

MOPAC

MAYOR OF LONDON
OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME

The London
Community
Foundation

VAWG Cost of Living Fund

March 2023



Who are we?

The London Community Foundation specialises in supporting community-based organisations focused on helping disadvantaged London.

Donor-advised model: 60+ funds managed on behalf of public sector, corporate and individuals.

In 2020/21, we awarded almost £22.6 million through 1,321 grants (£13.4 million through COVID-19 response).

We believe in
a strong and
vibrant London

We support
those best
placed to
make an
impact locally

We identify change
makers in the community,
and champion grassroots
initiatives, taking a
community development
approach to
grant-making

M O P A C

MAYOR OF LONDON

OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME

The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) is responsible for policing in the capital by delivering the Mayor's Police and Crime plan which sets out priorities for a safer city.

The Police and Crime plan sets out the key priorities, which are:

- Reducing and preventing violence
- Increasing trust and confidence
- Better supporting victims of crime
- Protecting people from being exploited or harmed



About the fund

- This £1million cost of living fund is being launched by the Mayor of London to immediately support vital Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) services, in response to organisations tackling VAWG in London reporting that the cost-of-living crisis is disproportionately impacting women and girls
- Services are reporting an increased need for financial support for basic items such as food and travel, as well as rising costs of household bills and accommodation. There are also increasing reports of women affected by VAWG advising of financial-related barriers preventing them from being able to leave abusive relationships and/or households, resulting in them continuing to be at risk of harm.

Fund criteria

This Fund will provide to community-based organisations tackling VAWG in London, enabling organisations to respond to the immediate impacts of the cost of living crisis on the women and girls they support in their communities.

- Total budget is £1,000,000
- Grants are available from £10,000 to a maximum of £30,000
- We will fund organisations with a **maximum total annual income of up to £500,000** (and recommend you apply for no more than 50% of your annual income)
- Grants can be spent within **6 months** of grant award date
- Applications are welcome from organisations based in **any London borough**
- Organisations must be responding to the **immediate impacts of the cost-of-living crisis on the women and girls affected by VAWG** that you support
- All posts (including staff members, sessional, freelance workers) funded by these grants **must be paid at or above the London Living Wage** (currently £11.95/hour)
- This fund will not give grants directly to individuals; however, we can fund organisations planning to provide cash grants or vouchers to individuals of up to £500 per individual.

Fund criteria

- Organisations must be responding to the **immediate impacts of the cost-of-living crisis on the women and girls affected by VAWG** that you support.
- The core aims of this fund is to **address the immediate needs of women and girls affected by VAWG**. Examples of eligible direct support costs include:
 - food security
 - essential items for women and girls, and/or their children
 - emergency hardship grants (up to £500 per individual)
 - supporting access to services (for example travel to attend appointments, access to technology such as smart phones or a computer)
 - access to: legal, financial, welfare, housing advice
 - counselling and therapeutic support
- **Core costs.** As well as funding direct support to women and girls, part of the grant can be used to support your organisation's core costs. For example: salaries, rent and bills, additional staffing capacity (up to a maximum of 50% of total application amount)

Fund priorities

- Preference will be given to specialist VAWG services supporting women and girls who are likely to be disproportionately impacted by the cost of living crisis as a result of systemic inequality. **This means at least 80% of trustees and staff are from the protected characteristic the organisation aims to work with**
- Priority will be given to specialist led by and for VAWG services supporting the following groups of people as their primary beneficiaries:
 - Black women and girls and women and girls from minority ethnic backgrounds
 - Women and girls with disabilities
 - Neuro-diverse women and girls
 - LGBT+
 - Young women and girls
 - Older women
 - Women with no recourse to public funds (NRPF)Priority will also be considered for organisations whose work addresses the intersectionality of more than one of these priority groups.

Fund priorities

- If we have a high volume of applications, we will further prioritise:
 - organisations with an annual income of less than £300,000
 - those who operate in areas with higher levels of deprivation (based on the indices of multiple deprivation data)
 - We will also review the geographic location of applicants as part of the shortlisting process, taking into account the importance of ensuring a spread across different boroughs.

LCF's core eligibility criteria

- **Eligible legal structures** – signed governing document, charitable activities and registered charity, company limited by guarantee (without shares), community interest company limited by guarantee, trust, unincorporated organisation, community benefit societies.
- **Governance:** at least 3 unrelated trustees/directors. Up-to-date submissions to your regulatory authority and two years of net current assets
- **Bank account:** in the name of the organisation and two unrelated signatories
- **Safeguarding:** safeguarding policy reviewed in the last two years
- **Previous LCF funding:** no overdue conditions or monitoring (reporting)
- **Registration:** if the income for charitable purposes is more than £5,000 at the point of application

LCF's core eligibility criteria

Who and what are not eligible

- **Ineligible legal structures:**
 - Companies limited by shares (including CIC limited by shares)
 - Statutory organisations, such as local authorities
 - NHS bodies
 - Co-operative societies
- **Grants cannot be used for:**
 - Promoting religious or political views
 - For profit
 - Personal benefit
 - Spending that's already happened
 - Activities that exclude people on the basis of religion, sexual orientation, gender or ethnicity (unless the issue is group-specific)

How to apply – www.londoncf.org.uk

The London
Community
Foundation

About us ▾

Our impact ▾

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Apply ▾

Blog

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We know that the cost-of-living crisis is disproportionately impacting women and girls. Organisations tackling violence against women and girls (VAWG) are reporting an increased need for financial support for basic items such as food and travel, as well as rising costs of household bills and accommodation. The cumulative impact of the pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis has also compounded the structural inequalities affecting women and girls, with increasing reports financial-related barriers preventing women from being able to leave abusive relationships and/or households, resulting in them continuing to be at risk of harm

The £1 million VAWG Cost of Living Fund, which we are managing on behalf of the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC), will provide grants to community-based organisations tackling violence against women and girls in London to help them respond to this growing need.

Closing date: 04/04/2023

Theme: Women-led community organisations, Emergency response

Fund name: VAWG Cost of Living Fund

Borough: All London boroughs

Max. Grant size: £30,000

What can the fund support?

Themes

Organisations **must** be responding to the **immediate** impacts of the cost-of-living crisis on the women and girls affected by VAWG that you currently support, and those you will come to support during the course of the grant period. For example, supporting:

- food security

[Application form \(URL\)](#)

[Programme guidelines \(Word\)](#)

[Programme guidelines \(PDF\)](#)

Supporting Documents

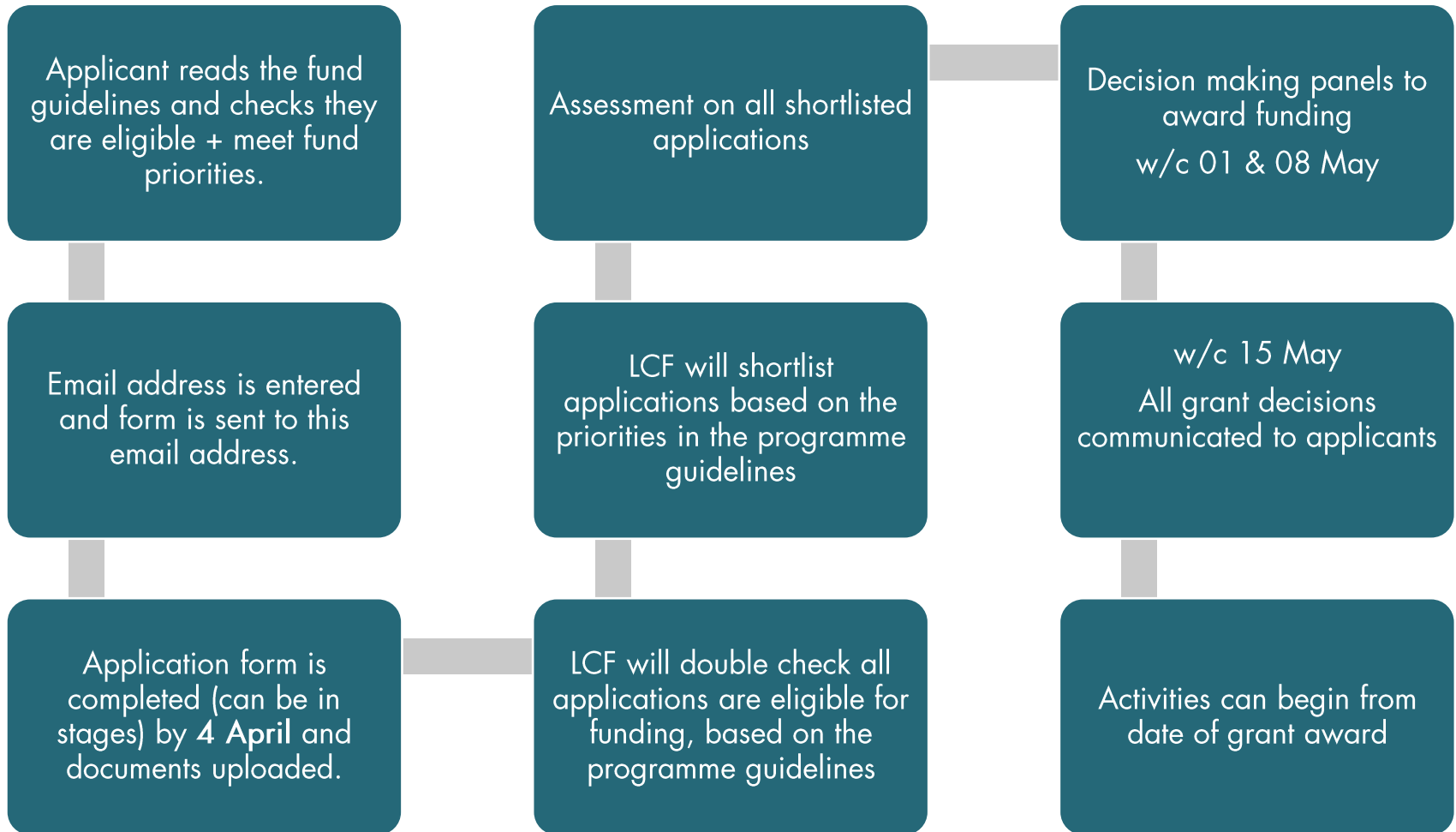
We can only accept your application if the following supporting documents are attached.

1. Organisation's signed **governing document**
2. Up to date **safeguarding policy** (must have been reviewed within the last 2 years)
3. **Annual accounts** for the last completed financial year (can be management accounts if your accounts are not yet signed off)

Please note that organisations which do not submit the required documentation at the time of application will not be considered for this fund.

If you have any problems with your submission, please contact us **before the deadline** at applications@londoncf.org.uk

The funding process



Reporting requirements

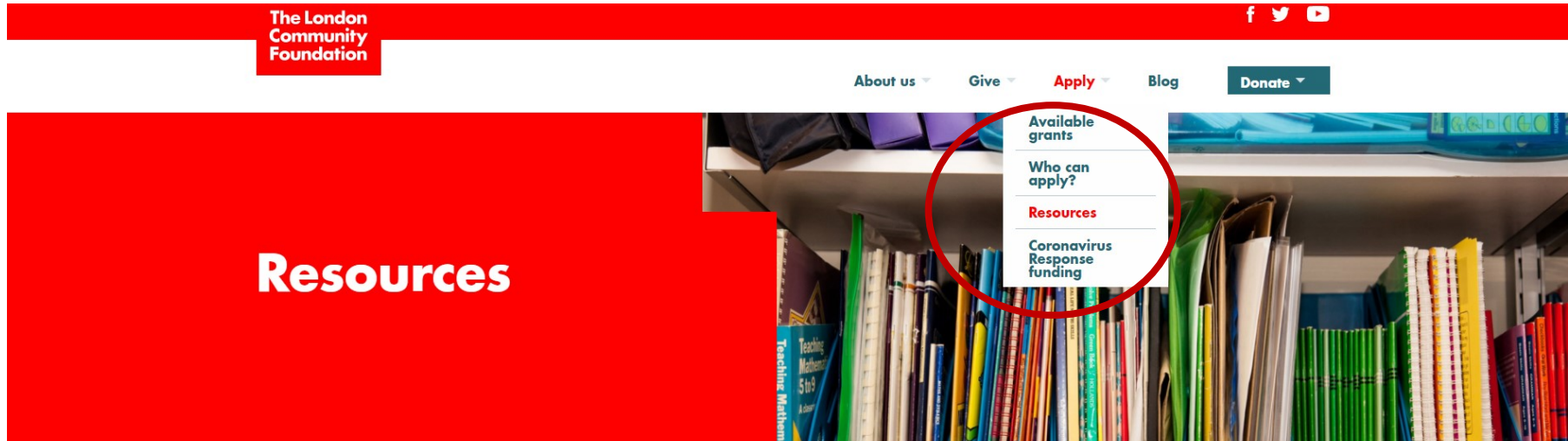
- **Flexible grants:**
 - For direct costs to support women and girls, you can change plans and redirect the funding as needed to respond to the crisis and can do this without having to formally request changes or wait for approvals. As long as it's focused on your work toward supporting victims-survivors of VAWG to respond to needs compounded by the current cost-of-living crisis, we trust you to make any changes needed.
 - For changes towards core costs, you will need to submit a change of expenditure request form for approval.
- Grants can be spent within **6 months** of grant award date: the short timeline reflects the fact that this is emergency response funding.
- Successful applicants will be required to report back on the impact of the funding awarded to them at the end of the grant period. As this is an emergency response fund, we aim to keep reporting requirements to a minimum.

A 'good' funding application

1. Clear fit for the purpose of the programme
2. Organisation with clear aims and presence
3. Good understanding of, and connection to, the community
4. Realistic plans and expertise to deliver
5. Achievable timeline
6. Solid evidence of need



Resources



Getting started

We hope you find these links and tools useful, exploring all aspects of setting up and running an organisation:

- Make sure to visit [Knowhow Nonprofit](#) (opens in a new window) for everything from an introduction to the voluntary sector and grant fundraising to how to write financial procedures.
- Check out the [Small Charities Coalition's guide](#) (opens in a new window) on how to set up a charity.
- [Look up your local 'Council for Voluntary Services' \(CVS\)](#) (opens in a new window) for free advice and guidance on setting up and developing your organisation. They also provide low-cost training and can advise on fundraising.

Fundraising

When it comes to securing funding, here are some places to check out to get started:

<https://londoncf.org.uk/apply/resources>

Keep up to date

<https://londoncf.org.uk/>

The screenshot shows the homepage of The London Community Foundation. At the top is a red navigation bar with the logo on the left and links for 'About us', 'Give', 'Apply', 'Blog', and 'Donate' on the right. Below the navigation bar is a 'Latest Tweets' section with two tweets from @London_cf. A red arrow points from the URL above to a red circle around the 'Sign up to our newsletter' link in the footer. The footer is divided into four columns: the London Community Foundation logo, 'Quick Links' (Publications, Jobs, Terms of use, Privacy and cookies, Accessibility), 'Connect with us' (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube), and 'Contact us' (address, phone, fax, email). The newsletter sign-up section is highlighted with a red circle and contains the text 'Sign up to our newsletter', 'Stay up to date with our latest news and grants by entering your email [here](#)', and logos for 'Living Wage' and 'FR Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR'. The bottom of the page contains a small copyright notice and the design credit 'Design: red-stone.com'.

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Latest Tweets

@London_cf: RT @Hopscotchawc: @London_cf has published an excellent piece on our work during the COVID crisis so far, and the adaptation we have had to... 3 hours ago
Reply Retweet Favourite

@London_cf: 🏠 #FUNDING EVENT! Amazing opportunity for small or new organisations. Info on: - Applying for #grants - How to ma...
<https://t.co/3BZhjTxK5B>
1 day ago
Reply Retweet Favourite

The London Community Foundation

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If you need to raise a complaint, please contact: complaints@londoncf.org.uk

Sign up to our newsletter
Stay up to date with our latest news and grants by entering your email [here](#)

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Design: red-stone.com

Any questions?
Thank you!

londoncf.org.uk
[@London_cf](https://twitter.com/London_cf)



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