

Frequently Asked Questions

MOPAC Victims Small Grants Fund 2027-2029

Questions raised at applicant information sessions on 2 and 5 October 2026

Please read this FAQ alongside the Fund Prospectus. The prospectus contains the full eligibility requirements, application guidance and timetable. If your question is specific to your organisation or proposed service, contact the Fund team at victims@londoncf.org.uk before submitting your application.

Choosing the right fund and eligible activity

1. Can an organisation apply to both the Victims Small Grants Fund and the VAWG Grassroots Fund?

Yes. An organisation may apply to both funds where it is seeking support for different activities, and each application clearly meets the priorities of the relevant fund. If applying for one project/activity an application should be submitted to the fund that is the best fit. If you are unsure which fund is the best fit, contact LCF before applying.

2. Which fund is appropriate for work relating to domestic abuse, sexual violence or sexual exploitation?

Work specifically for women and girls from minoritised and marginalised communities will be more suitable for an application to the VAWG Grassroots Fund. This includes the LGBT+ community where the organisation is specialist or where service users would feel more comfortable engaging with organisations working with women and girls. For example, a Middle Eastern led By and For organisations supporting a cohort of non-binary people affected by VAWG.

Child sexual abuse or exploitation services, and domestic abuse or sexual violence services that are not specifically for women and girls, may apply to the Victims Small Grants Fund. For example, work that includes men and boys may be eligible for the Victims Fund. This will also include the LGBT+ community where their service users are more comfortable engaging with organisations that work with men and boys.

If you're still unsure, get in touch and LCF can discuss the best fit.

3. Can a prevention organisation apply?

Possibly. Eligibility depends on the activity for which funding is requested, rather than the organisation being described as a prevention organisation. Proposed activities must directly benefit victims of crime. As set out in the prospectus, the Fund 'is designed to prioritise supporting small and specialist organisations delivering services for victims of crime'. We recognise that this may not always be straightforward and therefore, if you will undertake preventative work as part of your funded activity, please contact LCF to discuss the specific details of your proposal.

4. Can research projects be funded?

In principle, yes. A research proposal must demonstrate how the activity will benefit victims of crime, align with the Fund priorities and contribute to the Police and Crime Plan. Applicants considering a research project are encouraged to discuss the proposal with LCF before applying.

5. Can the Fund support prisoners or prison leavers who are also victims of crime?

Yes. People who have committed offences can be supported where the funded work clearly focuses on their experience and needs as victims of crime, including helping them cope with and recover from victimisation. Work focused solely on offending behaviour is not eligible.

6. Must a crime have been reported to the police before someone can use a funded service?

No. Funded services must be available regardless of whether or not the crime has been reported.

Organisation eligibility

7. Can a newly established organisation apply if it has limited or no filed accounts?

Yes. An organisation is not excluded because it has only one year of accounts or has not yet filed its first accounts. It should provide the financial information listed in the prospectus, such as available accounts, draft accounts and/or an income and expenditure statement. It should also use the application to explain its relevant delivery track record, including work undertaken before registration and the experience of directors, staff or partners.

8. Are Community Interest Companies eligible?

A Community Interest Company limited by guarantee may be eligible, subject to all other requirements. A Community Interest Company limited by shares is not eligible. The governing document must include an asset lock or equivalent provision, and funded activity must be charitable and not for profit.

9. Can an organisation working with a local authority apply if the council is not funding the work?

Yes. Working with a council does not prevent an application. Eligibility is based on the applicant's legal structure and the proposed activity; the organisation does not need to be funded by or affiliated with the council.

10. How will a service that sits within a larger institution be treated?

This depends on the legal and financial structure of the organisation. If the service is a separate eligible organisation in its own right, it may be considered on that basis. If it is not legally separate, LCF may need to consider the finances and structure of the umbrella organisation. Applicants in this position should contact LCF for advice before applying.

11. Are organisations with annual income above £500,000 eligible?

Yes. There is no absolute income threshold, but organisations with annual income below £500,000 will be prioritised. A larger organisation should demonstrate how it meets a gap or need that smaller specialist organisations are not currently able to meet. A well-designed partnership with a smaller specialist organisation may also be relevant where it adds clear value.

Grant amount, budget and part-funding

12. How much can an organisation apply for?

Grants are between £20,000 and £200,000 over two years, equivalent to £10,000 to £100,000 per year. Requests should be split evenly across the two grant years.

13. Is there a set allocation of grants at different award levels?

No. There is no fixed number of awards at any level between £10,000 and £100,000 per year. The final mix will depend on the applications received and how well they meet the Fund priorities. We anticipate supporting between 16 and 25 organisations.

14. How should the amount requested relate to the organisation's turnover?

There is no strict ratio, but the request must be proportionate to the organisation's annual income and delivery capacity. As a general guide given during the information session, LCF would not normally fund above the organisation's income in its most recent year and may expect the request to be lower. Applicants who are unsure what is proportionate should contact LCF before applying.

15. Can the Fund contribute towards a larger service or project?

Yes. An applicant may request funding for an identifiable proportion of a wider service.

16. Will you offer a grant that is less than has been requested in the application?

LCF's policy is to fund the full amount requested rather than make a reduced award that could leave the proposed activity undeliverable. The application should therefore request the amount genuinely required from this Fund and explain how the remaining costs will be met.

17. Can grant funding be used for core costs or an outcomes measurement system?

Yes. Full cost recovery is encouraged. Eligible organisational overheads can include systems, IT, cyber security measures, management, premises, finance, HR, insurance, training and related costs. Core costs must not exceed 50% of the request. Funding may contribute to an outcomes measurement or CRM system, provided the main focus remains benefit to victims of crime. Funded organisations will still need to submit monitoring in MOPAC's standard Excel format.

Applications and partnerships

18. How many applications can an organisation be involved in?

An organisation may submit one application either as a sole applicant or as the lead partner. It may also participate in one further application as a sub-partner. It cannot submit one sole application and a separate lead-partner application.

19. How many organisations can be involved in a partnership bid?

A partnership bid can include one lead applicant and up to two sub-partners. The partnership must have a clear rationale, add value to the service and explain how funding, roles and responsibilities will be shared. All partners must meet the eligibility requirements and provide the required supporting documents.

20. Are particular boroughs, age groups or communities guaranteed a set share of funding?

No. The Fund is seeking a spread of services across London, but it does not have fixed targets for particular boroughs, age groups, demographics or grant sizes. Applicants should use local evidence and knowledge to explain the need in the area and community they propose to serve, the barriers faced and the gap in current provision. The Fund specifically, but not exclusively, seeks to extend provision for the underserved groups listed in the prospectus.

21. What should applicants say about the Mayor's Police and Crime Plan?

Applications should explicitly explain how the proposed activity improves outcomes for victims and contributes to one or more relevant priorities in the Police and Crime Plan 2025-2029. The Plan's four overarching priorities are reducing violence and criminal exploitation, building safer and more confident communities, supporting and overseeing reform of the Metropolitan Police Service, and improving the criminal justice system and supporting victims. Applicants should make a specific link that is relevant to their activity, rather than simply naming the Plan.

Data, monitoring and application support

22. Are specific ICT or data-security systems required at application stage?

No particular CRM, database or ICT security system is prescribed. As a minimum, applicants must have policies and processes that operate within relevant legal requirements, including data protection. The controls in place will vary from organisation to organisation, depending on its size, capacity and the sensitivity of the data it processes. Costs to develop IT infrastructure may also be included, recognising that this is an area many organisations would like to strengthen.

Cyber Security Requirements

Applicants must have appropriate cyber security controls, policies and practices in place to protect systems, information and personal data. This should include documented evidence of cyber security awareness, such as relevant policies, staff training arrangements, incident

management processes, and information governance measures. The controls in place will vary from organisation to organisation, depending on its size, capacity and the sensitivity of the data it processes.

Organisations are expected to hold, or be willing to work towards obtaining, Cyber Essentials certification or equivalent as a minimum standard. Cyber Essentials Plus accreditation is encouraged where proportionate.

Where certification has not yet been achieved, reasonable costs associated with achieving Cyber Essentials or Cyber Essentials Plus are encouraged to be included within your application core costs budget. Cyber Essentials certification will not be considered a requirement at the shortlisting stage, however, if you have not budgeted for this, we will discuss this with you during the assessment process and there will be the opportunity to add this to your budget if needed.

23. What monitoring will funded organisations need to complete?

Funded organisations will provide quarterly quantitative returns using a standardised Excel template and annual narrative reports on progress, outcomes, learning and challenges. They will also be expected to participate in an independent evaluation. Monitoring information about service users must be aggregate and anonymised; identifiable service-user information should not be submitted. Case study submissions are also encouraged.

24. Will webinar slides or recordings be shared?

No. The slides and presentation content are covered in greater detail in the prospectus, so recordings and slide decks will not be published. This FAQ captures the additional questions raised during the sessions.

25. What should an applicant do if its circumstances or proposal are unusual?

Contact LCF before submitting the application. The team can discuss questions about organisational structure, financial information, which fund is the best fit, the scale of the request and whether a proposed activity meets the Fund priorities.

Key application information

- Application deadline: 2pm on Monday 2 November 2026.
- All required supporting documents must be received by the deadline. If documents cannot be uploaded, email them to the Fund team before 2pm.
- Fund period: February 2027 to January 2029.
- Contact: victimsfund@londoncf.org.uk | 020 7582 5117.
- Fund webpage: [Victims Small Grants Fund page](#)
- Mayor's Police and Crime Plan 2025-2029: [Police and Crime Plan 2025-2029](#)

Sources

Prepared from the MOPAC Victims Small Grants Fund 2027-2029 Prospectus, Information Session transcripts and Q&A reports dated 2 and 5 October 2026, and the Mayor's Police and Crime Plan 2025-2029. Where the information sessions provided a practical guide rather than a formal rule, this has been identified as guidance. The prospectus remains the definitive source for the Fund requirements.