

M O P A C

MAYOR OF LONDON
OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME

**The London
Community
Foundation**

Greater London Authority Safe Accommodation Grant Programme

Improving Psychologically Informed Environments

February 2023

Introduction

The Mayor of London is committed to ensuring that survivors of domestic abuse are able to access safe accommodation and support, whether they decide to stay in their home or leave.

The Mayor has a duty under Part 4 of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 to support survivors of domestic abuse and their children in safe accommodation. This duty includes undertaking a needs assessment, producing a strategy and commissioning services. The new duty comes with government funding - over £20m for London in 2022-23 from the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

The Greater London Authority (GLA) and the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) are working in partnership on the activities involved in delivering the duty.

The Mayor is commissioning a range of services to meet the safe accommodation needs of domestic abuse survivors. These services take forward the proposals in the Mayor's Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Strategy (which was informed by the London needs assessment), to increase the level and quality of provision for survivors and their children.

These services centre around five key policies as set out in the strategy:

- improving early intervention
- improving access to and the provision of safe crisis accommodation
- improving access to and the provision of second stage and move-on accommodation, and resettlement
- improving the quality of safe accommodation
- tackling overarching issues

Through this grant programme, the Mayor seeks to have a comprehensive and focused package of measures to improve the provision of safe accommodation to ensure that survivors of domestic abuse can access physically and psychologically safe spaces where they and their children can recover safely from abuse. He has therefore launched the Safe Accommodation – Improving Psychologically Informed Environments (PIE) grant programme.

About the Programme

The Mayor is seeking to have a comprehensive and focused package of measures to ensure that survivors of domestic abuse can access physically and psychologically safe spaces where they and their children can recover safely from abuse.

Psychologically informed services are those designed and delivered in a way that considers the emotional and psychological needs of the individuals using them and working in them. A PIE approach has five key elements:

- development of a psychological framework
- the physical environment and social spaces
- staff training and support
- managing relationships
- evaluation of outcomes

The Safe Accommodation – PIE grant programme will be open to applicants focusing on improving the physical environment and social spaces of existing safe accommodation operated by London's domestic abuse sector, including:

- spaces which recognise the impact of the environment on wellbeing and behaviour, such as noise, light, comfort, temperature, fabrics, colours, and aesthetics
- spaces which are safe and inviting for victim/survivors and where the internal building is in a good state of repair, looks cared for and is fit for purpose
- spaces which have fixtures and fittings that meet the needs of victims/survivors and their children

This programme has been established in recognition that the physical and psychological quality of safe accommodation has an impact on the recovery of survivors and their children. We also know that lack of high-quality safe accommodation provision can be a barrier for survivors leaving an abusive relationship as well as it being a reason they may return to their abuser. By focusing on improving safe accommodation provision, this grant programme will, therefore, aim to:

- support the right of victims/survivors to access physically and psychologically safe spaces where they and their children can recover safely from abuse, supported by services rooted in a rights-based, trauma-informed and gender-informed approach
- ensure that services are of a consistently high quality, in terms of both support and the accommodation provided, to enable victims/survivors to recover and rebuild

-
- ensure that safe accommodation should meet high quality standards, for both support services and accommodation, including those [standards produced by Imkaan/Women's Aid](#)
 - ensure commissioning processes and requirements do not disadvantage smaller and/or specialist providers, including 'by and for' providers, and must support these providers to build their capacity

Outcomes

The successful grants funded by the Safe Accommodation - PIE grant programme will result in:

- improved safe accommodation provision where victims/survivors can access physically and psychologically safe spaces to aid recovery
- improved quality of the fabric of existing refuges and other safe crisis accommodation
- safe accommodation provision maintained and refurbished to meet the needs of victims/survivors.

Funding Available

The total budget for this grant programme is £750,000.

Grant size

- Safe Accommodation – PIE grant programme services can apply for between £10,000 and £100,000
- Please note that only one application per organisation will be accepted, even of managing several sites across London

Grant duration

- 12 months
- activities that will improve existing spaces can begin in May 2023.

Grant purpose

- activities must improve **existing** safe accommodation spaces.

<p>Large scale capital project costs are not eligible for support from this programme.</p>
--

Examples of eligible and ineligible costs are outlined in the table below.

<i>Ineligible expenditure under this programme</i>	<i>Eligible expenditure directly related to existing safe accommodation improvements</i>
Acquisition or laying out of land (costs of site preparation)	Servicing
Land or Buildings purchase price (including import duties and non-refundable purchase taxes, after deducting trade discounts and rebates)	Labour (including training)
Professional fees directly attributable to the acquisition of an asset	Professional fees incurred as part of disposal of any asset
Replacement of significant part of existing asset (e.g. lift replacement, roof replacement)	Materials / Consumables /Furnishings
Major inspection/overhaul costs (where necessary to continue operating and restores benefits consumed – for example to comply with safety standards to allow the asset to remain operational)	Minor repairs and routine maintenance
Initial costs of testing whether the asset is functioning properly	Hire / Rental
Costs directly attributable to the construction or design of a building	Utilities
	Internal design and minor refurbishment works
	Advertising / Marketing
	Administration / Other overheads / Training costs/ Project management

Who can apply?

Only London-based services that take a PIE approach in managing their existing safe accommodation for survivors of domestic abuse and their children are eligible to apply for funding to support their service.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate that they are operating a PIE approach - these are services which are designed and delivered in a way that considers the emotional and psychological needs of the individuals using them and working in them.

As outlined above, a PIE approach has five key elements:

- Development of a psychological framework
- The physical environment and social spaces
- Staff training and support
- Managing relationships
- Evaluation of outcomes

In addition, applicant organisations must meet the requirements outlined in LCF's core eligibility criteria outlined below.

Preference will be given to organisations which are led by and are for communities experiencing inequity. By and for organisations for the purpose of this programme are defined as smaller grassroots organisations with a maximum turnover of £1.5m, that are rooted in, and led by, the communities that they serve. This includes communities of survivors who may or may not live in the same local area but who are connected by their social identity and shared concerns, e.g. a community of disabled women or a network of Black and minoritised survivors of VAWG. This means at least 80% of trustees and staff are from the protected characteristic the organisation aims to work with.

In line with this definition, this includes organisations:

- Specialist Black and minoritised organisations addressing VAWG;
- Women's community organisations delivering services to address VAWG as a core aspect of their work; and, or
- Specialist community organisations (e.g. disability rights groups providing services that address VAWG as a core aspect of their work or groups providing support for women engaged in prostitution)

LCF's core eligibility criteria

- Applications are welcome from organisations based in any London borough, whose services are supporting Londoners.
- **Eligible legal structures** – there must be a **signed** governing document in place appropriate to the legal structure which includes an asset lock (or equivalent clause), and the purpose of all funded activities must be charitable (not for profit):
 - Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
 - Company Limited by Guarantee (CLG) – may also be registered as a Charity or a Community Interest Company Limited by Guarantee (CICLG)

-
- Trust
 - Unincorporated Association
 - Community Benefit Societies (CBS). Ideally, the CBS will also be registered as charitable with HMRC, however this is not essential.

For this programme only, local authorities are also eligible to apply to support the PIE spaces they manage, in addition to the eligible legal structures outlined above.

- **Governance**
 - You must have at least three unrelated members legally responsible for the governance of the organisation; trustees/ directors/ management committee as appropriate to your structure. Please note that this refers to the highest level of governance, a management committee that sits below a board of trustees (e.g. charities, CIOs) or directors (CLG or CICLG) does not count towards this.
 - The organisation must have submitted required financial information **on time** to the Charity Commission/ Companies House for the last two completed financial years.
 - The organisation must not have two years of net current liabilities within the two most recent completed financial years.
- **Bank account:** a bank account in the same name as the organisation applying with a minimum of two unrelated signatories must be in place by the start of the grant.
- **Safeguarding:** you must have a **thorough** safeguarding policy in place that has been reviewed in the last two years.
- **Previous LCF funding:** all conditions from any previous grants from The London Community Foundation must have been met, and any monitoring that is past its due date must have been submitted on time at the point of application. We cannot fund an organisation with overdue monitoring, but we can fund organisations with future monitoring due on other LCF grants.
- **Registration:** if the income for charitable purposes is more than £5,000 at the point of application, organisations must have submitted an application to register with the Charity Commission or the relevant regulator (e.g. Companies House, CIC regulator or Financial Conduct Authority). If the LCF grant will take the organisation over £5,000, please visit [this website](#) for guidance on setting up a charity, including information on legal structures.

What is not eligible

- The following types of organisation are not eligible:

-
- Companies limited by shares (including CIC limited by shares)
 - NHS bodies
 - Co-operative societies
 - Grants cannot be used for:
 - activities that promote religious or political views
 - purely commercial ventures (for profit)
 - activities/spend that has already taken place (i.e. retrospective funding)
 - activities where people are excluded on the basis of religion, sexual orientation, gender or ethnicity (unless the issue is group-specific)
 - There must be no [personal benefit](#) attached to the grant.
 - Organisations where trustees are paid are not eligible unless evidence of Charity Commission approval for this is provided and/or this arrangement is referenced in the governing document.

How to apply

Applications will be completed online using [this form](#): If you need an application in an accessible format, please contact applications@londoncf.org.uk.

Some top tips for applications:

- Draft your responses before completing the online form and save them in a Word document.
- Make sure that every question has been answered in full - the form will prompt you.
- Ask somebody else to read through the application before submitting it, preferably someone who knows nothing about the organisation. This is a great way to pick up on any mistakes or lack of information and change it before submitting.

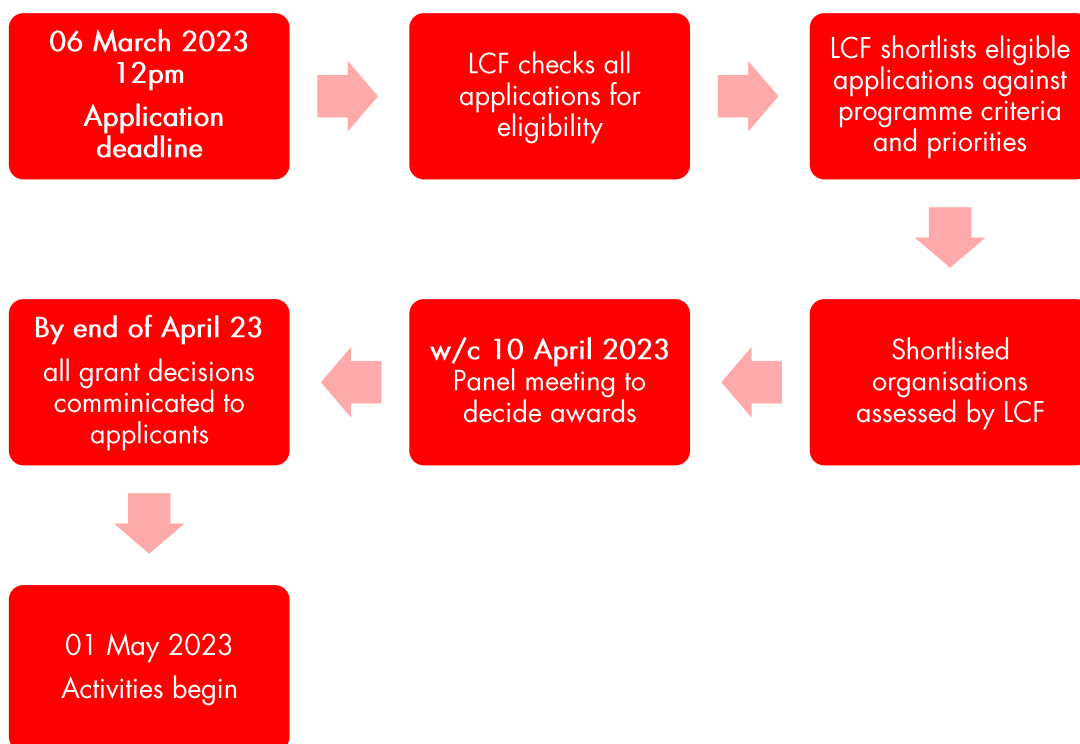
Please make sure you have submitted all of the required supporting documents:

1. Organisation's signed governing document
2. Up to date safeguarding policy - must have been reviewed within the last 2 years. For full details please view our checklist: [here](#).
3. Annual audited accounts for the last completed financial year
4. A statement of the organisation's cash flow forecast and budget for the current year
5. Evidence of public liability and employer's liability insurance
6. Financial Regulations (to include procurement rules)

Please note we are unable to consider applications submitted after the deadline or which do not have the relevant, up-to-date supporting documents submitted as part of their application.

Programme Timeline and Decision-making process

Programme Timeline	
Application deadline	06 March 2023 - 12pm
Shortlisting and Assessment period	06 March – w/c 03 April 2023
Panel Meeting	w/c 10 April 2023
All grant decisions communicated by	End of April 2023
Activities begin from	01 May 2023



Reporting requirements for Successful Applicants

Successful applicants will be required to report back on the impact of the funding awarded to them. This will include a quarterly monitoring form during the period of the grant and an end of grant monitoring form. Applicants are encouraged to account for the time and costs for reporting within their application. The format and detail of reporting required will be confirmed when grants are awarded.

Further information

Please contact applications@londoncf.org.uk or call us on 020 7582 5117 if you have any questions about the programme.

A frequently asked questions document is available:

<https://londoncf.org.uk/uploads/FAQs-Safe-Accommodation-PIE.pdf>

This will be updated regularly as and when we receive questions specific to this programme.

Unit 1.04 Piano House
9 Brighton Terrace
London SW9 8DJ
T +44 (0)20 7582 5117
F +44 (0)20 7582 4020
E info@londoncf.org.uk