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 12:40
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: JKR

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 19:11
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: JKR

Dear Mr Haines

Why oh why did you feel it necessary to censor a beautiful poster put up to honour JKR's birthday?
Why do you see the endorsement of this brilliant writer and philanthropist as a political statement?

Do the right thing and please reinstate this for her birthday tomorrow.

I grew up with her books and continue to be impressed by her.

Not many people with her wealth contribute so much of it to good causes. Take the time to find out a bit more about her before making such crass and unkind decisions.

This is a wonderful tribute to her.

Kind regards
[REDACTED]

r

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@btinternet.com
Sent: 31 July 2020 19:54
To: executivecontactofficers
Subject: RE: JKRowling poster

Dear [REDACTED] nonsense. Network Rail is more than happy to subscribe to political viewpoints when it suits them, for example in their celebrations of Pride month:
<https://www.networkrail.co.uk/stories/pride-month-celebrations-across-the-railway/>

What your company are doing is choosing, in a kneejerk way, one apparently liberal organisation over another, apparently illiberal one. J K Rowling had the temerity to comment that men and women were biologically different. As a man that probably doesn't mean much to you. As a woman it does. Already biological men who have had no gender re-alignment surgery, are taking part in women's sport, using women's toilets and changing rooms and being incarcerated in women's jails. All they need to do is to say that they identify as female. If you have female friends and relatives that should worry you. Incidentally, I'm not transphobic but I do fear those who fly under the banner of Trans, whose narrative is sometimes threatening and violent. (As J K Rowling discovered.)

Network rail is quashing free speech and in these times, that is a real danger and it should reconsider this decision.
Yours, sincerely, [REDACTED]

----- Original Message -----

From: "executivecontactofficers"
To: "[REDACTED]@btinternet.com"
Sent: Friday, 31 Jul, 2020 At 14:11
Subject: RE: JKRowling poster

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

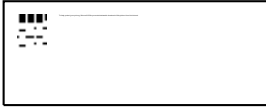
Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]@btinternet.com [REDACTED]@btinternet.com>
Sent: 31 July 2020 00:37
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: JKRowling poster

An outrage that this poster is being taken down. This is a women who has spent millions supporting all kinds of minority groups in Scotland, as well as being a literary figurehead. She is not transphobic - as anyone who is able to read in a nuanced way, would understand. By caving to a misogynist you have shown your company to be far from apolitical. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2020 15:16
To: executivecontactofficers; [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: JK Rowling poster removal

OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2020 15:14
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: JK Rowling poster removal

Dear Andrew,

withheld under s40(2) FOIA

today at seeing the poster at Edinburgh

station, in commemoration of JK Rowling's birthday having been removed as 'political'. This is horribly wrong and shameful on so many levels.

JK Rowling cares above all for the safety of children and young women. Every word she speaks is loaded with that caring and concern and protection of our children. I would like to see where you have decided this poster is wrong given that Edinburgh relies in part and owes a great amount of tourism brought in by its association with her. It is a disgrace that you would attempt to bully her in this way. Do you propose that all of Edinburgh, all the Harry Potter shops and cafes, all the bookshops that sell Harry Potter merchandise remove their products? Do you suggest Platform 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ at King's Cross station is removed now? And all because JK Rowling said she is worried about children being given operations and drugs to switch them to the opposite sex?! This is soon to become a public health scandal. Can you not see that? Or are you bowing to trans rights activists? The same trans rights activists who threatened JK Rowling with rape and death for saying biological sex is real.

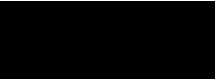
I would like you to cite just one transphobic or anti trans comment you consider JK Rowling has made. You obviously do endorse political opinions because you are happy to put other posters up. Every advertisement or poster is likely to promote an opinion of one sort or another. How can it be possible to determine what the response is going to be to any poster from any individual? The only logical answer is to remove all posters and advertising! Can you also explain why supporting Pride which has a very political agenda, and is actively linked with organisations who are specifically trying to change UK law, is not classed as political? Yet you have a Pride logo everywhere.

Withheld under s40(2) FOIA

Withheld under s40(2) FOIA

This is shameful and morally corrupt behaviour. It is indefensible.

Yours in anticipation of a non copied and pasted reply.



From: [REDACTED]
To: [Haines Andrew](#)
Subject: Arrival time
Date: 30 July 2020 23:29:10

Hello. Please put up the

I ♥ JK Rowling

love letter from us again.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:59
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: JK Rowling poster

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 23:01
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: JK Rowling poster

As a resident of Edinburgh I am shocked to hear you have removed a poster celebrating one of our most famous authors for her birthday. Nothing she has written is transphobic (read it if you haven't already) and she should continue to be supported and appreciated as not only an outstanding author but also a strong supporter of women and children's rights.

Please reconsider this ridiculous decision.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: securitycontact@officers
Subject: Re: Poster
Date: 31 July 2020 17:02:26

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your response and for your positive words about JK Rowling.

I honestly don't see any difference between the 'political' nature of the gender reform group you mention and the LGBT group Archway which Network Rail supports, just to pick one example.

Also I assume from your message that if an individual rather than a group chose to pay for the 'I JK Rowling' advert you would accept it?

Best wishes

On Fri, 31 Jul 2020 at 13:36, [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@networkrail.co.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@networkrail.co.uk)> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gmail.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@gmail.com)>
Sent: 30 July 2020 21:06
To: Haines Andrew <xxxxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxx.xx.xx>
Subject: Poster

Dear Andrew,

Seriously you've removed the JKR poster?!!

Just why? In what way is it offensive?

You have to think seriously about other posters your organisation displays.

Best wishes

Sent from my iPhone

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:26
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Removal of poster

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Executive Correspondence Manager

Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]@yahoo.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 19:56
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: Removal of poster

I would like to submit a complaint about the removal of the JK Rowling poster.

Whoever the complainant was is clearly discriminating against women and I would like this rectified.

Women should be allowed to celebrate their favourite authors without misogyny.

Best wishes, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 11:01
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: J K Rowling Ad

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team and I'm sorry for the concern this has caused you.

This poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently and fairly in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 17:23
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: J K Rowling Ad

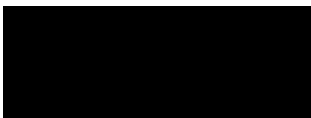
Sir,

I assume you are inundated with e-mails. Stonewall became a political campaigning group a good few years ago. I assume therefore, anything displayed about Stonewall is immediately removed.

withheld under s40(2) FOIA

I am very sad that an organisation which should be protecting gay rights has become a campaigning group for transwomen's and is busily dragging this wonderful institution into the dark and murky waters of misogyny and Haste.

You are on the wrong side of history



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:37
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Censorship rund wild! Please put back I<3 JK Rowling poster - for the sake of free speech

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 20:30
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: Censorship rund wild! Please put back I

Dear Andrew Haines

I haven't decided what I think of J.K. Rowling's ideas about trans persons and their place in the world, about gender roles in general and so forth. It is rather complicated and there are many angles here.

But I have decided what I think of free speech and I support not hurting people by calling them or referring to them using words that hurt them.

I have also decided that free discussions which do not break the law and which involve ideas and reflections re. our common world are necessary and very important.

Thus, removing a fairly innocent support for J.K. Rowling is not okay. It is an aspect of modern culture that's dangerous. Before we know it, we'll be removing everything we don't happen to agree with, be it unlawful, hurtful or not.

So please reconsider. For the sake of free speech and for the sake of real discussions and freedom of thought.

Kind regards,



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2020 11:51
To: executivecontactofficers
Subject: RE: Objection to Removal of 'I Heart JK Rowling' poster

[REDACTED]

This message makes no sense at all. Advertising boards display messages with many motivations. The Rowling poster was a birthday card to a beloved author. What on earth is controversial about that? Expressing love is hateful now?!

You acknowledge that you removed the poster because NWS disapproves of the pro-woman politics of the woman who paid for the ad. Are you aware that what you've admitted is discrimination on the basis of sex? I hope [REDACTED] sues the company. It would be richly deserved.

Finally, it makes no sense that you silence and censor a woman's view, yet brand yourselves with the trans rainbow flag, which is highly political. That makes you the most rank hypocrites. Women are fighting to preserve our existing legal rights against the trans lobby which would replace them with gender identity rights. It is a serious matter. You join in treating women with contempt.

You are engaging in misogyny by pandering to misogynists who cannot bear to hear women say even the most innocuous things.

What an irredeemably cowardly and sexist bunch of turnips you are!

You could make good by reinstating the poster today, before the end of JK Rowling's birthday, but that would mean a few irate tweets and emails from woke misogynist lunatics.

I'll bet you all lack the spine and intelligence to do the right thing. Slow hand clap for your company.

[REDACTED]

Sent from ProtonMail Mobile

On Thu, Jul 30, 2020 at 19:05, [REDACTED] [\[REDACTED\]@networkrail.co.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@networkrail.co.uk)> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

Our use of the rainbow colours in our logo shows that we're proud to be a diverse and inclusive workplace where all our people matter to us.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 30 July 2020 14:54
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: Objection to Removal of 'I Heart JK Rowling' poster

Dear Mr Haines,

I write to register my strong objection to your decision to remove the 'I Heart JK Rowling' poster from Waverly Station

It is OK for women to love the nations' most beloved author, and to say as much, because she has stood up for women when nobody else would.

If it's OK for Network Rail to brand itself with the rainbow transgender flag, why can't women express their political views in support of Rowling?

The hypocrisy and misogyny of your decision are staggering.

Sincerely,



Sent from ProtonMail Mobile

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 12:02
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Jk Rowling poster

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]@manx.net>
Sent: 30 July 2020 19:01
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: Jk Rowling poster

Please reinstate the jk Rowling birthday poster.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [executivecontactofficers](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Arrival time
Date: 31 July 2020 14:03:00
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand. Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy, so we can't reinstate it as you've asked.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 23:29
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: Arrival time

Hello. Please put up the
I ♥ JK Rowling
love letter from us again.
Thank you

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:35
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: The JK poster

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]@icloud.com>
Sent: 31 July 2020 05:07
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: The JK poster

Please reinstate this as she means a great deal to women fighting against their erasure by the trans lobby. The removal sends an appalling message to women everywhere fighting to retain their rights. We are up against power and money, we have neither but we are right.

Thank you, [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 31 July 2020 17:12
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: JK Rolwing

Please explain why JK Rowling's poster was removed.

Do you believe in free-speech for the majority or prefer the voice of the minority?

Please email back with details of the consultation process your organisation passed in consulting the views of the majority regarding the removal of this poster.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[@gmail.com](#)

From: [REDACTED]
To: [executivecontactofficers](#); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: JK Rowling Poster
Date: 31 July 2020 15:17:17

OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2020 15:01
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: JK Rowling Poster

Dear Andrew,

I was surprised and dismayed to read that a poster with a simple, iconic message of appreciation of a much-loved children's author and philanthropist, JK Rowling, removed as 'political'.

Please explain to me why this poster, which simply celebrates one of Edinburgh and the UK's most successful public figures, is considered 'political'. What exactly is political about 'I ♥ JK Rowling'?

I am aware that she is being demonised in the most appalling terms by a small but extremely vocal minority of activists that demand the elimination of all references to biological sex. I can see no reason why a national rail operator should heed such anti-scientific nonsense, and pander to the demands of this group.

It is her detractors, and your organisation's decision, that is deeply, and controversially political. The poster was allegedly removed because your 'code of acceptance' 'does not allow advertising that is likely to support or promote one viewpoint over another'. Yet Network Rail incorporates the logos of organizations such as Pride and Stonewall into its own logos and marketing material. Both these organizations have political agendas, and lobby Parliament to change the law. Your action in removing this poster fundamentally contradicts the claim that Network Rail does not support political messages.

In addition, the viewpoint expressed by JK Rowling is entirely in line with the majority of the UK public, as is demonstrated by a recent YouGov survey.

I urge you to rethink and reinstate the message of support.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 31 July 2020 17:08
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: Transphobia

To whom it may concern,

I am extremely offended that a male would think its ok to take down a womens poster because it makes 84 males out of 6 million cry.

Well here I am to tell you. You have offended me personally. And your rainbow logo is political and offensive. Since you can take down non violent posters take down you violent logo of males punching women. Because thats what the rainbow signifies these days. So you support the abuse of women and girls also take down your posters of hitting women and girls in the butt. That is ALSO offensive and actually hate speech and incites violence.

Ps Happy Birthday JKROWLING

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 20:22
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: Censorship by Network Rail

Dear Mr Haines,

What on earth is your organisation doing? This is, I think, the first time I've ever contacted a CEO or other employee about an issue like this. There have been plenty of times I've disagreed with the view or actions of a company, but none so egregious as this. I

This makes me think that Network Rail is not safe for women, that reports from women of feeling unsafe will be ignored in favour of the claims of men, that if I am ever on Network Rail property and get assaulted and harassed by a man that Network Rail would rather avoid defending me because women are now 'of a political nature' and should be censored and/or ignored.

My impression of Network Rail is that the female population, 50% of the national population, is not important to you and that we are, at best, an inconvenience you'll put up with.

As I said, I've never written an email to a CEO or a company. I have no idea of the format of a letter like this, or if anyone will even read this.

But I am so astounded by this bizarre reaction by Network Rail that I can't help but speak up and voice my amazement that an organisation can be so dismissive of a woman (in favour of a man). I'm not a feminist or an activist - I'm just a normal person who wants to live a normal life.

I want to trust that the organisations around me recognise that women matter, and that being a woman does not make me unworthy of your attention.

Right now, the only thing your removal of the I

From: [REDACTED]
To: [executivecontactofficers](#)
Subject: Re: I Love JKRowling
Date: 31 July 2020 14:23:20
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear [REDACTED]
Thank you so much for your prompt response.
I would like to check then- if I, as an individual citizen with no political ties or links to any organisation, were to pay for this exact poster to be put up then it would be? And it would not be removed when someone complained about being "offended" by it?
I would appreciate the clarification.
Yours sincerely,
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2020 2:15:25 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: I Love JKRowling

Dear [REDACTED]
Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.
We know that J K Rowling is widely admired for her work and achievements – and we love that railways feature so much in her storytelling. Our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.
Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.
We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.
Our use of the rainbow colours in our logo during Pride is because we're proud to be a diverse and inclusive workplace where all our people matter to us.
If we can help further, please let me know.
Yours sincerely,
[REDACTED]

 [REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2020 01:03
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: I Love JKRowling

Dear Mr Haines,
I was very disappointed to read in the Times that Network Rail has removed the poster in Waverley Station that reads "I JKRowling" due to its "political" nature. Tomorrow is her birthday (and Harry Potter's).
I wonder if it would be possible to put a number on the incredible amount of tourism revenue that she has brought to Edinburgh in particular and the UK in general. She herself is a billionaire (although possibly a millionaire again after donating so much of her fortune to charity) I wonder, will you also remove Platform 9 3/4 from King's Cross?
I have watched a few travel documentaries recently where children in various countries on finding out the presenter was English immediately just announced "Harry Potter". She is a beloved author around the world.
A tiny number of very vocal trans rights activists are attempting to silence her speaking up for the rights of women and children. By removing this poster you are pandering to their cult. No "political" advertising? Please rethink this appalling hypocrisy. You currently are sporting rainbow colours in your branding. Don't pretend this is anything other than what it is- rampant misogyny silencing strong women.
Yours sincerely
[REDACTED]

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If you have received this email by mistake please notify us by emailing the sender, and then delete the email and any copies from your system.

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@virginmedia.com>
Sent: 31 July 2020 02:12
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: JK Rowling poster

Dear Mr Haines

I understand that a poster stating I ?' JK Rowling has been removed from Edinburgh Waverley Station. I would like to know why a poster celebrating an artist who found inspiration for her writing in Edinburgh is political while your company celebrates LGBT+, as demonstrated on your Social Media profiles?

Pride (through Stonewall) has a very clear political agenda, it is very closely linked to organisations (such as Mermaids) who actively lobby UK parliament to change the law.

Apparently a Network Rail source has said that the advert was "likely to cause offence". But as a natal woman, I find your removal of the poster offensive. I agree with it, I think JK Rowling is amazing and inspirational and deserves to have her opinions heard, discussed and not shut down. Does my offence count? If not, I would welcome your reasons why.

As a Stonewall Diversity Champion I would like to know why you feel this is a neutral stance. A neutral stance would allow both viewpoints, yet this poster is against your support/promotion. You openly support Stonewall. This is not a neutral stance.

Thank you for your time reading my message, if you do and I look forward to hear your response.

Best wishes
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [executivecontactofficers](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Celebrations!
Date: 31 July 2020 13:57:00
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand. Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy, so we can't reinstate it as you've asked.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 23:01
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: Celebrations!

Hi Andrew

I was so disappointed to see Network Rail remove the advert that said "I ♥ JK Rowling". It was a tribute to one of the world's best authors for her birthday.

I really do hope you will reinstate the advert. Everyone deserves to be celebrated on their birthday. Especially such a generous philanthropist. Did you know Joanne fell out of the Sunday Times Rich List because she has given so much of her money to charity? It's shocking your organisation won't support someone who gives so much to others.

Wishing you all the best and looking forward to seeing the advert reinstated.

Cheers

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:43
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: JkRowling

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

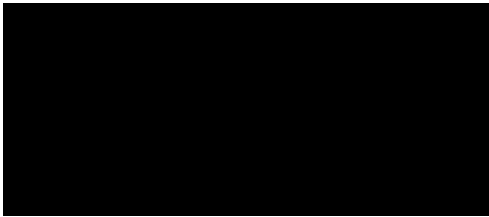
We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]@hotmail.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 22:28
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: JkRowling

If one reads exactly the words JkRowling has written, it should be Incredibly evident she has said nothing wrong or slanderous. She has merely voiced an opinion. Interestingly , an opinion the vast majority of women support.

How strange in world advertising freedom of speech, a women is shut down so bitterly for stating her views. The retaliation you are now aiding in reeks of misogyny.

Sent from my iPad

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 12:59
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: JK Rowling poster

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

Our use of the rainbow colours in our logo during Pride is to show that we're proud to be a diverse and inclusive workplace where all our people matter to us.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 19:28
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: JK Rowling poster

Can you tell me what is considered political about a poster saying "I love JK Rowling" other than the fact that she wrote an essay on her concerns about the erosion of women's rights. I assume you have not bothered to read her essay but simply jumped on the woke bandwagon of pro-women being automatically transphobic. By removing this poster what you are saying a woman who discusses an issue that affects other women MUST BE SILENCED AND REMOVED FROM PUBLIC. Why? Because a few males and some social justice warriors might get hurt feelings? This is pathetic. Women are 51% of the population but are being systematically stripped of their rights, their voice and even the word to describe themselves and their lives - at the behest of a tiny minority of males - and you, and organisations like you are complicit. I notice that your logo contains the rainbow flag - the symbol of Pride/LGBT organisations (which let's face it is T only now). You use a political symbol but hypocritically remove a poster celebrating a famous author because of one, measured, compassionate, non-political essay.

Women see what is happening - misogyny



Sent from [Outlook](#)

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Removal of I <3 JK Rowling billboard from Waverley Station, Edinburgh
Date: 31 July 2020 15:17:37
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image001.png](#)

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your reply, and for going into the issue so thoroughly. I would like to escalate my complaint and I'll lay out the reason why below.

I am afraid I cannot understand your justification. What on earth does the politics of the person paying for a happy birthday message have to do with the actual content of the Billboard? Of course I never got to see it, however, it looks like it says "I ♥ JK Rowling" which is as uncontentious a message that could be displayed in a Station a short stroll from where Harry Potter had been written.

I understand your own organisation has taken public positions on many issues that the general public would regard as political. You celebrate "Pride" which consists of small limited companies and charities that hold political campaigning events and street parties promoting equality for LGBT issues. It is not necessary for your public sector duty of respecting minorities that you engage with Pride, but you chose to do so. I have served on a Pride Board so I know exactly the lobbying and political nature of the organising.

It seems more likely to me that you don't want to run the Billboard not because of any problem with its content but merely because you personally do not like the person paying for it. That is not an acceptable stance to take. Everyone in the UK has equal rights and unless the face of the Billboard is somehow politicised, they should get the same right to advertise as anyone else. Wetherstones pubs are owned by a man who was a prominent Brexit supporter but you wouldn't refuse to run an add for one of the pubs if they were advertising their new Friday Night Special.

Please escalate my complaint on the grounds that it appears you have acted contrary to the Equality Act's protection of Belief and Opinion in that you have extrapolated a reason to remove a perfectly acceptable Billboard because a few people don't like the politics of the person paying for it.

Thank you for your kind assistance and I look forward to hearing from Mr Haines after he's taken some legal advice on the issues at stake.

Kind regards
[REDACTED]

On Fri, 31 Jul 2020, 12:57 [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@networkrail.co.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@networkrail.co.uk)> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team and I'm very sorry to see that you had to change your plans to visit Edinburgh with the children.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy, so we can't reinstate it.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,
[REDACTED]



Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gmail.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@gmail.com)>
Sent: 30 July 2020 19:25
To: Haines Andrew <xxxxxx xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxx.xx.xx>
Subject: Removal of I <3 JK Rowling billboard from Waverley Station, Edinburgh

Dear Mr Haines

I would like to complain in the strongest terms regarding the removal of a Billboard in Waverley Railway Station, Edinburgh with the message "I ♥ JK Rowling", the Internationally acclaimed author of the Harry Potter book series. Ms Rowling is from Edinburgh, and wrote the first Harry Potter book a very short distance from the Station. The Billboard had been placed there in honour of the enormous work that she does for victims of domestic violence, single mothers and MS sufferers. The timing had been to coincide with her birthday.

with the following reference: 40022/FCDAA

Women are getting heartily sick of being told that we are bigots and harmful for simply existing. The railway has historically struggled with low levels of female recruitment. You really don't have to wonder why with the dismissive attitude shown towards one of this country's most successful authors.

I would like you to rescind the decision to remove the Billboard, reinstate it, and formally apologise to JK Rowling for any embarrassment your company's actions caused her.

Yours sincerely
[REDACTED]

The content of this email (and any attachment) is confidential. It may also be legally privileged or otherwise protected from disclosure.
This email should not be used by anyone who is not an original intended recipient, nor may it be copied or disclosed to anyone who is not an original intended recipient.

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From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 30 July 2020 18:31
To: [REDACTED]@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: RE: JK Rowling

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

I'm sorry to see you're disappointed with how we've addressed this situation. This poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

Our use of the rainbow colours in our logo shows that we're proud to be a diverse and inclusive workplace where all our people matter to us.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]@hotmail.co.uk>
Sent: 30 July 2020 09:15
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: JK Rowling

I am writing to express my disappointment in your decision to remove the JK Rowling poster recently put up at Waverley Station in Edinburgh, it appears placing the rainbow flag in your logo is not "political" and this somehow is ?

We are entering an era when expressing any view that sex is a biological reality is considered hate speech , you will be found to be on the wrong side of history on this and your knee jerk reaction to appease a small number of activists will look wrong and weak minded.

Regards

[REDACTED]
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 18:21
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: JK Rowling poster at Waverley Station

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 17:04
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: JK Rowling poster at Waverley Station

Astonished you have taken this down.

What is your policy re code of acceptance on advertising in your stations, how many people complained and how did you reach this decision?

She's a world famous author, one of Edinburgh's own, has given millions of pounds away through philanthropy, has a book coming out this year that all proceeds will go to children affected by covid in Scotland, and is loved by millions around the world.

I hope she sues you. Her association with Edinburgh is something the city should be - and previously has been - very proud of. It's a huge insult to call the poster 'transphobic'. What a brain-deadening load of nonsense.

I am confused as to why this poster, celebrating the birthday of an acclaimed author, has been classed as political and therefore removed. Please can you explain this to me?

Please can you also explain why supporting Pride which has a political agenda, as in is very closely linked to organisations that actively lobby UK parliament to change the law, is not classed as political? But you have the Pride logo everywhere.

In confusion and disappointment.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@blueyonder.co.uk>
Sent: 31 July 2020 15:02
To: executivecontactofficers
Subject: RE: JK advert in Waverley station

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your reply.

I think that the group who paid for the poster actually has the aim of preserving the existing hard won rights of women. I hope that Network Rail is aware that promoting the 'T' part of LGBT so enthusiastically is extremely political as it aims to diminish the rights of women by removing access to single sex services.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

On 31 July 2020 at 13:14 executivecontactofficers wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

Our use of the rainbow colours in our logo during Pride is because we're proud to be a diverse and inclusive workplace where all our people matter to us.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 19:52

To: Haines Andrew
Subject: JK advert in Waverley station

Dear Mr Haines,

I am contacting you to express my dismay at the removal of the 'I love JK' advert from Waverley Station.

JK Rowling is a popular author who has made Edinburgh her home and has brought many tourists to the city. She has also donated a huge amount to charity, both financially and through her time. This week is her 55th birthday.

I understand that your company has deemed the poster as 'too political'. I would be interested to know what JK Rowling has said or written that is so offensive as I have only seen her stating nothing more than 'biological facts being of importance to women'.

Does your company not support women? Do you not understand the particular difficulties faced by your staff and customers by virtue of being female? How do you reconcile banning this advert with your company adopting rainbow flags on your logo and branding?

I look forward to your comments.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@yahoo.co.uk>
Sent: 30 July 2020 19:52
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: Poster - I Love JKR
Attachments: Network Railway.jpg

Dear Mr Haines,

I write with regard to the poster that was on display at Edinburgh Waverly Station. The poster has now been removed. We are told that the poster is political and therefore not allowed. One would have thought that the company would have noticed that at the time that money changed hands.

It seems fair to assume that a trans rights activist has helped the company to regard the poster as political.

I note that Network Rail has a rainbow on its signage. it also frequently displaces posters which declare its support for Pride. I recognise that this is Network Rail itself, rather than an outside organisation, but this is also surely political. A copy of a recent poster of yours is attached.

While I writing to you, on this subject, I can assume that Network Rail is a Stonewall Diversity Champion. This requires organisations to advocate for trans inclusion, which is not the law of this country. Trans inclusion, in plain English means wanting gender to be a protected characteristic under the Equality Act. It also means wanting the single sex exemptions for women's spaces to be removed.

Network Rail is a public sector body. As such it is required to comply with s 149 of the Equality Act 2010. This relates to the public sector equality duty. I would be grateful if you could provide me with links to documents on your website which show that Network Rail is complying with the law.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@hotmail.com>
Sent: 31 July 2020 19:42
To: executivecontactofficers
Cc: [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@networkrail.com>
Subject: Removal of poster

Good evening,

I am writing to request a response to my message sent at 8.07am today to Andrew Haines regarding the removal of the poster about JK Rowling. I am aware other emails have been responded to but mine has not. His email address now seems to be 'invalid'.

I await your email,

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2020 15:18
To: executivecontactofficers; [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Complaint

OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2020 14:47
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: Complaint

Dear Andrew,

Like many women, lesbians and trans people in the UK who were delighted when JK Rowling made statements in support of women's rights, highlighted the way trans IDing children are being let down and unnecessarily medicalised by the NHS due to parental homophobia, and spoke out about the importance of free speech, I was extremely dismayed to see a poster with a simple message of appreciation to her removed by Network Rail as 'political'.

Withheld under s40(2) FOIA and find your use of the current Pride flag in your logo to be equally, if not more, political - not least because the "Queer" label is currently being used as a way to demonise same-sex attracted women who have gone from being accepted as Lesbians to regarded as "transphobic" even by organisations like Stonewall because they do not want male bodied people as sexual partners, regardless of the names these males may give themselves.

What message do you think it sends to your female customers that a complaint from [REDACTED] s40(2) FOIA an remove a message of love from a Women's organisation to a highly visible female philanthropist for her birthday?

How many tourists using your services do so in part because of Edinburgh's association with one of the world's most successful authors?

It makes your company seem like misogynistic, cowardly hypocrites.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 14:34
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Removal of poster in support of JK Rowling

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2020 07:54
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: Removal of poster in support of JK Rowling

Andrew,

I am disappointed to read that a poster in support of JK Rowling has been removed from outside of Waverley Station. Are you saying that even the mention of her name should be policed and not allowed? How is mention of her name transphobic?

JK Rowling has done a given a lot of charitable support to women, especially in Scotland, something I hope you'd agree us a positive? JK Rowling does not hate trans people, she wants to preserve safe spaces for women - something that the law does allow for.

Many women are gender critical and will see the removal of this poster as a sign that Network rail want to silence women. It would seem to have been a knee jerk reaction to a very small number of complaints. Very disappointing.

Regards



Sent from my Huawei phone

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2020 14:09
To: executivecontactofficers; [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Removal of JK Rowling advert

OFFICIAL

Another one

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:29
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: Removal of JK Rowling advert

Good Afternoon,

I am writing to express my disappointment with your decision to remove the advertisement of 'I heart JK Rowling'. I don't understand your reasoning for this- if people see it as a political statement then it is their personal opinion, rather than what was displayed in the advert. JK Rowling is a fantastic author that has done wonders for the UK's tourism industry. Network rail has profited from many people travelling all over the UK to visit Harry Potter landmarks and attractions, particularly in Edinburgh.

All people have some form of opinion that someone is disagreeing with- why are you targeting JK Rowling? Can authors advertise at stations at all now or would you instantly link the authors opinions to the advert and also have that removed?

Stop listening to those who shout the loudest and listen to the actual users of network rail. I'm really disappointed with your decision and look forward to your response on the matter.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: JK Rowling
Date: 31 July 2020 11:49:45

Doesn't really square with Network Rail's full on support for Pride though, does it? The group you refer to is campaigning to preserve women's existing sex based rights and exemptions under the EA 2010. I'm surprised you don't consider women's rights worth fighting for when you are so obviously committed to LGBT+ equality.

I know when I'm being ed

Women won't forget who stood up for them and who caved to the men's rights activists

Get [BlueMail for Android](#)

On 31 Jul 2020, at 11:04, executivecontactofficers [REDACTED] wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

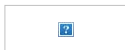
Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]@tiscali.co.uk>
Sent: 30 July 2020 17:53
To: Haines Andrew <xxxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxx.xx.xx>
Subject: JK Rowling

Dear Sir, I'm afraid you have been misled/ gaslighted/ bullied by trans rights activists; your decision to remove the J K Rowling poster is a poor one, and sets a dangerous precedent - that of caving to special interests who themselves have a highly political agenda - (if you think the trans rights movement is a civil rights one, think again) ; it is rather less political than any ads you may run for, eg Stonewall & most charitable organisations. Taking down a poster for a highly respected, philanthropic champion of human rights is not a good look; if the raison d'etre for doing so is that she has recently defended the rights of women and girls to privacy, dignity and safety, that is a really ugly look.

Withheld under s40(2) FOIA

I sincerely trust you will review your decision, and stand up for well-loved children's authors, women & girls

Regards, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:27
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: J K Rowling poster

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 20:01
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: J K Rowling poster

I am very disappointed to see that you have removed a poster expressing support for a strong woman. I don't always agree with Ms Rowling's opinions, but she has expressed them respectfully & without malice.

I hope you review your decision & reverse it. Failing that, please publish in detail what is unacceptably political about it.

Regards

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 31 July 2020 19:13
To: executivecontactofficers
Subject: Re: Advertising poster in Waverley Station

Dear [REDACTED]

Many thanks for your response.

I wonder how anyone would have thought that this was regarded as a 'viewpoint' rather than admiration for JK Rowling, if you had not reacted like this and so promoted that idea? When does the person who paid for the advert overtake what the advert actually says - which the travelling public would have seen as perfectly simple admiration for JK Rowling - determine what is censored or not censored?

When a bookshop advertises with you, do you ask them to submit the list of the books they sell to ensure that none of them contain any political viewpoints at all? Actually I assume you can't use adverts from bookshops, as they sell the Harry Potter books. Or TV stations - they run documentaries, and the Harry Potter films. Or cinemas, because they show the Harry Potter films.

Can you please publish your banned list of authors.

I would like to ask your CEO how does Network Rail using a Pride rainbow sponsored/promoted by Stonewall, a campaigning organisation, fit in with this policy?

In fact, how does any advertising not promote one viewpoint rather than another?

Regards
[REDACTED]

On Fri, 31 Jul 2020 at 13:57, executivecontactofficers [REDACTED]@networkrail.co.uk> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely admired for her work and achievements – and, of course, railways are a much-loved part of her storytelling. So our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com
Sent: 30 July 2020 19:46
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: Advertising poster in Waverley Station

Dear Mr Haines

Withheld under s40(2) FOIA I was inspired to hear the story of JK Rowling writing the first Harry Potter stories in a coffee shop in the wonderful city. And as a woman, her being advised to write without showing her female name seemed to sum up our position still remaining one step behind in so many ways.

I was thrilled to see the advertising poster space in Waverley Station stating the love for her that so many - women, children, men, readers and admirers - feel for her. She has contributed so much to the city, not least in her huge philanthropy but also her tourism draw on the "Hogwarts" line in the north west, as well as in the London station platform and the revenue that visitors and travellers feed into the rail system. She is truly a woman to admire.

I can't quite believe that your company, in removing that poster, has actually censored the love and admiration that millions upon millions feel towards her. So censoring birthday wishes to her? Quite unbelievable. More like the work of the Spanish Inquisition in its Pythonesque ridiculousness.

Please return the poster to the spot that has been paid for, before Network Rail falls into even deeper ridicule.

With best wishes,

[REDACTED]

--

[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]@googlemail.com>
Sent: 31 July 2020 10:51
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: Removal of 'I love JKRowling' poster and the Pride rainbow logo

Dear Sir,

I am writing to complain about the removal of the 'I love J K Rowling' poster in Waverley station in Edinburgh. Today marks JK Rowling's 55th birthday and thousands of people wish to express their affection and support of a woman that has bravely been speaking out about concerns for the protection of single sex spaces and also the expected medical scandal of children being sterilised and their bodies permanently harmed.

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/all-i-want-is-empathy-jk-rowling-in-her-own-words-rmcx56jt6> - *"All I'm asking, all I want, is for similar empathy, similar understanding, to be extended to the many millions of women whose sole crime is wanting their concerns to be heard without receiving threats and abuse."*


<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/jk-rowling-compares-trans-treatment-to-gay-conversion-therapy-t7z3kxnjn> - *She wrote: "Many, myself included, believe we are watching a new kind of conversion therapy for young gay people, who are being set on a lifelong path of medicalisation that may result in the loss of their fertility and/or full sexual function. "As I've said many times, transition may be the answer for some. For others, it won't – witness the accounts of detransitioners."*

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/the-detransitioners-what-happens-when-trans-men-want-to-be-women-again-fd22b7jhs> - *I fear that the detransitioned women I interviewed are canaries in the coalmine. Not only for detransitioners, but for womanhood. They all, in some combination, found being a woman too difficult, too dangerous or too disgusting. "I put the problem inside myself," says one, "when actually it is with how the outside world sees women who don't conform to feminine norms."*

Women's sex based rights, that are protected under the Equality Act 2010, are being ignored by many organisations that are being influenced by lobby groups such as Stonewall, who are offering incorrect, unlawful information and training to businesses such as yours and being paid handsomely for this false information and for the badge of 'Stonewall Diversity Champion'. Stonewall are encouraging businesses to change policies regarding toilet and changing facilities etc. that are incorrect and that may not be compliant with the law. I'm also awaiting a response to this FOI request by another concerned member of the public https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/the_impact_of_network_rail_being

Please can you also explain why supporting 'Pride' which has a political agenda and is very closely linked to organisations, such as Stonewall, that actively lobby UK parliament to change the law, is not classed as political? But you have the Pride logo everywhere.

Your statement on the removal of the 'I love JK Rowling' poster says that it is "In the company's code of acceptance for station advertising that it excludes material that is 'of a political nature calling for the support of a particular viewpoint, policy or action or attacking a member or policies of any legislative, central or

local government authority'. If 'I  JK Rowling' is 'of a political nature calling for the support of a particular viewpoint', one wonders what Network Rail would make of someone displaying LGBT Pride banners across the nation's rail estate. All these banners carry the branding of the same company: Network Rail. You might not consider promoting Pride as political but, if it's not, under what bizarre standard is expressing admiration for a Scottish children's author?

Network Rail's double standards are lamentable and speak to a cowardly corporate culture that is as

progressive as its market research tells it to be. What is far more baleful is a view of politics in which victory comes not by besting your opponents in debate but by preventing a debate from taking place at all. Whether the issue is gender, race, religion or some other as yet unheard of but soon to be immutable characteristic plucked from the sharing-sized Skittles bag of identity politics, the impulse to cleanse the public square of 'offensive' ideas is intellectual authoritarianism swaddled in the garb of progress and equality.

If the J K Rowling poster is unacceptable then so is the 'Pride' rainbow.

Yours,



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 23:49
To: executivecontactofficers
Subject: Re: Complaint

Greetings and thank you for your prompt reply.

What is your advertising code? I would be most interested to know what CrossRail considers "political" that
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withheld under s40(2) FOIA
everything is political. In fact, taking down the poster was the most political thing your office could have done.

I would like to beleive you when you say that you have a policy against political viewpoints but CrossRail has activley stepped neckdeep into the political. Here is your own website discussing [LGBT History month](#) from last year. And here's [another one](#) from this year. In fact, I find more about the [alphabet soup](#) to which I also belong on your site, I fail to understand how this is anything but politcal. Here are five articles specifically on "transgender" issues. So I fail to see how a poster which is a voice of support for JK Rowling is any more political.

Cheers.

[REDACTED]

.....
.....

[REDACTED]

[linkedin](#) [aboutme](#) [twitter](#) [REDACTED]

On Jul 30 2020, at 7:40 pm, executivecontactofficers wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]
[Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.](#)
This poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.
Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.
We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.
I hope this clarifies our decision and if we can help further, please let me know.
Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 10:41

To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>

Subject: Complaint

I am writing to complain about your company's removal of the I LOVE JK Rowling poster. Why was this removed?

I am a huge supporter of free speech both in my life and Withheld under s40(2) FOIA I would hope that your company likewise supports free expression.

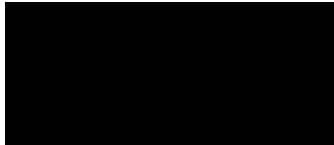
Regards



Envoyé de mon vaisseau spatiale

.....

.....



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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:39
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: JK Rowling poster

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 21:19
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: JK Rowling poster

So tomorrow is one of the world's most famous authors' birthday - JK Rowling. Where did she write her first books? In Edinburgh. A woman wanted to celebrate this by putting up a poster which your company has now removed. This looks like blatant misogyny to me. I would ask that you reconsider your decision and reinstate the poster in time to celebrate a woman's birthday.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@hotmail.com>
Sent: 31 July 2020 10:23
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: Equality complaint

Dear Mr Haines,

I am writing to ask, as many decent people in Scotland are wondering, why you have removed the tribute to Scotland's most famous author JK Rowling.

This is a simple tribute to a world-famous author, which simply says we all love her. I imagine you are still quite happy to use her books to promote your railway journeys like the Glenfinnan viaduct journey.

This advert uses no political language or imagery. It simply pays tribute to a well-known author.

I wish to ask: I take it you will not be featuring any other adverts with any celebrity who has ever expressed political views?

To many people, particularly the female half of the population, this looks like censorship of women.

It's not a good look.

I look forward to the answer to my question in bold. I understand you receive part of your funding from the Scottish Government, from tax-payers like myself.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 30 July 2020 18:44
To: [REDACTED]@gmail.com
Subject: RE: I love JK Rowling

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

This poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

Our use of the rainbow colours in our logo during Pride shows that we're proud to be a diverse and inclusive workplace where all our people matter to us.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 12:28
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: I love JK Rowling

Hello Andrew

Can you please explain to me why it is acceptable for Network Rail to change its logo for pride month but it isn't ok for a poster stating I love JK Rowling to be put up in one of your train stations? Why is that political but supporting Pride isn't.

Looks like what is good enough for the goose isn't good enough for the gander.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 14:22
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: We love JK Rowling.

Dear [REDACTED]

I'm very sorry to see the concern that the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station has caused you. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2020 03:15
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: We love JK Rowling.

Your foolish colleagues at network rail Scotland have removed an advertisement declaring an affectionate regard for JK Rowling, under pressure from the trans lobby who have persecuted and threatened women throughout these Isles for refusing to vow tow to their faith based delusional dogma.

Your cowardice and partial prejudicial response is absolutely unacceptable are you a daughter, a mother, a female associate who may require the assurance of female only space in a situation of vulnerability?

Your company has just abandoned them.

You claim that LGBT branding represents diversity and inclusively whereas in fact it prohibits women from free speech.

Especially lesbians, who have been forcibly removed from pride marches and events for saying that women do not have penises.

This is self evident.

You are biased and misogynist in your entirely male chauvinist patronising response to the pressure you received from the pro trans thought police.

Women are angry.

Platitudes will not suffice.

Sex is binary.

Bullshit is a spectrum.

Your contribution to the latter is illuminating in a way that your corporate strategy can only dream of.

██████████

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 14:01
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: JK Rowling

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 23:26
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: JK Rowling

Dear Mr Haines,

I strongly object to the removal of the JK Rowling board at Edinburgh Waverly station.

This poster was placed there as a thank you and a happy birthday statement for Ms Rowling for her work as a writer, patron and supporter of many charities, and as a person who has enriched reading for many, as well as being a person who loves Edinburgh.

You seem to have decided that it was a political statement, and so have decided to remove the poster. What are you so scared of ?

Give your head a wobble and return the poster.

Women of Edinburgh, and women all over the UK have long memories Mr Haines.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 10:32
To: [REDACTED]@gmail.com
Subject: RE: Removal of JK Rowling poster at Waverley Station

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

Our use of the rainbow colours in our logo during Pride shows that we're proud to be a diverse and inclusive workplace where all our people matter to us.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 16:07
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: Removal of JK Rowling poster at Waverley Station

Dear Andrew

I am confused as to why this poster, celebrating the birthday of an acclaimed author, has been classed as political and therefore removed. Please can you explain this to me?

Please can you also explain why supporting Pride which has a political agenda, as in is very closely linked to organisations that actively lobby UK parliament to change the law, is not classed as political? But you have the Pride logo everywhere.

In confusion.
Yours

[REDACTED]

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:44
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: I love jk Rowling advert

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy, so we can't reinstate it as you've asked.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 21:45
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: I love jk Rowling advert

Dear Mr Haines,

I was confused to hear network rail have removed an advert saying 'I love JK Rowling' as you consider it controversial? What is wrong with trying to wish the worlds most successful author happy birthday In her home city? A woman who has donated millions to charity and inspired countless children to read. I hope you will re-instate it. You decision seems highly misogynistic unless you have some explanation?

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:08
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Birthday card

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy, so we can't reinstate it.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: L [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 19:43
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: Birthday card

Please reinstate the birthdaycard for our beloved writer J.K. Rowling

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 30 July 2020 17:43
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: "I Love JK Rowling" poster at Waverley station, Edinburgh

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

This poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

Our use of the rainbow colours in our logo isn't a political statement but shows that we're proud to be a diverse and inclusive workplace where all our people matter to us.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW
Mobile: [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@blueyonder.co.uk)>
Sent: 30 July 2020 12:44
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: "I Love JK Rowling" poster at Waverley station, Edinburgh

Dear Mr. Haines,

I would be interested in knowing how Network Rail interpreted the Standing For Women's poster as "political" when the message was completely anodyne when compared to NWR's own involvement with Pride. How is Pride not a political movement in comparison? I would hate for your organisation to be considered hypocritical. I think someone should be having a word with your PR and Press people about what is and is not considered "political". Your organisation should concern itself with its core responsibilities, like the railways, for instance.

Yours etc,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 14:33
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: JKR poster

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

-----Original Message-----

From: L [REDACTED]@labmeta.net>
Sent: 31 July 2020 08:33
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: JKR poster

Dear Mr Haines

I'm writing to you as UK resident. I want to express how disappointed I am that Network Rail have removed a poster from Edinburgh Waverley saying "I love JK Rowling". Ms Rowling wrote some things on the Internet that others do not agree with. Does that really mean that her name has to be censored from the public sphere?

Although the poster was placed by an activist it does not contain a "political" or campaigning message, nor an endorsement of Ms Rowling's views on any particular subject. Since JK Rowling is held in high esteem by parents and children across the land it hardly seems possible that the primary message of the poster would be seen as political. Many of us are so grateful to her for providing the impetus for our children to get into and enjoying reading - and don't care about culture wars on the Twittersphere which are marginal to our everyday comings and goings.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@aol.com
Sent: 31 July 2020 10:19
To: executivecontactofficers
Subject: Re: Removal of JK Rowling Poster at Waverley Station

Dear [REDACTED],

Confused by your response-effectively you rejected an advert because it has been put up by a political group even though the poster's message was non-political. Rowling has generated a fortune for UK economy & has contributed millions to a plethora of charities & is lives in Edinburgh. In future are you going to research the politics of all bodies paying for adverts? For example, will you reject any posters connected with Stonewall who after all are a very active political lobbying group or is it just ones concerned with protecting the 2010 Equalities Act?

Sent from my iPhone

> On 30 Jul 2020, at 22:30,
>
> 'Gender reform group'?
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
>> On 30 Jul 2020, at 18:32, executivecontactofficers <executivecontactofficers@networkrail.co.uk> wrote:
>>
>> Dear [REDACTED]
>>
>> Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.
>>
>> This poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.
>>
>> Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. The J K Rowling poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.
>>
>> We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently and fairly in the future.
>>
>> If we can help further, please let me know.
>>
>> Yours sincerely,
>>
>> [REDACTED]
>> [REDACTED]
>>
>> [REDACTED]
>>
>> Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW
>>
>> -----Original Message-----
>> From: [REDACTED]@aol.com [REDACTED]@aol.com
>> Sent: 30 July 2020 06:40
>> To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
>> Subject: Removal of JK Rowling Poster at Waverley Station
>>
>> Dear Sir,
>>
>> A poster saying ' I love JK Rowling' has been removed as being political allegedly due to the author's stance on women's rights. If Network Rail is committed to impartiality, please would you ensure in future that Network Rail does not promote

any political movements such as supporting Stonewall which is a lobbying group and wishes to remove sex as a protected characteristic from the equalities act (which effectively undermines ability of women to claim sexual discrimination).

>>

>> Regards

>>

>> [REDACTED]

>>

>> Sent from my iPhone

>>

>>

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>>

>>

>

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 30 July 2020 19:07
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Nothing wrong with JK Rowling poster

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling's work and achievements are widely loved and admired – and the Hogwarts Express is, of course, one of the nation's most iconic trains. We removed this poster as it was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy, so we can't reinstate it as you've asked.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 14:39
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: Nothing wrong with JK Rowling poster

Dear Mr. Haines

I understand you have removed a poster depicting a big red heart saying I Love JK Rowling.

Why?

You said it's political.

How?

It's JK Rowling's birthday tomorrow. She lives in Scotland. She pays her taxes in Scotland and she contributes a huge amount of her income to charity. She's also encouraged millions of children around the world to read. She's brought great happiness to many people.

So why would you remove a poster saying she is loved? She is!

Please put the poster back. Remember JK Rowling did a lot for trains!

Best wishes,



[http://www.linkedin.com/\[redacted\]](http://www.linkedin.com/[redacted])
[https://twitter.com/\[redacted\]](https://twitter.com/[redacted])

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 12:48
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Removal of JK Rowling poster

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

Our use of the rainbow colours during Pride shows that we're proud to be a diverse and inclusive workplace where all our people matter to us.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 18:58
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: Removal of JK Rowling poster

Dear Andrew,

I am writing because I am concerned about the removal of the "I love JK Rowling" poster at Waverley Station in Edinburgh. I understand that this poster has been removed because it has been deemed too political.

Firstly, I would like to ask, what JK Rowling has actually said that is transphobic? Are you able to provide just one sentence or statement that she has actually said which expresses actual hatred or fear of transgender people?

Secondly, I'm led to believe that the poster was removed because it was deemed to be too political. However, celebrating Pride is also political, due to its connections with political lobbying groups such as Stonewall. Can you please explain why one political association is deemed acceptable (Pride) but not the other (Support of JK Rowling)? Can you please tell me why you consider celebrating the work of a world famous author to be more political than your association with a political lobbying group, through your support of gay pride?

Women are a protected group, under the sex discrimination act of 2010. Unfortunately, if women allow the definition of what it is to be a woman (An adult female - capable of bearing offspring), to be undermined, then women will lose the protections that they currently have under law. This is very concerning to many women across the country, myself included. By removing this poster, you have have aligned yourself with the groups who try to erode women's rights under the 2010 Sex discrimination act and you are contributing to the 'cancel culture' which is currently being used to silence women and prevent them from trying to defend their rights. Can I therefore please ask that you reinstate the poster at the first opportunity, and provide a full written apology to J K Rowling, for supporting the notion that she is transphobic, which is an unsubstantiated slur against her.

Regards,



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@yahoo.com>
Sent: 31 July 2020 16:41
To: executivecontactofficers
Subject: Re: Waverley Billboard

So the only problem was the group who asked for the billboard?

Then you will be able to put up your own message from network rail to the wonderful JK to say happy birthday today as way of an apology then if it is not a personal reflection.

Look forward to seeing it.

[REDACTED]
On Friday, 31 July 2020, 11:28:30 BST, executivecontactofficers wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]@yahoo.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 17:58
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: Waverley Billboard

Dear Sir / Madam

I am writing to express my disappointment and anger at the removal of the billboard which was intended to celebrate the birthday of one of Scotland's most successful and talented women. JK Rowling is such a positive role model through her career and her outstanding charity work.

How this billboard can be removed for "political" reasons is beyond me. JK Rowling has been targeted and harassed following completely groundless accusations made against her. Is it in your rules that only people / products / companies / places can appear on your billboard if everyone in the world unanimously agrees they are perfect? Your billboards would be empty.

Regards



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From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [executivecontactofficers](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: JK Rowling
Date: 31 July 2020 13:00:00

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]@msn.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 19:32
To: Haines Andrew <xxxxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxx.xx.xx>
Subject: JK Rowling

Hi,I just want to let you know how disgusted I am at your decision to take down the I JK Rowling poster.As a man you will not know the threat to biological women and girls right now and how JK is speaking up for millions of us.This poster was not political just a reminder to her how much we love and admire her while she's been going through an extremely hard time e.g rape and death threats for stating facts.If you have a wife,daughter,mother or any other female relative please read up on this topic before bowing to the few,thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 30 July 2020 17:40
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Logo of Network Rail

Dear [REDACTED]

I'm sorry to see you're concerned about use of the rainbow colours in our logo.

This isn't a reference to debate about gender recognition reform but a statement to show that we're proud to be a diverse and inclusive workplace where all our people matter to us.

A diverse workforce means we can better support and reflect the communities we serve and encourages our colleagues to speak up and bring fresh, innovative ideas to their work. That's an approach we're happy to continue.

If we can help with anything else, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW
Mobile: [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@hotmail.co.uk>
Sent: 30 July 2020 12:04
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: Logo of Network Rail

Dear Andrew Haines

Please remove the pride rainbow from the Network Rail logo.

This is a political statement and is against Network Rail policy.

In particular, the trans ideology is hugely controversial especially with regard to children.

It is wrong for Network Rail to give uncritical support to the political view that humans can change sex and that children should take medication in pursuit of that futile aim.

Yours

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@yahoo.com
Sent: 31 July 2020 10:33
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: JK Rowling billboard

Dear Andrew Haines,

I understand you are the Chief Executive of Network Rail. I also understand a billboard - stating "I heart JK Rowling" supporting a well regarded children's author has been removed from Edinburgh station at the behest of Network Rail Scotland.

Firstly, JK Rowling has the right to express her opinion on any topic. But she has had a number of false accusations thrown at her, most notably a false accusation of "transphobia". If you read her own words it is clear this is false, as she states clearly: "I respect every trans person's right to live any way that feels authentic and comfortable to them. I'd march with you if you were discriminated against on the basis of being trans." These accusations against her are baseless, and women standing up for their rights - women's rights have frequently been the subject of smear campaigns.

In any event, the poster in question merely stated "I heart JK Rowling" - a statement of support for a well known, well regarded author.

I think that Network Rail should be in the business of running a railway, and treating others with respect. As your mission statement states: "We use 'diversity' to describe our commitment to recognizing and respecting differences between people while valuing the contribution everyone can make to our business." Women should be treated with respect.

Network Rail's current actions are causing adverse publicity.. As was recently written in the Spectator "Network Rail's double standards are lamentable and speak to a cowardly corporate culture"

A spokesperson for Network Rail recently told the Times "The poster in question is against our code of acceptance for advertising in our stations owing to its political nature." A moment's reflection can establish this is nonsense. Supporting a children's author does not have a "political nature".

I disagree with the implicit political position Network Rail are taking by choosing to censor a billboard supporting a woman with no political message.

I disagree that you should censor women.

I disagree with Network Rail taking a stance, and should simply allow apolitical adverts to be broadcast.

I look forward to hearing about how you will either:

- a) reinstate the poster and maintain a nonpolitical stance by refusing to be drawn one way or the other and simply get on with the job of delivering good rail infrastructure.
- b) or a recognition that Network Rail is allowing itself to be politicized by making a political choice to to censor support for women.

Choosing to censor support for a woman is not a neutral stance.

Thanks and best regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 31 July 2020 15:10
To: executivecontactofficers
Subject: Re: N J K rowling

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your response

However your reply is so lacking in intellectual coherence I'm amazed that you could actually complete it and send it off.

The advert wasn't placed by a "gender recognition group" whatever that is, I have no idea. Gender is a set of socially and historically determined stereotypes about the behaviour of women and men . eg women are passive, home-loving, maternal, like flowers, wear dresses, drink prosecco while men are active, outward going, like football, enjoy fighting, wear trousers, drink beer etc

My understanding that the advert was placed by women who admire Ms Rowling for her work and for her stance in defending the rights of women. to respect, safety and privacy.

This is not a political stance . It is a human rights stance in favour of women.

I am disappointed that Network Rail thinks so little of women that you have rushed to remove a perfectly innocuous poster at the behest of a tiny group of angry misogynistic men .

I note that you have a whole page devoted to Pride Month but that your International Women's Day page has just a short film.. and nothing else.

<https://www.networkrail.co.uk/stories/international-womens-day-all-change/>

Perhaps you could supply a list of women that it *would* be acceptable to publicly praise in posters on your estate.

You do realise that this stance has greatly damaged your brand?

yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

On Thu, 30 Jul 2020 at 18:35, executivecontactofficers <[REDACTED]@networkrail.co.uk> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We can't put the poster back up as it shouldn't have been installed in the first place. It was agreed by one of our advertising partners but was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted]



[Redacted]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [Redacted]@gmail.com>

Sent: 30 July 2020 08:41

To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>

Subject: N J K rowling

Dear Mr Haines,

I have just read in *The Times* that your company had taken down an advert at Edinburgh Waverley station which simply said "I love J K Rowling"

This is censorship. Some people may object but we live in a free society. There is no right not to be offended.

This action damages your company's image

Please put it back up

yours sincerely

[Redacted]

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--



Red Flag Walks <http://redflagwalks.wordpress.com/>

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 31 July 2020 17:55
To: executivecontactofficers
Subject: Re: I ? JK Rowling Poster
Attachments: image001.png

Thank you for your response I wonder if you could clarify what is political about the poster regardless of who paid for it and please explain why you don't consider the LGBT rainbow political as it is displayed at many of the stations and is indeed currently in your logo.

Many thanks
[REDACTED]

On Fri, 31 Jul 2020, 13:20 executivecontactofficers, [REDACTED]@networkrail.co.uk> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,
[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 19:11
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: I ? JK Rowling Poster

Hello I am concerned that you have chosen to take down the poster at Edinburgh Waverley Station. This is unjust censorship and I would like you to reinstate it.

Yours sincerely



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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 14:10
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: I love JK Rowling poster

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team and I'm sorry to see the concern this has caused you.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy, so we can't reinstate it as you've asked.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2020 00:55
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: I love JK Rowling poster

Mr Haines,

I object to the I love JK Rowling poster at Waverley Station being taken down. I ask that it be put back up.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
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From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 12:43
To: [REDACTED]@yahoo.com
Subject: RE: J. K. Rowling poster

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team and I'm sorry to see the concern this has caused you.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 18:54
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: J. K. Rowling poster

Dear Mr Haines

I have learned that a poster declaring love for one of the most popular and succesful female authors of our time has been removed eventhough it was bought and paid for in a perfectly legal manner by a woman.

As a woman I find this quite astounding and frankly quite worrying. Removing it can only be understood as a move to silence women's voices and I strongly urge you to reconsider that drastic and incomprehensible decision.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[Sendt fra Yahoo Mail på Android](#)

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 14:24
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Removal of I Love JK Rowling poster from Edinburgh Waverly Station

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy, so we can't reinstate it as you've asked.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2020 04:58
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: FW: Removal of I Love JK Rowling poster from Edinburgh Waverly Station

Dear Mr Haines,

I write to protest in the strongest terms at Network Rail's decision to remove the I Love JK Rowling poster from Edinburgh Waverly.

Allowing women to have a poster supporting one of the world's favourite authors in her birthday week – when did this become so threatening that it was removed?

There is a section – a very loud section, but still only a section – of the population who want to erase JK Rowling. Far more of us – as evidenced by her continuing book sales – support her and love her as an author. I expect that the amount of protests you are receiving from women and male allies of feminism will show you that there are many more of us who are beyond grateful to her for using her profile to respectfully advance views which we share.

We are still a free society. I urge you to put the poster back.

Yours faithfully,

[Redacted signature]

Phone: [Redacted]
Email: [Redacted]@outlook.com



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@fruitnet.com>
Sent: 31 July 2020 15:43
To: executivecontactofficers
Subject: Fwd: I ? JK Rowling

Dea [REDACTED]

Thank you for your reply. If Network Rail is apolitical, can you please explain this?

Look forward to hearing from you.

[REDACTED]



On Fri, 31 Jul 2020, 13:28 executivecontactofficers, <[REDACTED]@networkrail.co.uk> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team and I'm sorry to see the concern this has caused you.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 20:05
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: I ? JK Rowling

Dear Mr Haines

Just a quick one to say that you had a real opportunity to make your mother/wife/daughters/female family and friends truly proud of you today for standing up for their rights today. You blew it. Congrats

[REDACTED]

The content of this email (and any attachment) is confidential. It may also be legally privileged or otherwise protected from disclosure.

This email should not be used by anyone who is not an original intended recipient, nor may it be copied or disclosed to anyone who is not an original intended recipient.

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From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 14:21
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Query about grounds for poster removal

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2020 02:49
To: Haines Andrew
Cc: [REDACTED]@asa.org.uk
Subject: Query about grounds for poster removal

I understand that a poster stating "I JKR" has been removed from Edinburgh Waverley station on political grounds as you do not allow advertising that promotes one viewpoint over another. I would be grateful if you could you explain clearly why you consider this particularly political and what advertising that does not promote one viewpoint over another looks like, as I cannot recall ever seeing any advertisements that would fit that criteria.

Personally, I'm not a great fan of Harry Potter, but I do recognise Rowling (to whom the advert refers) as an internationally famous author with an edinburgh connection I am aware that there has been criticism directed at Rowling, and that her books have been banned and burned in many countries, including in Europe. I am quite concerned that this intolerance is gaining a grip in Scotland and that Network Rail are pandering to racists. Although

withheld under s40(2) FOIA

I have copied in the advertising standards authority who can perhaps look at this removal in the context of their duty to uphold the standards of the equality act to assess the grounds on which the poster was removed to see if it was motivated by an intolerance of belief.

Best wishes



Virus-free. www.avast.com

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 14:24
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Removal of I Love JK Rowling poster from Edinburgh Waverly Station

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

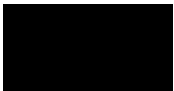
We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy, so we can't reinstate it as you've asked.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2020 04:58
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: FW: Removal of I Love JK Rowling poster from Edinburgh Waverly Station

Dear Mr Haines,

I write to protest in the strongest terms at Network Rail's decision to remove the I Love JK Rowling poster from Edinburgh Waverly.

Allowing women to have a poster supporting one of the world's favourite authors in her birthday week – when did this become so threatening that it was removed?

There is a section – a very loud section, but still only a section – of the population who want to erase JK Rowling. Far more of us – as evidenced by her continuing book sales – support her and love her as an author. I expect that the amount of protests you are receiving from women and male allies of feminism will show you that there are many more of us who are beyond grateful to her for using her profile to respectfully advance views which we share.

We are still a free society. I urge you to put the poster back.

Yours faithfully,

[Redacted Signature]

Phone:

[Redacted Phone Number]

Email:

[Redacted Email Address]@outlook.com



From: [Haines Andrew](#)
To: [executivecontactofficers](#); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject:
Date: 31 July 2020 15:18:03

OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 31 July 2020 14:49

To: Haines Andrew

Subject: J.K.Rowling

Dear Andrew,

I am confused as to why you have withdrawn an 'I ♥ J.K Rowling' poster. I also love J.K Rowling, does this mean I am banned from your station?



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 14:10
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: I love JK Rowling poster

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team and I'm sorry to see the concern this has caused you.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy, so we can't reinstate it as you've asked.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2020 00:55
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: I love JK Rowling poster

Mr Haines,

I object to the I love JK Rowling poster at Waverley Station being taken down. I ask that it be put back up.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 14:17
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Decision to remove I love jk Rowling poster

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

Our use of the rainbow colours in our logo during Pride is because we're proud to be a diverse and inclusive workplace where all our people matter to us.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2020 02:13
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: Decision to remove I love jk Rowling poster

Dear Andrew

I am confused as to why this poster, celebrating the birthday of an acclaimed author, has been classed as political and therefore removed. Please can you explain this to me?

Please can you also explain why supporting Pride which has a political agenda, and every pride across the country is encouraged to make a political statement, as in is very closely linked to organisations that actively lobby UK parliament to change the law, is not classed as political? But you have the Pride logo everywhere. Withheld under s40(2) FOIA and I feel offended that you have taken theAs steps because of the crazy few who complain and yet won't allow other posters who have a message that is celebrating an author. JK should have a good mind to sue how dare you associate her name like that!

In confusion.

Yours



From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]@officers
Subject: Re: I ?? JK Rowling poster
Date: 31 July 2020 17:09:52
Attachments: image001.png

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your prompt email.

I think you have your facts a little mixed up. The group paying for the ad are not a "gender recognition reform group". Quite the opposite, in fact. They are a gender *critical* group who are campaigning to maintain the current law around the Gender Recognition Act (GRA) and are *against* reform of the GRA.

Stonewall, on the other hand, are very politically motivated to reform the GRA. They would be the gender recognition reform group, as described by you.

It's wonderful that your company is striving to be inclusive and diverse. I hope that includes your female work force too. I would advise Andrew Haines and the decision-makers to review their policies so that one groups wants does not have a negative impact on another groups needs.

Regards
[REDACTED]

On Fri, 31 Jul 2020 at 10:47, executivecontactofficers [REDACTED]@networkrail.co.uk> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently and fairly in the future.

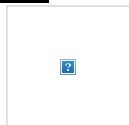
Our use of the rainbow colours in our logo during Pride is to show that we're proud to be a diverse and inclusive workplace where all our people matter to us.

I've forwarded your Freedom of Information (FOI) request to our FOI team, who will be in touch within 20 working days.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 16:36
To: Haines Andrew <xxxxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxx.xx.xx>
Subject: I JK Rowling poster

Hello Andrew

I am writing to say how utterly disappointed I was to find out that Network Rail has taken down the I JK Rowling digital poster at Waverley Station for being political and because it supports one view over another.

I have a number of issues with this:

1. How can a poster supporting JKR be seen as political? How does love for an author be seen as a "view"? JK Rowling is a world renowned author, it's her birthday tomorrow and she is a resident of Edinburgh.
2. If Network Rail don't allow political viewpoints on their advertising space then I expect that any political parties who wish to promote their agenda, say during a general election, will be told it's against your acceptance policy for advertising?
3. If you don't promote a political viewpoint then why do you have the rainbow flag on your promotional/publicity info?

Whoever or whichever organisation is advising your public relations department have just showed up Network Rail's hypocrisy. It looks like you are taking sides.

As part of the Freedom of Information Act, I ask that you send me information on your code of acceptance for advertising, how many people complained about the said advert and how the decision was reached to take down the advert.

Please answer my questions and requested information.

Regards
[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:27
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: I?JK Rowling poster

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy, so we can't reinstate it as you've asked.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 20:00
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: I?JK Rowling poster

Hello Mr Haines,

I would like to voice my disappointment at the removal of a poster expressing admiration for JK Rowling, who is a beloved children's author, and a Scottish treasure really.

Mrs Rowling is entitled to her opinions and her voicing her support for women and children shouldn't be seen as problematic.

It would be ideal to put up the poster again. It is her birthday tomorrow. Politics shouldn't be all people think of when seeing her name. She wrote wonderful books. Let's not forget that:).

Thank you very much.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@live.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 20:00
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: I?JK Rowling poster

Hello Mr Haines,

I would like to voice my disappointment at the removal of a poster expressing admiration for JK Rowling, who is a beloved children's author, and a Scottish treasure really.

Mrs Rowling is entitled to her opinions and her voicing her support for women and children shouldn't be seen as problematic.

It would be ideal to put up the poster again. It is her birthday tomorrow. Politics shouldn't be all people think of when seeing her name. She wrote wonderful books. Let's not forget that:).

Thank you very much.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@yahoo.co.uk>
Sent: 31 July 2020 16:51
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: JK Rowling

Dear Andrew,

I was disappointed to see a poster with a simple message of appreciation of children's author and philanthropist, JK Rowling, removed because you deemed it 'political'.

Since you are highly unlikely to ever need to enter a women's refuge, if not because of your biological sex then because of your class standing, I'm appalled that you took the arrogant decision to remove support for one of the few public figures willing to stand up for vulnerable women's (including Trans-women's) spaces.

JK Rowling is a Scotswoman and a national treasure, a person of great integrity with so many charitable activities and popular love behind her. Every demographic in the general public agree with her, according to the latest YouGov poll.

Your organisation's decision is the one that is deeply, and controversially, political.

I urge you to rethink and reinstate the message of support. In these troubled times, JK Rowling does so more for the UK's image abroad than our own government does. She really doesn't deserve this appalling treatment.

Yours,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:46
To: B P
Subject: RE: Your decision to remove the I ? JK Rowling poster

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

Our use of the rainbow colours in our logo during Pride is because we're proud to be a diverse and inclusive workplace where all our people matter to us.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 22:20
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: Your decision to remove the I ? JK Rowling poster

Good evening,

I saw the Tweet from the Network Rail Scotland Twitter account stating that the poster had been removed due to being political in nature. I couldn't help but notice that the Twitter account profile picture has the Pride rainbow in it. Are you aware that leading UK LGBT charities are actively lobbying to remove the single sex exemptions in the Equality Act 2010 and redefine the legal terms 'man' and 'woman'? Given the intensely political nature of this lobbying, I thought you would want this brought to your attention in order to prevent Network Rail Scotland from being publicly linked to a political position.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

Sent from my Xperia by Sony smartphone

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 10:40
To: [REDACTED]@gmail.com
Subject: RE: JK Rowling Poster Edinburgh

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

Our use of the rainbow during Pride shows that we're proud to be a diverse and inclusive workplace where all our people matter to us.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 16:54
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: JK Rowling Poster Edinburgh

Dear Andrew

Why was this poster, celebrating the birthday of an acclaimed author, classed as political and therefore removed?

I see in many cases you are happy to accommodate political posters, I'm thinking particularly of your numerous Pride posters.

Pride which has a political agenda, in that it is closely linked to organisations that actively lobby UK parliament to change the law. So in the case of Pride there would be reason to believe they were a political organisation – but they are publicised at large in the station.

Please could you explain why the JK Rowling poster was classed as political, but not Pride. Is this truthfully in regard to trans rights issues?

I hope JKR sends this to her lawyers. Inference that her name alone makes Edinburgh look transphobic has got to be potentially libellous. Are you able to cite just one transphobic or anti trans comment she made?

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [REDACTED]
To: executivecontactofficers@networkrail.co.uk
Subject: Re: Posters and Politics
Date: 31 July 2020 16:34:41
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image001.png](#)

Thanks for your response. **withheld under s40(2) FOIA**
that to everything then you'll not be showing an advertisements at all in future.

he purpose of all advertising is to promote one message over another. So if you apply

Please let me know how you intend to do this for everything? You openly support Pride which is sponsored by large multinationals. I don't believe you'll be able to police that. But I'll be glad to hear how you plan to do that.

Please let me know what will and what won't be acceptable. **withheld under s40(2)** customer I'm really interested in finding out.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

On Fri, 31 Jul 2020, 14:04 executivecontactofficers, <[\[REDACTED\]@networkrail.co.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@networkrail.co.uk)> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gmail.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@gmail.com)>
Sent: 30 July 2020 23:52
To: Haines Andrew <xxxxxx xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxx.xx.xx>
Subject: Posters and Politics

Hi Andrew,

I was surprised that a poster showing love and appreciation for JK Rowling was removed from Waverley Station. I was even more surprised that it was removed because it was perceived as political. It contained 'I JK Rowling'.

So I thought I'd write to you, so that you could explain it to me how someone could perceive an expression of love and appreciation as political.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [executivecontactofficers](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Removal of JK Rowling poster
Date: 31 July 2020 13:38:00
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand. Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy. We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 21:11
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: Removal of JK Rowling poster

Dear Mr Haines,

Can you please state the unlawful offence committed by the poster 'I ♡ Jk'?

Which law does this contravene?

I await your detailed response.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Haines Andrew](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Complaint - Removal of the JK Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley
Date: 31 July 2020 11:45:11

Dear Mr Haines,

I write to complain regarding your organisation's decision to remove the I ♥ JK Rowling poster from Edinburgh Waverley station.

Your organisation claims that the advert has been pulled for political reasons, this is laughable. The entire rail network is plastered in Pride flags and logos, Network Rail Scotland's own Twitter account displays the pride rainbow on every tweet they make. If support for JK Rowling and her stance on women's rights is political then so is your endorsement of LGBT+ organisations and events.

Standing for Women (the clue is in the name) is a women's rights movement, not a 'gender recognition reform group' as your correspondence team has been labelling them in response to other complaints on this matter.

I can only assume your organisation has received equality training from Stonewall or a similar organisation with their own 'political slant' on what equality means – much at the expense of women, gay men, lesbians and bisexuals. Why else would you pull an advert for the world's best known children's author?

The silencing of women who want to discuss sexism and the biological reality of sex is one of the most obvious examples of the insanity of Identity Politics; your organisation's decision to remove the advert makes you complicit in this.

The advert should be restored or at the very least, Standing for Women should receive a refund in full.

I have copied [REDACTED] and request that you also cc the Minister in your response.

Yours,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:19
To: [REDACTED]@yahoo.com
Subject: RE: Poster at Waverley Station

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 19:51
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: Poster at Waverley Station

Dear Mr Haines

I write to complain about the removal of a poster showing support for JK Rowling at Edinburgh Waverley Station.

JK Rowling has recently made a huge stir by commenting on the 'gender debate'. It is important to recognise that her writings have been entirely supportive of trans people, nuanced, thoughtful, and mindful of the violence and discrimination that both trans people and girls and women face in their lives, but critical of medicalising children who don't conform to rigid outdated stereotypes.

I understand a poster was displayed to show her support and celebrate her 50th birthday tomorrow.

This was removed after complaints by trans activists.

Firstly, no one has claimed the poster was transphobic, only that Ms Rowling herself is currently seen as being problematic owing to her recent writings.

Secondly no one can pinpoint exactly what about her writings was transphobic, only that it contains dog whistles to transphobia.

What vague complaints. If she had said anything abusive or abhorrent the screenshots and tweets would be widely shared and she would be facing much more backlash.

Instead, this should be seen as an attempt to shut women up from talking about our experiences and our rights.

I would ask myself who you want to align yourself with - a woman who is a domestic abuse and sexual assault survivor, who has helped transform children's reading successes, set up several charities, lost billionaire status because of correct payment of tax and charitable giving,

Or

A group of (predominantly) males who have an issue with using the word 'woman' accurately and seem desperate to get male bodies (80% of whom keep their male genitalia) into women and girls' spaces, sports etc

I understand it is a complex issue which requires sensitivity but I do not believe giving into unreasonable demands by militant activists will help.

I hope you will do the right thing and reinstate the poster.

Yours sincerely,

A black rectangular box redacting the signature.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [executivecontactofficers](#)
To: [REDACTED]@hotmail.com
Subject: FW: Poster Removal
Date: 31 July 2020 14:43:00

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

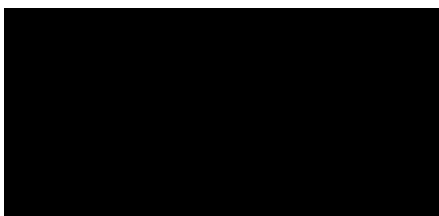
We love and admire JK Rowling too - her work has been an inspiration to millions around the world. But we had to take down the poster you're referring to because it was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]@hotmail.com>
Sent: 31 July 2020 00:37
To: Haines Andrew <xxxxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxx.xx.xx>; xxxxxxxx.xxxxxxxx@xxx.xxxx
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Poster Removal

Andrew Haines, Chief Executive Network Rail Humza Youzaf, Cabinet Secretary for Justice

I Love JK Rowling. I Love JK Rowling. I Love JK Rowling.

My address to send the Thought Police to is [REDACTED] Edinburgh.



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 11:08
To: [REDACTED]@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: RE: JK Rowling poster removal

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]@hotmail.co.uk>
Sent: 30 July 2020 18:06
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: JK Rowling poster removal

Dear Sir,

I'm writing to express my extreme disappointment in Network Rail's decision to remove a poster from Waverley station.

JK Rowling is loved worldwide by adults and children alike for her writing, her charity work and for campaigning for the rights of women and children.

Her very existence encourages a huge amount of tourism in our city every year.

I think it's right that she is celebrated here in Edinburgh.

Removing the poster sends a statement that Network Rail does not respect or care about the rights of women and children, and that Edinburgh is not a welcoming place for them.

I would appreciate a reply explains the reasons for the decision to remove it,

Thank you,



Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [REDACTED], on behalf of [executivecontactofficers](#)
To: [REDACTED]@hotmail.com
Subject: RE: Removal of the I Love JK Rowling advertisement at Edinburgh Waverley Station
Date: 31 July 2020 10:51:00
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand. Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy. We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

Our use of the rainbow colours in our logo during Pride is to show that we're proud to be a diverse and inclusive workplace where all our people matter to us.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]@hotmail.com>

Sent: 30 July 2020 16:44

To: Haines Andrew <[xxxxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxx.xx.xx](#)>

Subject: Removal of the I Love JK Rowling advertisement at Edinburgh Waverley Station

Dear Sir,

I am emailing you to protest at the removal of the I ♥ JK Rowling digital advertisement at Edinburgh Waverley Station.

A Statement on Twitter said This advert is no longer displayed at Edinburgh Waverley. The poster in question is against our code of acceptance for advertising in our stations owing to its political nature. We do not allow advertising that is likely to support or promote one viewpoint over another

I fail to understand how a statement of appreciation for a well known and respected author is a political statement. Or how it is promoting one viewpoint over another and would appreciate an explanation.

If this is in regard to JK Rowlings support for the rights of women and girls the removal of the poster suggests that Network Rail do not support the rights of women and girls and are in fact themselves promoting a viewpoint that supports the removal of rights of women and girls.

This is further compounded by the Network Rail logo on the twitter statement which includes the pride logo. As I am sure you know the Pride Logo is a political symbol so the tweet itself is promoting a political viewpoint while removing something that is not.

Please register this email as a complaint and respond on why you believe support for JK

Rowling and the Rights of Women and Girls is a political statement while Pride is not
Regards

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: 31 July 2020 17:34
To: executivecontactofficers
Cc: Haines Andrew
Subject: Re: I LOVE JK ROWLING POSTER REMOVAL

Dear [REDACTED]

You state that you removed the poster because: "we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another."

Did you not read my email?

You display the Pride flag in your stations and you state in the link below that this is **"to show our support for Pride."**

<https://www.facebook.com/networkrail/photos/archway-our-lgbt-staff-network-will-be-taking-part-in-the-pride-celebrations-in-/865871206838768/>

However, Pride, whose flags you display, states itself that **it is a political protest and lobbying group, and is campaigning for reform to the Gender Recognition Act:**

"Pride is a protest - and in that spirit we will be continuing **to lobby government decision-makers** to address the discrimination faced by marginalised LGBT+ groups, **starting by actively reforming the Gender Recognition Act.**"

<https://prideinlondon.org/news-and-views/pride-in-london-parade-to-return-in-2021/>

By using Pride colours and flags and your facebook statements, you clearly are calling **"for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another."** You state in your reply that this is against your own policy.

You state in your reply that you removed the poster because it was paid for by **"by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy, so we can't reinstate the poster as you've asked."**

Did you not read the extract I quoted where **Pride says it is seeking gender recognition reform.** If you did, why are you using its colours and flags? You can surely promote and care for the wellbeing of LGBT workers and customers without showing support for an overtly political organisation, (when your own advertising code says you must not support any such organisation). Many women who are lifelong supporters or LGBT rights now find the Pride colours anything but supportive of them and their needs.

Please tell me now when you will be removing all Pride advertising, flags, rainbow logos, etc as they are **seeking Gender Recognition Act reform and this is the reason you gave for removing the poster.**

You are mistaken however in thinking that the organisation paying for the poster is campaigning to reform the GRA. They are acting in response to others, like Pride, who are trying to reform in a way that ignores their own protected characteristics under the 2010 Equality Act. This is a valid and current political debate and it is not for you to take one side or the other given your code says you must be impartial.

By removing the poster and not removing the Pride's political logos etc, you are committing an extremely political act, and clearly taking sides.

I do hope you understand my points and can reply to them properly. I know it is a confusing situation but I think your company has acted without carefully examining this issue and with little knowledge of the political background. I wonder if you read the J K Rowling article? Your reply seems to show that you have still not thought through the implications of your political action as it is utterly illogical.

I look forward to hearing from you soon that you have either replaced the poster, removing all Pride colours and flags and statements of your support from your stations and social media and policies.

Thank you for your time.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

On Fri, 31 Jul 2020 at 14:12, [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@networkrail.co.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@networkrail.co.uk)> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy, so we can't reinstate the poster as you've asked.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

Our use of the rainbow colours in our logo during Pride is because we're proud to be a diverse and inclusive workplace where all our people matter to us.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gmail.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@gmail.com)>

Sent: 30 July 2020 22:41

To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>

Subject: I LOVE JK ROWLING POSTER REMOVAL

Dear Andrew Haines

I am emailing you as I assume you have overall responsibility for the decision both to remove this poster and any decision to reinstate it.

The reasons given for the removal are confusing.

Network Rail Scotland's twitter account stated that the poster was removed because it is "against (your) code of acceptance for advertising in (your) stations **owing to its political nature.**"

Please could you tell me:

1 What was political about the poster?

2 If it was political, why was it allowed to be put in the first place?

The second reason goes on to state: "We do not allow advertising that is likely to support or promote one viewpoint over another."

Ironically these reasons were conveyed via Twitter, where you have a pride rainbow banner as part of the logo. You have also displayed Pride flags with your logo on them in your stations:

<https://www.facebook.com/networkrail/photos/archway-our-lgbt-staff-network-will-be-taking-part-in-the-pride-celebrations-in-/865871206838768/>

You happily assert your support for Pride in London, an organisation which states in this statement that:

"Pride is a protest - and in that spirit we will be continuing to lobby government decision-makers to address the discrimination faced by marginalised LGBT+ groups, starting by actively reforming the Gender Recognition Act."

<https://prideinlondon.org/news-and-views/pride-in-london-parade-to-return-in-2021/>

This would seem to be very much a political organisation and therefore a political act to support them.

As I am sure you are aware by now, if you were not before, JK Rowling has raised queries about reformation of the GRA in her essay here:

<https://www.jkrowling.com/opinions/j-k-rowling-writes-about-her-reasons-for-speaking-out-on-sex-and-gender-issues/>

It would seem that contrary to your social media account's assertion that "We do not allow advertising that is likely to support or promote one viewpoint over another," **you are very actively supporting and promoting the viewpoint of** those who actively disagree with J K Rowling. At the same time, you do not allow anyone to even express admiration for her and her many achievements in the city in which she lives.

How can you say that you are not supporting one viewpoint over another when you have taken the very clearly political act of removing this poster?

Please could explain your reasoning to me?

If you are unable to explain why this has happened, please could you immediately reinstate the poster.

I thank you for your time.

Yours sincerely

██████████

The content of this email (and any attachment) is confidential. It may also be legally privileged or otherwise protected from disclosure.

This email should not be used by anyone who is not an original intended recipient, nor may it be copied or disclosed to anyone who is not an original intended recipient.

If you have received this email by mistake please notify us by emailing the sender, and then delete the email and any copies from your system.

Liability cannot be accepted for statements made which are clearly the sender's own and not made on behalf of Network Rail.

Network Rail Infrastructure Limited registered in England and Wales No. 2904587, registered office Network Rail, 2nd Floor, One Eversholt Street, London, NW1 2DN

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 14:31
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: J K Rowling

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2020 07:42
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: J K Rowling

Dear Mr Haines

Your company has seen fit to remove a poster that expresses appreciation for J K Rowling.

Quick reminder of all the humanitarian work she has undertaken below. Why would you remove the poster with the statement it has a political standpoint? All advertising has a political standpoint because any product has an impact on the environment so any form of promotion indicates that network rail supports the destruction of the environment so please be aware that all these adverts should now be banned.

This is a woman who has risen from poverty and domestic abuse and yet you fail to allow a poster that recognises her achievements on the whim of a small community. It is disappointing. Again quick reminder of what a "terrible" person she is below:

1. Rowling achieved billionaire status because of her success with the Harry Potter series. However, she is no longer a billionaire because she has donated so much of her fortune to charity. In 2011, she donated [16 percent](#) of her total net worth.
2. One of Rowling's novels, *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, will be [republished by Scholastic](#) with the proceeds going to the charity Comic Relief and Rowling's global charity, Lumos. Rowling will be adding a new foreword that is narrated by Newt Scamander and includes new details on the Wizarding World.

3. Within the past year, Rowling's charities have donated [more than £8 million](#) to various causes. Volant Charitable Trust gave more than £3 million to causes like the Disasters Emergency Committee, Save the Children and Christian Aid. Rowling's other charity, Lumos, gave more than £5.2 million to aid orphans and children in perilous situations worldwide.
4. Rowling's charity, Lumos, is an international nonprofit organization whose main goal is to aid [orphaned children](#) in troubled situations in finding their families or otherwise provide them with a loving home. Over the past year, Lumos has helped to reunite more than 111 children in Haiti with their families.
5. Another of the facts about J.K. Rowling's charity work is that in addition to her own foundations, Rowling supports 14 organizations. She has served as an ambassador for the charity Gingerbread, and now holds the title of honorary president. Gingerbread advocates for single parents by providing them with support and advice.
6. Rowling has [shown her support](#) for the charity Comic Relief, whose goal is to end poverty and social biases in the U.K., by writing two Harry Potter companion novels for the organization. The sales from *Quidditch Through the Ages* and *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* have raised more than £17 million for Comic Relief.
7. An additional charity Rowling fervently supports is the Anne Rowling Regenerative Neurology Clinic, located at the University of Edinburgh. Rowling's mother is the namesake for the clinic; she died in 1990 due to complications from multiple sclerosis.

Rowling is an avid humanitarian, and helps to support these organizations by providing personal donations and through her successful book sales. These facts about J.K. Rowling's charity work are a testament to how Rowling's hard work and prosperity have positively impacted the world around her.

Regards



Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:48
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: JK Rowling poster

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

-----Original Message-----

From: S [REDACTED]@gmail.com> On Behalf Of Sharsh Brodhurst
Sent: 30 July 2020 22:34
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: JK Rowling poster

Dear Mr Haines

Please reconsider your decision to remove the poster. Biological women are fighting every day for our & our daughters rights. Don't be political about this. There are more women than trans women. We deserve to be heard too.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 14:00
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: censorship

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Executive Correspondence Manager

Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]@yahoo.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 23:43
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: censorship

where is your transparent policy that allows you to censor ads?

your choice to be pro-something and against-something is very much a political decision. you pretending otherwise is absolutely disingenuous.

I (heart) anything - be it JKR or NY or whatever is NOT worthy of censorship your mother must be so disappointed in you. she wouldn't tell you that to your face, because we mothers only want to lift up our children - male, female, straight, trans, unemployed or successful

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 11:10
To: [REDACTED]@yahoo.co.uk
Subject: RE: Criteria for defining "political" advertising

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]@yahoo.co.uk
Sent: 30 July 2020 18:19
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: Criteria for defining "political" advertising

Dear Mr Haines,

I refer to the removal of an advertising poster from your Edinburgh station due to it being against your code "owning to its political nature", which a spokesperson for network rail went on to state meant it was "likely to support or promote one viewpoint over another".

This is a surprisingly wide definition of "Political". Indeed, I would be surprised if any advertisements would fall outside it (after all, adverts for toilet paper, for example, generally express the view point that loo paper X is better than other loo papers Y and Z). Will they now also be cancelled?

But we both know this isn't really about any actual existing "code". This is about you crumbling against rabid bullying - scared you'll be the next to be "cancelled" by the screeching mob.

JK Rowling has been pilloried for making a simple statement that the vast majority of the public believe to be true: sex is a biological fact. You can't change your sex. Taking hormones and undergoing surgery might change some aspects of your appearance, but they do not change your biology.

Is it your view that biological facts are now a mere "view point"? One opinion as equally valid as another? I really hope the engineers charged with ensuring your train services run safely have more respect for scientific facts.

Please reconsider your position on this. JK Rowling and other feminists have no problem with transgender people. They mean them no malice. Their only argument is with the small but very loud portion of trans activists who want to do away with with concept of biological sex and replace it with the vague notion of “gender” in order that anyone self identifying as “female” may access spaces (women’s refuges, hospital wards, prisons, toilets), as well as take up positions in political parties, charity boards, universities and colleges reserved only for “women”. That puts women at risk. Please don’t put yourself at the service of an agenda which will ultimate harm women.

Yours


London

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 30 July 2020 17:57
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Removal of JK Rowling poster

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

This poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW
Mobile: [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 15:05
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: Removal of JK Rowling poster

Dear Mr Haines,

Have you actually read what JK Rowling has said on the subject of transpeople? She is VERY SUPPORTIVE of them. She is in no way transphobic. All she is against is the idea of self-id; that any man can suddenly and with no surgery, no outward change of appearance whatsoever, say he is a woman and gain access to women's & girls' toilets, changing rooms, refuges, prisons, sports etc.

Did you know that 90% of male to female trans people do not have any surgery? These "transwomen" have their male genitals and are using the trans movement in bad faith simply to gain access to women's safe spaces. I could send you hundreds of examples of such "transwomen" who have sexually assaulted, girls and women in women's toilets and changing rooms etc. Literally hundreds of examples exist but I don't want to bombard you. I just want you, please, to think, to read what JK Rowling has said and what she stands for.

Would you want your nan, mother, sister or daughter to be in a changing room with a large man in a dress who is watching them get changed & being aroused by that?

You have bowed to pressure from people who refuse to listen to what JK Rowling has actually said, people who are being wilfully ignorant.

JK Rowling is not transphobic, she is merely trying to protect women's safe spaces – as Network Rail should also be doing.

Yours sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2020 15:18
To: [REDACTED]; executivecontactofficers
Subject: FW: What's with the; Unhappy Birthday JK from all at Network Rail?

OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2020 14:50
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: What's with the; Unhappy Birthday JK from all at Network Rail?

Dear Andrew Haines,

Well that wasn't a very nice thing to do to JK Rowling on her birthday.

Please explain in straight forward, ordinary peoples language, just what your problem was with the I love JK Rowling poster?

If I turn up wearing a tee shirt expressing my love for her will you require me to remove it?

You need to give your heed a wobble.

Truly.

Yours most sincerely

A Customer.

[REDACTED]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 14:02
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: JK Rowling

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

Our use of the rainbow colours in our logo during Pride is because we're proud to be a diverse and inclusive workplace where all our people matter to us.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

-----Original Message-----

From: Stuart <[REDACTED]@btinternet.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 23:43
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: JK Rowling

Hi Andrew,

Reinstate the I love JK posters or stop promoting any causes that could be deemed political.

You are aware of course that Mermaids and the other orgs/ people complaining about this have a political rather than moral viewpoint. By listening to them u r taking an explicitly political stance given u have the LGBTQIA etc. flag in your logos?

JK has said nothing transphobic, homophobic - u r pandering to extremists for woke points. Please stop.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@aol.com>
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:29
To: executivecontactofficers
Subject: Re: JK Rowling/Edinburgh

Dear [REDACTED]

Many thanks for your reply.

Does this mean that adverts, banners, etc. in support of LGBTQ+ will also be banned from your properties? Will you ban any adverts for Ms Rowlings forthcoming books and films?

This reflects very badly on Network Rail. In an attempt to be 'woke' you have alienated a huge number of your customers. How does a simple birthday message become 'political' when no political statement is being made?

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: executivecontactofficers
To: [REDACTED]
Sent: Fri, 31 Jul 2020 13:11
Subject: RE: JK Rowling/Edinburgh

Dear [REDACTED]

[Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.](#)

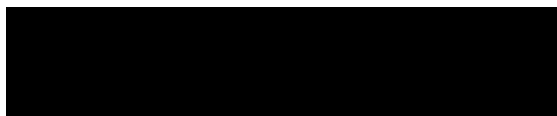
We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

From: S [Redacted]
Sent: 30 July 2020 19:50
To: Haines Andrew
Subject: JK Rowling/Edinburgh

Sir,

I am appalled that Network Rail Scotland has seen fit to remove an anodyne poster saying 'I Love JK Rowling'. The reason seems to be that she is currently one of the few people to stand up for women's rights. Doing so is not transphobic. I note that political posters and banners celebrating LGBT - a political lobby - are considered suitable while the JKR one is not. ^{Withheld under s40(2) FOIA} complains and suddenly the poster disappears. ^{Withheld under s40(2) FOIA} I thought it ^{Withheld under s40(2) FOIA} ely gesture to celebrate JKR's birthday in her home city.

Are you going to stop using Harry Potter to advertise rail routes in Scotland?



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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of executivecontactofficers
Sent: 31 July 2020 13:25
To: [REDACTED]@dsl.pipex.com
Subject: RE: J K Rowling billboard

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting our chief executive, Andrew Haines, about the removal of the J K Rowling poster at Edinburgh Waverley station. I'm responding as part of Andrew's correspondence team.

We know that J K Rowling is widely loved and admired for her work and achievements and our decision to remove the poster isn't a personal reflection on her. The poster was put up in error by one of our advertising partners and was not referred to us for our consideration beforehand.

Our advertising code clearly sets out that we won't display anything calling for the support of a political viewpoint, policy or action, or that promotes one viewpoint over another. This poster was paid for by a gender recognition reform group, which clearly violates our policy.

We're reviewing our advertising approval processes with our partners to make sure our policies are applied consistently in the future.

If we can help further, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Waterloo Station General Offices, Walker Suite, 2nd floor, London, SE1 8SW

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]@dsl.pipex.com>
Sent: 30 July 2020 19:53
To: Haines Andrew <Andrew.Haines@networkrail.co.uk>
Subject: J K Rowling billboard

As a proud Scot and UK citizen I welcome the opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate our successes in all fields be they Art, Science or others.

I was therefor dismayed to learn that a billboard paying tribute to Scotland's most successful author J K Rowling has been removed from Edinburgh Waverley station.

I would be very interested to know the reason for this decision as she is an iconic middle aged Scottish women and this is a group that are very rarely represented in our society.

Regards

[REDACTED]