**Transcript**

12 August 2025, 12:02pm

 **Steve Futter** 0:04  
The new LED by and for domestic abuse fund, which is opening for applications tomorrow at 9:00 AM we'll get onto the housekeeping and introduction shortly, but I'm keen to give attendees time to join the call and settle, so we'll wait a few moments before making a start.  
Thank you.

 **Karen Houlihan BSL interpreter** 0:27  
Yeah.  
Yeah.  
The very ambition, very ambition by working with you.  
It's like.  
Yes.

 **Steve Futter** 0:51  
Fabulous. OK. So so let's make a start. So, so welcome to you all. Thank you very much for joining us and I'll move on to housekeeping introductions now. So Please note that your microphones and cameras are turned off by default, so you don't need to worry about Erin pets.  
Amazon deliveries, background noise or indeed being visible on screen, so hopefully that's welcome. We're also delighted to be joined today by two BSL interpreters who will be working together to interpret the content now. This may mean that myself and the other presenters need to pause or check in with.  
Them from time to time to ensure we're moving through the content at a sensible pace, so I hope you understand the need for this and will bear with us in this regard. It's also worth noting that the team's chat function is not enabled for this session, so please use the QA tab to post your questions. You won't see this.  
Well, you may be able to see this on screen, but it won't be opened up for questions until later in the session when we start talking about the application process itself in relation to the Q&A, please both be both mindful and respectful of the fact that it is unmoderated for this session.  
And also don't panic if your question doesn't get answered, it probably means someone else has asked it already or we just haven't got to it yet. Realistically, we're unlikely to be able to get through all of the questions, so a good way around this is to check through the other questions and see if yours has been asked.  
Ready. You can also upvote other people's questions if you'd like to see them answered instead of repeating questions. Upvoting is really helpful for us in that it means we can prioritise answers for the most relevant questions to the audience.  
So just to clarify up voting in the Q&A is not the same as liking something in a team's chat up votes actually help surface the most popular questions for us.

 **Karen Houlihan BSL interpreter** 2:54  
Come.

 **Steve Futter** 2:55  
We'll be answering some questions live with our presenters throughout the throughout the webinar and some will also be answered by the Q&A function. Sadly, we're not going to be able to answer all of them, but we'll update the FAQ on our website after this webinar.  
And lastly, in relation to Q&A, we won't be able to answer questions which are specific to the circumstances of your particular organisation. Instead, please either give us a call after the webinar or send us an e-mail and we can respond accordingly. All of the information is available.  
On our website, if you experience any technical issues such as sound problems or video freezing, I'd suggest you try the age-old IT solution of leaving and then rejoining the session. That often seems to resolve most of the technical problems.

 **Karen Houlihan BSL interpreter** 3:48  
But he's not.

 **Steve Futter** 3:49  
Please be aware that we're recording the session today. There will also be a transcript and once the webinar finishes we'll share this with you alongside a copy of the slides and a follow up summary as well. And also if you'd find it helpful, you can turn on audio captions for this section.

 **Karen Houlihan BSL interpreter** 4:02  
Yeah.

 **Steve Futter** 4:07  
Of this session, rather and you can find this option under the more button. Excuse me at the top of the screen, then language and speech and then show live captions. So go to the more button at the top of the screen, then select language and speech and show live captions.  
And now on to the introductions. So, Ellen, if you could get the first slide up, please, that would be great.  
So as you can see we, I'm just going to spend a second introducing myself. So. So my name is Steve Footer and thanks again for joining us this afternoon. I'm a senior grants manager in the Safer Futures team at Henry Smith Foundation.  
A quick audio description, so I'm I'm white male, 53 years old, with rapidly greying short hair and a beard, and my pronouns are he and him. And I'm wearing a pale blue shirt.  
Over to you, Ella.

 **Ella Davey** 5:15  
Hi, I'm ella. I'm a grants manager at Henry Smith and I lead on the domestic abuse portfolio. I'm a white person in their late 20s. I've got dark brown shoulder length hair that's slightly WAVY, got brown eyes, and I'm wearing a green well.

 **Karen Houlihan BSL interpreter** 5:15  
Yeah.

 **Ella Davey** 5:31  
Yeah, a green top.

 **Rob Bell** 5:35  
Afternoon, everyone. I'm a white male in his 50s, greying with a beard, glasses and wearing a dark blue shirt. Good to be here.

 **Karen Houlihan BSL interpreter** 5:47  
Yeah.  
Yeah.

 **Steve Futter** 5:49  
Fabulous. Thank you both. So as you can imagine, we've got a team beavering away feverishly behind the scenes to keep the tech working and later on they'll help us keep the questions and answers flowing as well. So I'd like to take a moment to thank Annabelle, Annabelle, Buffy, Ellen.  
Jack, James and Joe, alongside our two BSL interpreters.

 **Karen Houlihan BSL interpreter** 6:13  
It.

 **Steve Futter** 6:14  
So in terms of the purpose of the webinar, I mean I'll hand over to Rob shortly who's going to give us some of the wider context around the Henry Smith Foundation strategy and the Safer Futures Funding priority. But I'm keen to remind us all of the purpose of today's webinar, which is really straightforward. It's to help you establish.  
Whether or not your organisation should apply for the domestic abuse fund and please if it becomes apparent during the presentations that this fund is not for you, don't be anxious at all about leaving the webinar. We appreciate that everyone is super busy and time is very precious so.  
If it's not for you, that's fine. Sign out and hopefully we'll have funds that are more relevant to your area of work later in the year. So over to Rob.

 **Karen Houlihan BSL interpreter** 7:03  
\*\*\*\*\*\*\*.

 **Rob Bell** 7:04  
Steve, thanks very much. Thank you everyone for coming and joining the webinar. My name's Rob Bell and I'm the director at Henry Smith Foundation responsible for this programme, which is called Safer Futures, and I'll outline that in a moment. And all my colleagues on this call are.  
Working on the programme or the wider organisation, so we're really grateful for the opportunity to talk to you about about our plans and this specific fund today, what I'm going to do before Ella gets into more detail about the fund is just take two few minutes just to place this fund.  
In the broader context of change at Henry Smith Foundation, which I think will be helpful for you for understanding what, why this focus and and why a change way of working. Many of you may know from looking at the website that we have a new five year strategy.  
And that strategy has drawn heavily on what we've learned from all of those people we've supported over many, many years. It aims to build on what we think we've been good at. We've been a reliable, broad based, robust funder, I think. But it's also responding to what type of support, social sector.

 **Karen Houlihan BSL interpreter** 8:08  
Yeah.

 **Rob Bell** 8:21  
As leaders say they most value in what are we all know, very challenging times at the moment.  
It's important to be clear that the domestic abuse fund we're talking about is just the first fund under this our new programme and the new strategy, and that from next year we'll have a wide mixture of different types of funding across all of our programme areas, not all of them will be as focused and discreet as this one.  
And over over the next five years, we will focus our funding on support for people going through some of life's toughest transitions. So moments when the right help can unlock opportunity and lead to lasting change.

 **Karen Houlihan BSL interpreter** 8:50  
Group.  
S.

 **Rob Bell** 9:02  
We are strengthening our commitment to building partnerships with organisations we fund, offering more flexible and longer term funding and we're working hard to make our application processes simpler and much more accessible than they've been previously.

 **Karen Houlihan BSL interpreter** 9:02  
Yeah.  
Play song.

 **Rob Bell** 9:19  
It's important to say, though, that our trustees want us to continue to support direct service delivery. This is going to continue to be a main aspect of what we do, but alongside this, we will also fund work that will help challenge systems that are unjust and unfair.  
And to improve policy, we also want to develop the support we offer to include peer learning, organisational support and opportunities for colleagues to connect, share our insight and learn together and underpinning all of that is a deep commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion.  
And that means looking with care at who and how we fund. So as I said, we're removing barriers to processes, making the funding hopefully more accessible and ensuring that people with direct experience are much more influential in shaping what we do and how we do it.  
Now the the Safer Futures programme. Let me just spend a minute talking about that. It will be working to support people as they rebuild their lives following some of the most challenging experiences imaginable. This includes people leaving prison, people have experienced Mystic.

 **Karen Houlihan BSL interpreter** 10:25  
Yeah.

 **Rob Bell** 10:29  
Abuse and those seeking refuge and safety after conflict or persecution. As I said, we hope by the end of this calendar year we'll be in a position to give clearer time frames for future funding opportunities in the areas of migration, criminal justice and also domestic abuse.  
More broadly, beyond this particular fund.  
And let me just focus in on why why this first fund to get started, namely why support led by and for organisations that provide domestic abuse services.  
Well, many of you will know we're we're already funding a range of domestic abuse services under the previous strategy. We think we have about £13 million worth of live grants running with a large number of grants. But for years, organisations in the domestic abuse sector, I've been calling like many others for long.  
Term flexible funding funding that covers the core cost of running services and build stronger organisations creates longer term stability, but we think this need is especially urgent for led by and for organisations that serve marginalised and minoritized communities.

 **Karen Houlihan BSL interpreter** 11:32  
Yeah.

 **Rob Bell** 11:44  
They are often overlooked or and or underfunded and are much more likely to receive smaller shorter term grants, despite the vital role they play. Indeed, research and others, including the domestic abuse Commissioner, highlight how much safer survivors feel when hemp, helped by someone from their own community.

 **Karen Houlihan BSL interpreter** 11:46  
Yeah.  
Yeah.

 **Rob Bell** 12:03  
So we want to play a role because we're in a good position to do so, which is make some long term investment in that particular part of the sector, helping organisations and their leaders, we want to give lead by and for organisations the breathing space they need to plan ahead build capacity.

 **Karen Houlihan BSL interpreter** 12:06  
And.

 **Rob Bell** 12:22  
Continue doing the work they do best without the added pressure of funding scarcity. So we'll, I know we'll get into more of the detail and hopefully that gives a bit of background context around the rationale and the where this sits and what might be coming later.

 **Karen Houlihan BSL interpreter** 12:27  
It's.  
Yes.  
Thanks.

 **Rob Bell** 12:38  
But if that's OK, Steve, I'll just hand over now to to Ella for the more detailed part of the the presentation.

 **Steve Futter** 12:46  
That's great. Thanks very much, Rob. OK, Ella, over to you.

 **Ella Davey** 12:53  
Next slide please, Alan.  
Thank you. Yeah. So I'm going to give an overview of the domestic abuse fund and I'm going to start by talking about the guidelines and then I'll move on later to the application process. So as has been mentioned, this is a fund for led by and for organisations providing specialist domestic.  
Abuse services. The grants will be the grants awarded will be running cost grants. They'll be five years in length and they'll be providing 50,000 per year, totalling 250,000 in total.  
A word of warning, I suppose already is that we're only going to be awarding 20 grants, and so I've done the maths and if everyone who signed up on this webinar so that was over 700 people were to apply, the success rate would only be 3%. So please Pat bear this in mind when I'm talking through the criteria and really consider whether you are a strong fit with this.  
Grant programme or not, if I can move to the next slide, please, Ellen.  
That, as mentioned, the focus of this programme is led by and for organisations, and by this we mean that, led by and for organisations are those run, designed and delivered by and for people who are from marginalised and minoritized communities that face additional forms of discrimination and structural and systemic inequality.  
These include communities such as LGBT Plus people deaf and disabled people and those from racially minoritized communities. This is the definition we've gone for, but it is based off the domestic abuse commissioner's work and based off the definition given by Women's Aid.  
If you are an organisation led by and for women, unfortunately this fund is not for you. So I just wanted to get that out there from the off front because I think there'll be quite a lot of people in this webinar who fall into that category. So this fund is a dedicated pot for led by and for organisations, for people from those marginalised and minority communities.  
That face additional forms of discrimination on top of their experiences of misogyny and domestic abuse. I'm now going to talk through the basic eligibility a little bit more. So, Ellen, could you move to the next slide for me?  
Thank you. So as I've said, this is for organisations that are led by enforce that's key to our criteria and by this we will be looking to see that the majority of your staff are from the Community that you support and the majority of your trustee board. So that's over 50%.  
You also need to be a specialist domestic abuse service and I'm going to talk about that more in detail later on just to say you don't have to be your whole entire services don't have to be focused on domestic abuse. You could be a led by and for organisation and provide a specialist domestic abuse project.  
The next thing that your organisation needs to be is a registered not-for-profit, not-for-profit. With a charitable purpose. So this can include a registered charity, but also CI CS. Your organisation must have published your first set of annual accounts.  
You must have a safeguarding policy in place. You must operate primarily in the UK and then for those who currently have a grant with us and so who have an improving lives grant or effects fund grant, you'll be eligible to apply if you're in the final year of your grant. And if you're not sure about that, just get in touch with us, either with your grant.  
Grants manager or through our website and we can discuss with you whether you are in the final year or not.  
OK. Ellen, if you could move to the next slide please.  
So I'm now going to talk in more detail about what makes an organisation a good fit with this programme, so we have four key criteria and just to say, all of this is in our guidelines, so everything that I'm covering now is written in the guidelines and in the FAQ on our website.  
Yeah.  
So the first point is that we require organisations to have a strong track record, so by this we mean that you should have at least three years experience of providing specialist domestic abuse services to your community. You should be able to demonstrate that you have a clear understanding of the intersecting needs of the people you support that you're well embedded.  
In your community and that your staff have the relevant expertise and experience to safely support the people you work with.  
The second key criteria is that your services must be in depth and consistent. So we expect organisations to provide long term and ongoing support by long term we mean that you're roughly providing about 12 weeks worth of support on average, but we completely recognise that people might dip in and out of.  
Services depending on what's happening in their lives. The key point here really is that your organisation should be a steady, trusted source of support whenever that individual needs it. What we won't fund, or organisations that only provide short term support or helpline. So if there's a part of your broader services that's absolutely fine, but you're if you're only delivering those kinds of.  
Services, unfortunately, are not affect.  
The third criteria is that your services must be person centred and by this we mean your services are tailored to the unique needs of each individual. We'd expect this to be 1 to one support such as casework, and that this would be a core part of your delivery.  
Again, it doesn't have to be everything that organisation does, it's just that we won't fund organisations that only offer group based support. And lastly, holistic here we want to see that you provide wrap around support that addresses an individual's broad range of needs.  
It's very likely that you provide a number of these services yourselves, such as counselling, advocacy, practical support in market accommodation, but where you're unable to meet all of a person's need, we'll be looking to see whether you work in partnerships with other organisations and that you're providing things like supported referrals rather than just signposting that.  
So those are the key 4 criteria and in order to be eligible, you will need to demonstrate that you meet all four of these areas. If I can have the next slide, please.  
Thank you. And just to say we're now going to open the Q&A. Please bear in mind that I'm about to talk through like the application process and if your question relates to that, there's like new security start dates, all that kind of stuff. If you just hold on a moment and hopefully I'll cover it.  
So our applications are going to open tomorrow and they're going to be open for a month. So we'll be closing on the 10th of September at 5:00 PM.  
I missed a bit saying if you think you're a strong fit, you can apply on our website, so the application form is an online form.  
So in order to apply you have to go through an eligibility checker and that'll just go through the points we've discussed earlier. And then if you are eligible, you'll be able to complete a short expression of interest. This is only one question which asks you to explain how your organisation and its work fits with the programme.  
It's one question. There are other small questions about your organisation, like your name, address, that kind of stuff, but otherwise it's just that one long question. We're then going to use this information to help us narrow down to 40 applications.  
Who will then be invited to complete a full, much more in depth application form? At this stage, it's likely that we might have to prioritise certain applications to short to ensure that we fund applicants from across the UK and from a range of different communities.  
We've really tried to keep this process proportional as we recognise their time and the resources it takes to apply, but just to come back to the point, we are expecting a high number of applications and the reality is that the majority of people are probably not going to make it past this expression of interest. So again, really consider whether you are a strong fit for.  
Putting in that application, we strongly encourage that you go through all the guidelines and efficues on website, but if you're still not sure or just get in touch and we're more than happy to help and we'll put our contact details up later, you can contact the team directly or through our website and we can talk you through whether you're a fit or not.  
If you do need any support to apply, we do have an accessibility grant of £250. This could help you to access things like translation services and more details about that fund are also in the guidelines.  
Lastly, just wanted to briefly talk about AI. We do think AI can be a great tool to help your applications, but we ask that you use this as an aid and not to generate the whole entire application. Typically, we can actually tell when AI has done all the work, particularly when we do look at other things such as.  
To your website, such user accounts. So we we can kind of tell when when AI has written it.  
Yeah. So that's kind of all the details about the grants programme. I think it's now time that we move on to the Q&A unless I've missed anything, Steve.

 **Steve Futter** 22:15  
That's great. Thanks so much. Thanks so much, Ella, for taking us through the details of the fund, the eligibility criteria and also the application process. And thanks. Thanks to Rob as well for giving us some of that broader strategic context, which I think is is helpful in anchoring this fund as our sort of first step.  
Back into Grant making for this particular run particular programme. So yeah, as Ella said, we can now move into the question and answer session. Quick reminder that we're not going to be able to answer everything today, but the FAQ section on our website for the Domestic Abuse Fund will be updated.  
It over the coming days with any relevant questions and answers, so on to the first question, what have we got?  
And this is where I have to reach from my reading glasses. So Ella, first question that's come in is can you clarify about women LED organisations not being eligible to apply when they're not from by and full communities?

 **Ella Davey** 23:24  
Couldn't take myself with me, then, of course. Yes. So unfortunately, if you are an organisation that is led by and for women, and you aren't from another minoritized community, so you say it's not led by and for LGBT plus women or women from racially minoritized communities, then unfortunately.  
You wouldn't be eligible. This is because the focus is on groups that are facing additional barriers to accessing support, such as systemic inequality, and so this focus really is on those organisations that.  
Have that understanding of that intersecting needs and can support people not just with domestic abuse and misogyny, but also with things like racism and homophobia.

 **Steve Futter** 24:10  
Amazing. Thanks, ella. Thanks for clarifying the point. I'm keen to get through as many questions as we can. There's one here that's quite interesting. It's about income thresholds. Is there an income threshold for this particular?  
Font.

 **Ella Davey** 24:27  
There's not, and I probably should have said that there's absolutely no income threshold. There's no lower end, there's no higher end. This is being deliberate as we appreciate, there's a lot of small grassroots organisations working in this space, but also there's going to be national organisations who are working across to help support those minority.

 **Steve Futter** 24:38  
Yeah, of course.

 **Ella Davey** 24:46  
Communities because there might not be those specialist specialist organisations within certain areas. So yeah, regardless of your size, you can apply.

 **Steve Futter** 24:54  
That's great news. Thanks so much. OK, questions come in around partnerships. Are you able to apply as a partnership? And then there's a sub question to that which is do both organisations need to be eligible or can they?

 **Ella Davey** 25:05  
Hmm.

 **Steve Futter** 25:10  
Both cover the eligibility through the lead organisation.

 **Ella Davey** 25:13  
Play song.  
Yeah. So we will accept partnership applications. What we do ask though is that you give us a call to talk it through with us before. Without that, we won't really be able to decide whether it is worth your time to submit the partnership. In some situations, it's actually better that both organisations apply. But yeah, we will accept partnerships and it's only the lead organisation that needs to be a fit.

 **Steve Futter** 25:29  
None.

 **Ella Davey** 25:34  
So the organisation that you're partnering with doesn't have to be. But yeah, if you could get in contact with us and we can talk it through with you and decide together whether we think it's worth your time.

 **Steve Futter** 25:45  
Amazing. And just to just to refer back to the point that most of the information we're covering today is available on our website for anything that's that comes out, you know anew from the questions and answers today, they will be updated on our FAQ section later in the week. And as Ella said, give us a call, get in touch.  
If you've got any questions at all, OK, so there's a question coming in around more clarity on specialist domestic abuse services. So the question reads, please, could you provide some further clarification as to what qualifies as providing specialist domestic abuse services?  
And then they give an example. So would providing casework support to individuals who've experienced domestic abuse also qualify?

 **Ella Davey** 26:34  
Yep. So typically casework would qualify when we mean specialist. What we mean is that your staff have been trained to understand domestic abuse. This most likely means they also ensure them informed, but they really do understand all the safety planning that goes into it, all the nuances around trauma.

 **Steve Futter** 26:36  
Right.

 **Ella Davey** 26:53  
It's likely that your staff will have specialist accreditation, such as being an advert, or that you're accredited by Women's Aid. This is not to say that you have to have those accreditations or be part of certain membership bodies. These are just examples of.

 **Steve Futter** 26:58  
OK.

 **Ella Davey** 27:08  
What makes a specialist organisation? But what we mean is that you'll either be an organisation that like focuses purely on domestic abuse, that that's kind of what you're there for, or you have a project and that project is also dedicated towards domestic abuse. So what we kind of wouldn't consider a specialist is.  
Organisations that happen to support a lot of individuals who've experienced domestic abuse but say their services aren't targeted in any sort of way to support them. Yeah, but if you're in touch, why? If you're in touch, right? If you aren't sure and it. And sometimes people will be kind of.

 **Steve Futter** 27:30  
Right.

 **Ella Davey** 27:46  
It might not be that clear cut. What I will say is give up the call and then we're more than happy to talk it through and we'll we can look at like your website. We'll look at your accounts and we'll get to understand what your work does and really advise you as to whether you are a fit or not.

 **Steve Futter** 27:47  
Yeah, sure.  
Fantastic. Thanks for such a thorough answer and in a sort of related question, we've got something that's come in around. Does an organisation have to provide the full range of domestic abuse support, particularly around safe accommodation?

 **Ella Davey** 28:14  
Yeah, you definitely don't have to provide the full range of sport. So as we kind of mentioned being holistic is is key to the criteria. Typically this means you'll be providing like a couple of services, but completely understand that a lot of charities or organisations can't provide that safer accommodation.

 **Steve Futter** 28:16  
OK.

 **Ella Davey** 28:33  
So we definitely wouldn't expect you to provide every single service what we would be looking for is that you're working in partnership with other organisations to kind of ensure individuals can access that support if they need.

 **Steve Futter** 28:46  
Excellent. And and you know if I'm, if I'm reading it correctly, it's not just about say, oh, you know, signposting to other services, it needs to be much more, you know, tailored to the individual supported referrals and that kind of activity.

 **Ella Davey** 28:58  
Yeah. Yeah. And so by support your referrals, what typically mean is that you might they, you'd likely check in with the individual if they made that referral themselves. So you'd follow up to ensure that say they had got housing or perhaps you're the person who's who's making that initial call or maybe even going to the appointment with them. But what we.

 **Steve Futter** 29:10  
OK.

 **Ella Davey** 29:17  
Aren't looking for is, so you just give them a leaflet or a contact detail and then and then it's never followed up on again. What we want to see is that you're making sure that those needs are being met.

 **Steve Futter** 29:27  
Fantastic. OK, thanks. Thanks for the answer there. Next question here is around an organisation that might be looking to expand into this space. It's not in their current work programme, but they are looking to get into this line of work. Would that be eligible?

 **Ella Davey** 29:46  
Unfortunately not it. This is very much for organisations that have that existing track record. Yeah, we're we're wanting to invest in the sector that's that's already there to.  
Help make them stronger and their stability, so yeah, unfortunately it's not for any new organisations or for any organisations that are looking to expand in that area of work.

 **Steve Futter** 30:06  
OK.  
Excellent, right. The questions are coming thick and fast now. So I'm just mindful that I want to pace it a little for our BSL interpreters and also for the sake of your voice, Ella. OK, so we've got one here about some.

 **Ella Davey** 30:15  
Hmm.

 **Steve Futter** 30:24  
The eligibility criteria relating to by and for so are you looking for organisations where the majority of staff and trustees combined have lived experience, or is it the majority of staff and the majority of trustees viewed independently of each other?

 **Ella Davey** 30:40  
Viewed independently of each other, so it's majority of trustees and then majority of staff. Yeah. So over 50% of trustees, over 50% of staff.

 **Steve Futter** 30:47  
Excellent.  
That's super clear. Thank you. And a long question with a short answer. So they're always, they're always good. OK, will you support projects that work to prevent abuse as well as towards helping to rebuild lives following abuse?

 **Ella Davey** 30:55  
Hmm.  
Yes, so.  
Because this grant is a running cost grant it, it doesn't mean that you could use the funding to cover those costs. However, in order for us to decide whether you're a good fit in the programme, the focus will be on the around the work which is supporting individuals who've experienced abuse or are experiencing abuse, rather than that prevention.

 **Steve Futter** 31:27  
OK.

 **Ella Davey** 31:28  
Tentative work, so the this this focus the focus of this fund isn't is not so much on preventative work. It's very much people who are experiencing abuse now or have experienced abuse.

 **Steve Futter** 31:40  
Fantastic. And as as sort of Rob explained, this is our our do we know we're dipping our toe into ground making this is our first sort of foray. There will be other programmes following and it may well be that we pick this up in another domestic abuse fund at a later time.  
OK, simple question here about our existing Henry Smith grant holders eligible to apply. I think we covered that, but it's probably worth reiterating.

 **Ella Davey** 32:05  
Yep. So it depends on where you are in your current grant. So if you're in the final year of your grant, then you are eligible to apply. And if you're not sure, then just get in touch and we'll have a look on the system and confirm whether in the final year or not.

 **Steve Futter** 32:09  
OK.  
Amazing. Thank you very much. Oh, an interesting one here would support for the whole family recover from recovering from domestic abuse be eligible.

 **Ella Davey** 32:31  
Yes, definitely whole family support will be eligible.

 **Steve Futter** 32:35  
Amazing. Thank you. Simple answer and then can the grant be used? Sorry. Can the grant be used as core funding? I think I'm right in saying that's the whole purpose of the grant.

 **Ella Davey** 32:47  
Yeah. So this is a running course. Grant can be used for core costs. It's a very, very light restriction. So you can even put it in your reserves. There are just a few things that you can't use it on around large capital redundancies. Actually I might be wrong about that one.  
It will be in the terms and conditions, but you could definitely use it on core costs.

 **Steve Futter** 33:09  
And this this aligns with the point that Rob was making in his in his contextual presentation around us, wanting to keep our funding as, as you know, open and flexible as as as possible. So it can be used, you know, to support the organisation delivering great work, you know, in the broadest sense.  
So it definitely aligns with that. OK, how much time will be required of successful organisations in coming together? Oh right, this is quite a good question, recognising that some funders like grantees to also engage in additional policy and campaigning work.

 **Ella Davey** 33:46  
Sorry, my sound cut out so I didn't actually cut catch half that question. Steve. Apologies. I've got poor network quality apparently now.

 **Steve Futter** 33:49  
Oh, that's OK.  
No, that's OK, that's fine.  
Well, let's let's see if we can. We can push through that as best we can. So, so same question, how much time will be required of successful organisations in coming together, recognising that some funders like grantees to also engage in additional policy and campaigning work.

 **Ella Davey** 33:58  
Yeah.

 **Steve Futter** 34:12  
Good question.

 **Ella Davey** 34:14  
Yes, definitely. That is one we're still currently thinking through as well. So we like the idea of doing some level of convening work and as kind of Rob outlined in the future strategy, we do have aims around this. However, there is no expectation for any organisations who.  
Apply for this grant and get this grant to engage with that. So we will have a conversation with each grant holder at the beginning of the grant to discuss what they want and how much interaction they want. So it's it's really down to the organisation and what what what you need and what you want.

 **Steve Futter** 34:52  
Excellent. So so I think that's really really positive response as as you know, so many organisations move into that sort of grants plus space. I think it does or can when not done, you know, despite the intentions but perhaps not done in the most sensitive way, it just puts additional burden on organisations where we're.  
Already very aware of the fact that they're working, you know, with very stretched sort of capacity at present. So we will respond to, you know to your needs and the way you want to work with us. So we'll be as flexible as we can on that point. OK. A question now about is this for both men and women who've been subject.  
To domestic violence.

 **Ella Davey** 35:34  
In terms of service users, yes, this grant is open to individuals of all gender and none we are. We aren't. It's not a gender specific fund at all, no.

 **Steve Futter** 35:44  
Fantastic. Thank you for. Thank you for clarifying. Yeah, again, I think we kind of touched on this in terms of access support, but let me let me read the question out. So will there be any accessibility measures in relation to the application form please? For example, would it be possible to easily download a copy?  
Fill in offline.

 **Ella Davey** 36:07  
Yes. So on the website, there are word documents that are downloadable of all stages of the application form so that you can download and fill it in, though it doesn't have to be submitted by the portal, but we can obviously help if there's any issues regarding that.

 **Steve Futter** 36:13  
Mm-hmm.

 **Ella Davey** 36:25  
In addition to that, there is a grant at both stages of the application, so the expression of interest stage and then if you make it through to the second stage there's additional grant there for people to access anything they need around accessibility. So you just get in touch with us, there's the steps are outlined in the bottom of the guidelines.  
Yeah.

 **Steve Futter** 36:46  
That's great. And there's some something that that's that's new in this particular, not this particular funding programme, but this round of programmes, all three offer the the access support and, as Ella said, it's it's all there in the guidance. So I'll have a read and if if it's going to be useful to you, please do. Please do get in touch.  
Excellent. OK. So slightly technical question now. So I hope your your sound holds up for this Ella, but we it's saying we are an organisation with 50% black and minority ethnic trustees and staff and have been running a specialist domestic abuse project for over 10 years.  
However, none of our staff or trustees have lived domestic abuse experience brackets, although our beneficiaries who input into service delivery and design do. Would this disqualifier?

 **Ella Davey** 37:37  
No, this would not disqualify you. So when we're talking about led by four, we are specifically referring to those communities rather than having lived experience of domestic abuse. Yeah, so, so your organisation would be eligible. But again, if anyone's not sure.

 **Steve Futter** 37:48  
OK.

 **Ella Davey** 37:55  
Just get in touch and we can unpick it with you.

 **Steve Futter** 37:58  
Fantastic. And also you know please do go back to the website. Have a read through the guidance and the FAQs and they'll be updated over the coming days with relevant answers to questions raised today. OK. So Kira Day has posted a question that's had 7UP votes.  
But it seems to have been passed over, so apologies for that, but we can pick that one up. Now it's saying if you're a bigger organisation with smaller by and for specialised services for particular minorities or groups, can you apply on behalf of those elements of your service?

 **Ella Davey** 38:33  
Unfortunately no. It really if the big organisation is not led by and for, you would be ineligible. Yeah, we we've talked about this. We're aware that there are some larger organisations that do have services that are really specialised. However, at this moment in time, the programme is for the.

 **Steve Futter** 38:39  
Yeah.

 **Ella Davey** 38:53  
Led by and for organisation. So it's really key that your trustees are from the community. Your staff are from the community.

 **Steve Futter** 38:59  
Excellent. Thank you for clarifying. And we talked a bit about this in your presentation around the strong track record. And then the question really is saying what sort of evidence do you most value to demonstrate this?  
Is it case studies data on outcomes service use testimonials or or or partnership records? Because I guess there's a number of different ways of of evidencing that strong track record.

 **Ella Davey** 39:17  
Yeah.  
Yeah. And I would, it's a good question. I wouldn't say at the moment we've necessary specifically thought about the different ways it could be evidenced. But what I would say is.  
All the ways you've mentioned definitely demonstrate it. A lot of the ways we can we can tell is by having a look at your account, things like that. So we can we can see how long you've been delivering it for. I really think to demonstrate is a trunk track track record. It's it's showing that you do understand the needs of community and showing that you are.

 **Steve Futter** 39:41  
Yeah.  
Right.

 **Ella Davey** 39:57  
Are well embedded and it might also be saying things like our services started in X year or you've been delivering services for like 20 years, things like that. So it doesn't need to be a really.

 **Steve Futter** 40:08  
OK.

 **Ella Davey** 40:12  
You don't need to provide lots of evidence in order to be able to demonstrate it is what I'm trying to say. It's the kind of thing that can be also picked up in the way you talk about the services, but we can also pick it up from from other areas.

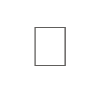
 **Steve Futter** 40:17  
OK.  
Fantastic. OK. Well, we're just coming up to quarter to the hour and I think I'll take a couple more questions and then give your your voice, my voice and our interpreters arms a bit of a rest and draw things to a close, but.  
There's there's there's a question here which is quite a quite interesting sort of couple few uploads. And let me let me pose this one. So will this fund cover sexual violence work outside of domestic abuse?

 **Ella Davey** 40:58  
Unfortunately not. So if if if supporting individual sexual violence is part of your organisation, wider support in addition to domestic abuse, then yes. But if your work is purely focused on supporting individuals who've experienced sexual abuse, then unfortunately this is.  
Not the right grants programme for you.

 **Steve Futter** 41:20  
But to watch this space and I'd suggest to to anyone who's who's watching today, if they're still here, where this fund is not necessarily for them, do register for the newsletter on our website and you will receive automatic notifications as and when new funds are launched.  
OK, so I've got one more question and apologies if you covered this in your presentation, but it's I guess it's important to say we're trying to work with the 20 organisations that ultimately secure the funds as a cohort. When are the, when are the grants actually going to start? What's our current thinking around?  
Yeah.

 **Ella Davey** 41:58  
Yes. So all the grants are going to start on the same date. So they'll all start on the 1st of February and that's including, if you are a current Henry Smith, grant Holder, even if your grants not come to an end yet, you will still receive this new grant on the 1st of February. So it's kind of to have everyone going through the grant together at the same time.

 **Steve Futter** 42:17  
Amazing. Brilliant. Thank you so much for clear for clarifying that it's really appreciated. OK. So I think that brings us to the end of the session now and thank you all so much for taking the time to attend. I hope you found it useful and informative as well.  
Remember, the fund goes live tomorrow at 9:00 in the morning, and the expression of interest phase will close at 5:00 PM on the 10th of September. And I know I've mentioned it a few times, but pretty much everything we've covered in this webinar today can be found in the fund guidelines and the FAQs under the domestic abuse grant section.  
Of our website, we'll also be uploading a video of this webinar and a transcript to our website in the coming days. So do keep an eye out for that. And lastly, and as Ella's mentioned a few times, please don't hesitate to get in touch if you've got any further questions.  
So thanks again to Ella and Rob, our interpreters, and also the entire behind the scenes team, and thanks for keeping the questions coming in. It's been really appreciated and we'll look out for your applications in due course and have a good afternoon.  
Thanks again bye.

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