



Home Office

## Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Intervention Fund 2023-25

### Prospectus

November 2022

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## Contents

Background and purpose of funding .....	3
The Offer .....	5
Eligibility.....	7
Essential Criteria .....	9
Contact details and further information .....	11

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## Background and purpose of funding

1. Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls<sup>1</sup> (VAWG) is a top Government priority. These crimes can have lasting and severe impacts on the physical and mental health of victims, their families, communities and the economy. According to the Crime Survey for England and Wales year ending March 2020, an estimated 2.3 million victims experienced domestic abuse in the last year<sup>2</sup>. Whilst both men and women can be victims of VAWG crimes, they disproportionately affect women and girls.
2. In 2021, the Domestic Abuse Act received Royal Assent. The 2021 Act established a general-purpose legal definition of domestic abuse which incorporates a range of abuses beyond physical violence – including emotional, controlling or coercive, sexual, and economic abuse. Additionally, on 8 July 2022, we published the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 Statutory Guidance to support implementation of the domestic abuse legal definition and convey best practice. The guidance is intended to support frontline professionals in identifying and understanding domestic abuse, as well as its impact on victims. It encourages best practice in the response of various agencies and organisations, including employers.
3. In 2020/21 the Home Office issued the first iteration ‘Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme Fund’ totalling over £7m, which aimed to increase the availability of domestic abuse perpetrator interventions, and a particular focus on rolling out the Drive Project. The Fund had the overall aim of improving safety of victims by reducing the risk posed by perpetrators. A secondary ambition of this fund was to improve our understanding of “what works” in this space and encouraged innovation by allowing space for PCCs to introduce new approaches to perpetrators to their local areas. Our second £11m fund which launched in 21/22 placed specific focus on children and adolescents displaying (potentially) problematic behaviour towards their parents/carers, as well as interventions specifically for perpetrators of stalking. These projects were required to be supported by evaluations to help build the evidence base.
4. To build on our work to date, we state our ambition in the Tackling Domestic Abuse Plan to invest in, and evaluate, perpetrator interventions as these are critical to reducing the risk posed by the perpetrator (including through changing behaviour) and understanding how to prevent these individuals reoffending in future. In order to help achieve this, the Home Office has committed to investing £75 million over three years into tackling

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<sup>1</sup> The term ‘violence against women and girls’ refers to acts of violence or abuse that disproportionately affect women and girls. Crimes and behaviours covered by this term include rape and other sexual offences, domestic abuse, stalking, ‘honour’-based abuse (including female genital mutilation, forced marriage, and ‘honour’ killings), as well as many others, including offences committed online. While we use the term ‘violence against women and girls’, this refers to all victims of any of these offences, including men and boys.

<sup>2</sup> [Domestic abuse prevalence and trends, England and Wales – Office for National Statistics](#)

domestic abuse perpetrators. It is from this funding we will further support the rollout and delivery of quality interventions nationally via the Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Intervention Fund 2023-25, henceforth referred to as 'The Fund'.

5. The aim of the Fund is to increase availability of interventions for perpetrators of domestic abuse, with the ultimate aim of reducing reoffending and protecting victims and survivors and their children. We will be specifically looking for evidence of the following objectives:
  - Sustained reduction, frequency, and gravity of abuse;
  - Reduction in risk posed by the perpetrator;
  - Improved safety, and feelings of safety, for any associated victims and their children.
6. In addition, we are seeking bids that demonstrate how they contribute to one, several or all of the following programme-level outcomes (that will feed into the strategic level outcomes captured in the Domestic Abuse Plan Theory of Change):
  - Improving the availability of interventions targeted at perpetrators of domestic abuse;
  - Improving the evaluation of perpetrator-focussed interventions;
  - Improving collaboration and joint-working in the provision of perpetrator interventions and the protection of victims.
7. The Fund brings together the elements of:
  - a) the need to understand what activities best prevent abuse and deploying them at the right time to the right individual;
  - b) that addressing or intervening to disrupt perpetrators' abusive behaviour is key to achieving substantial levels of prevention; and
  - c) that in combination this can help us to drive down prevalence of domestic abuse.

This Fund will drive activity identified in the Theory of Change<sup>3</sup> (ToC), underpinning both the 2021 Tackling VAWG Strategy and 2022 Tackling Domestic Abuse Plan, to deliver targeted impacts. This programme of investment will deliver activities aligned to the Pursuing Perpetrators and Prioritising Prevention strategic pillars.

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<sup>3</sup> A theory of change is a logical change process which explains how an intervention would deliver its intended benefits.

## The Offer

8. The Home Office are looking to award funding for Police and Crime Commissioners to provide interventions for domestic abuse and stalking perpetrators. With this funding we expect PCCs to work with delivery partners to plan, implement and monitor projects to deliver targeted outcomes that align with objectives in the 2021 Tackling VAWG Strategy and the 2022 Tackling Domestic Abuse Plan.
9. **This will be delivered within the total budget of up to £36,290,000 over two years (1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 - 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025), broken down to up to £18,145,000 per financial year. Applicants will be awarded the same amount of funding per annum for continuation of the same activity.**
10. Domestic abuse perpetrator interventions in this context can be defined as:
  - i. **Early responses:** *This covers work that is a step before long term behaviour change – it may involve group or one to one work to provide information about domestic abuse, and/or to motivate perpetrators to consider a behaviour change programme. These are usually shorter-term interventions.*
  - ii. **Behaviour change work:** *For those where abuse has become an ongoing pattern, longer term interventions offer the possibility of rethinking and changing how they relate to others. Often combined with risk and needs assessment, individual one to one work where needed, case management and multi-agency processes.*
  - iii. **Intensive multi-agency case management:** *Has emerged to work with ‘high harm, high risk’ cases identified by police on the basis of repeat call outs and/or multiple victims but could also cover other harm and risk levels. The key characteristic is direct work backed up by a systems response - the coordination of agency responses, it can also include individual one to one work.*
11. Interventions that cover children and adolescent to parent violence and abuse (CAPVA) and stalking interventions for perpetrators who may fall outside the domestic abuse act definition of ‘personally connected’ are also **in scope** of this Fund.
12. It should be noted that for financial year 2024-25 we can only provide indicative values and the renewal of grant agreements will be dependent on achievement of annual milestones, consideration of value-for-money and the assessment of in-year monitoring. Bids should include proposals for the two-year period of the fund. Each year will have minimum bid value of £300,000.

13. Grant payments will be made quarterly in arrears, and grant recipients will be required to provide quarterly monitoring reports.
14. All bids will be assessed on their own merit and in accordance with the evaluation criteria that will be clearly explained in this and other competition documentation.

### **Partnership and consortium bids**

15. Partnership bids (two or more PCCs submitting a combined bid) are encouraged but not mandatory, to reduce the risk of siloed working, support with administration and delivery assurance and promote sharing of best practice<sup>4</sup>. They may also assist smaller force areas to access the funding, as the minimum bid values consider the consortium bid value, not the value allocated to each entity within a partnership.
16. A partnership must have a Lead Partner. The Lead Partner must be authorised in writing by each of the other members of the partnership to a) provide the response to the tender process and b) submit the bid on behalf of any partnership. It will be the Lead Partner's responsibility to ensure that contractual/grant policies are upheld by all partners delivering interventions and activities under this grant, including quarterly reporting.
17. The Home Office will award the funding to the Lead Partner of any partnership/consortium. Therefore, organisations should have their own financial arrangements agreed between each other and will be required to outline this as part of the application process.
18. All interventions will be delivered in collaboration with partner organisations and clear arrangements will need to be put in place with local partners which take into account the collaboration and joined-up work necessary for delivery.

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<sup>4</sup> However, organisations can choose to bid on their own without a consortium or partnership.

## Eligibility

19. Projects must be based and deliver in England and/or Wales.
20. Applicants must be Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) who will be the lead delivery partner for any onward commissioning. PCCs will be responsible for delivery assurance and reporting for their bid.
21. PCCs can submit more than one bid but up to a maximum of three and we would expect only a single project per bid if a PCC were submitting multiple bids. The reason for this is to allow PCCs greatest opportunity to advocate for their projects (as opposed discussing them in a portfolio) whilst supporting the Home Office when evaluating to best understand the project plans and targeted outcomes. Consortia can likewise submit more than one bid. This is not, however, mandatory, and if PCCs feel a bid covering multiple projects would better describe a holistic portfolio (potentially advocating it being greater than the sum of its parts) this is also acceptable. Irrespective of the approach, PCCs or consortia will only be provided a single grant which, if relevant, will contain all successful bids/projects. This is also the case if a PCC puts in a successful solo bid and is also part of a successful consortium as we would bring the solo bid into the consortium grant: As this is the case, PCCs who submit both solo bids and are part of a consortium bid, if they are not the Lead Partner of the consortium, must be content with the fact their solo bid would be managed through the same grant as the consortium.
22. As interventions will be delivered in collaboration with partner organisations, clear arrangements will need to be put in place with local partners which take into account the collaboration and joined-up work necessary for delivery. Delivery partners must agree to the proposal submitted and be prepared to deliver to the timelines in the bid should the bid be successful.
23. Applicants must demonstrate suitable evidence to endorse the interventions they are proposing their partners deliver.
24. Applicants must be able to provide evidence of their ability to deliver suitable interventions for perpetrators. We would also welcome evidence of ability to work with perpetrators with specific vulnerabilities, additional needs and/or barriers.
25. Applicants must be able and willing to work with an independent evaluator appointed to deliver the Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Intervention Fund, if the Home Office choose to appoint one. A cooperation agreement will be outlined in the grant agreement signed by PCCs. This is to allow robust monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness of the Grant Stream as a whole (not effectiveness of individual projects).
26. Bids must comply with Home Office financial guidelines.
27. Bids must demonstrate how the organisation will spend the whole of the funding within the funding period for which it is allocated.

28. Successful bidders must be transparent in relation to grant use, as this is part of the Government's agenda concerning using public funds. All grant funding will be registered on the Government Grant Information System.
29. Organisations must bid for a minimum bid value<sup>5</sup> of £300,000 per annum. The maximum value per bid is £1,000,000.00 per annum.
30. Match funding (or match funding in kind) must be provided for between 25% and 100% of the grant value. Match funding will be part of the scoring criteria used for the bids.
31. If bids include working with families, involving children and young people, applicants must explain arrangements for safeguarding as part of their planned activities. NSPCC Safeguarding and Child Protection Standards for the Voluntary and Community Sector is a good resource.

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<sup>5</sup> The minimum bid value has been considered at length and is there to balance the competing requirements of having a coherent portfolio that can be effectively managed versus ensuring smaller organisations can bid. Consortium and partnership bids (which we strongly encourage) also effectively removes the minimum bid value for individual organisations within the consortium/partnership as the minimum value is considered against the entire bid.



## Essential Criteria

32. Applicants must be able to provide evidence of their ability to deliver suitable interventions for perpetrators of domestic abuse.
33. All successful bidders will be expected to work together where required to enable successful delivery and evaluation. All delivery partners will be expected to dedicate staff resource to promote real-time learning and knowledge sharing activities, such as attending roundtables.
34. PCCs must demonstrate in their bids their ability to robustly monitor the delivery of their partners interventions, setting out clear inputs, outputs and outcomes. PCCs must also be able to evidence how value-for-money<sup>6</sup> will be achieved.
35. Bids will need to demonstrate how they meet each of the below essential criteria in order to proceed.
- Put the safety of victim - survivors and their children at the centre of any intervention. It is critical that there is adequately resourced specialist support for associated victims alongside any perpetrator interventions. Bidders must demonstrate that such provision is already in place and will be integrated into delivery, or account for it as part of their bids.
  - Show value for money.
  - A clear theory of change for proposed interventions.
  - Consider risks and assumptions underpinning delivery.
  - Demonstrate an understanding of the potential benefits but also potential harms that interventions may cause (i.e. unintended consequences) and have clear plans for how these latter will be avoided.
  - Be deliverable, sustainable and scalable.<sup>7</sup>
  - Enable data and information sharing with other providers in the framework, the Home Office, and other organisations where appropriate (e.g. charitable and third sector organisations).
  - Align with the guidance and principles of the National Statement of Expectations, VAWG Commissioning Toolkit and Domestic Abuse Statutory Guidance (where applicable).
  - Demonstrate working successfully with other organisations.

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<sup>6</sup> Value for money will not be taken to mean the lowest unit cost - the full cost implications and savings of a service will be considered, recognising, for example, that specialist by-and-for services may have a higher unit cost but deliver support in a way that others cannot, and which can reduce costs to other services further down the line.

<sup>7</sup> By 'scalable' we mean that relevant proposed projects, given the prevalence of associated crimes, must theoretically be able to scale up to support a significantly greater cohort than supported through funding. What we do not mean by scalable is the HO selectively choosing only elements of any given proposal to fund (effectively scaling down an overall proposal.)

- Will improve understanding of the most effective interventions, including suitable measures to assess outcomes.
- Projects will be expected to meet the needs of the local population, both in terms of demand and accessibility.

36. Applicants will also be expected to submit a document on a Home Office supplied template ('Delivery Proposal Document') to support their application containing more detail about the bid. Where applicable, the Delivery Proposal Document will set out how the bid will align with Home Office policy (e.g. the Tackling Domestic Abuse Plan) during implementation and delivery. The Delivery Proposal Document should be used to support the application but will not be assessed.

37. Bids must demonstrate a commitment and ability to undertake work, as part of this grant, in accordance with safeguarding best practice. If any applicant proposes to work directly with victims or survivors or their personal data, they must clearly demonstrate how they will need relevant ethical, safeguarding and regulatory obligations.

38. We will prioritise bids that demonstrate how projects will be sustained and implemented into the local landscape beyond the end of the funding and match funding periods.

## Contact details and further information

Please email: [DAperpetratorfund@homeoffice.gov.uk](mailto:DAperpetratorfund@homeoffice.gov.uk) for:

- General fund queries
- Registrations with Jaggaer
- Already registered but would like to be aligned with the funding stream

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