



Glasgow City Council

City Administration Committee

**Report by Councillor Anne McTaggart, City Convener for
Communities and Equalities**

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Item 2

5th December 2024

**Glasgow Communities Fund – Interim Funding Proposal - Violence Against
Women and Girls**

Purpose of Report:

To provide recommendations for funding from the Glasgow Communities Fund to meet a gap in provision for services to women and children following the closure of Glasgow East Women's Aid.

Recommendations:

Committee is invited to:

- Note the report;
- Agree the City Administration Committee as the approving body for sector awards from the Glasgow Communities Fund 2023-26; and
- Approve the recommendations for funding from the Glasgow Communities Fund in 2024/25 and 2025/26 as detailed in paragraph 5.8. of this report.

Ward No(s): 9, 17,18,19,20,21, 22

Citywide:

Local member(s) advised: Yes No consulted: Yes No

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 On 19 January 2023, the North East Sector Partnership awarded funding of £140,146 per annum from the Glasgow Communities Fund (GCF) 2023-26 to Glasgow East Women's Aid (GEWA) to deliver person centred therapeutic support for women who have experienced domestic abuse and exploitation.
- 1.2 In September 2023, officers were advised of management and governance issues within GEWA which resulted in the suspension of services by GEWA and the subsequent liquidation of the organisation.
- 1.3 This report (a) provides background to the closure of Glasgow East Women's Aid (GEWA), and the steps taken to identify and address the consequential gaps in provision and (b) recommends a process to award funds from the unallocated GCF monies originally awarded to GEWA to be used to meet the needs of women and children in the North East sector of the city.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 During the period of the suspension of services by GEWA, officers worked in partnership with colleagues from HSCP and other funders to support the GEWA Board. However, at the end of February 2024 the Board issued a statement advising that they had applied to liquidate the organisation and the charity was subsequently dissolved in March 2024.
- 2.3 In line with the Council's Standard Terms and Conditions of Funding, payment to GEWA was suspended in September 2023 as no GCF funded services were being delivered by GEWA.
- 2.4 The Glasgow HSCP facilitated regular discussions with all funders (the Council, HSCP, The National Lottery Communities Team, Inspiring Scotland, the Robertson Trust, Corra Foundation and the Henry Smith Foundation) to agree the best approach to meet the gap in provision within the North East, linking in with the Violence Against Women Partnership.

3.0 Scoping exercise

- 3.1 To better understand the challenges and demands on existing front line service provision for women in the North East sector and across the City, funders collectively agreed to undertake a small scale survey with four key organisations to explore any increased demand, current challenges, ability to build capacity of existing service provision and consider unmet needs and gaps.
- 3.2 The four organisations identified were The Daisy Project, Aberlour, Glasgow Women's Aid and Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid, all of which are currently funded by the GCF. The 4 organisations all currently deliver projects that provide a range of support, signposting, counselling, advocacy, group work and refuge services for women, children and young people living with or

fleeing domestic abuse. Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid provide specific support for women from minority ethnic communities.

3.3 The survey responses provided an in-depth overview of current service provision within the city, as detailed below:

- Crisis Support & Drop In
- Independent Domestic Abuse Advocacy (IDAA)
- Services for Minority Ethnic Women
- Outreach Service
- Group Work and Wellbeing Support
- Other Services - Play therapy; peer support groups; court ordered contact groups; Enough Service for young women experiencing domestic abuse in their relationships; Outreach Drop-in Service, domestic abuse training.

3.4 All services reported the operation of waiting lists and some reported increased contact from women in the North East of the city following the closure of GEWA. Crisis support services and IDAA services were identified as an immediate area of unmet need.

3.5 The survey responses pointed to a gap in provision for specialist domestic abuse services for women, children and young people in Glasgow. If funding was available, the priority areas for funding would be increased availability of crisis support services, development of IDAA services to support women until risk reduces, access to safety and wellbeing and group work to support recovery and healing for women, children and young people.

3.6 It is evident from the survey responses that services could and would make good use of any additional funding available.

3.7 In addition to the small scale survey, the Council, HSCP and Inspiring Scotland agreed to meet the cost of funding research to determine service provision gaps and needs from the perspective of services and service users. A procurement process was led by Inspiring Scotland, resulting in the engagement of Social Value Lab to undertake the research, with a focus on the North East of the city.

3.8 It is intended that the outcome of the research will inform policymakers, funders and planners and support considerations around future service provision for women, children and young people experiencing gender based violence. The final report is expected in February 2025 and will be used to inform the assessment process for GCF Phase 3.

4. GCF award allocation process

4.1 The Glasgow Community Planning Partnership (GCPP) Strategic Partnership, on [13 February 2024](#), withdrew the Sector Partnerships from its Governance Framework. As a result, consideration is required as to how in year awards can be made from the GCF in 2023-26 for funding previously approved by Sector Community Planning Partnerships.

4.2 In view of the change to the GCPP Governance framework, it is recommended that the City Administration Committee assume the role of approving body for sector awards from the GCF during 2023-26.

5.0 Proposals to meet service gaps

5.1 Following the survey, Inspiring Scotland approached Aberlour to work with them to deliver the outcomes that GEWA was previously funded to deliver.

5.2 Following discussions and project monitoring with Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid, it is considered by officers that the organisation does not currently have the capacity to scale up their operations to meet service needs in the North East. Officers are considering how existing pathways to providing culturally sensitive support to minority ethnic women and children can be accessed by the two organisations being recommended for funding, as set out in paragraphs 5.4 and 5.5 below.

5.3 Following discussions with both Glasgow Women's Aid and The Daisy Project, both organisations were invited to submit interim proposals to meet the needs of women and children in the North East of the city. A summary of each proposal is provided below:

5.4 The DAISY Project

5.4.1 The Daisy Project is seeking £14,116 in 2024/25 and £48,392 in 2025/26 to fund a 21 hour per week Project IDAA Worker and 30 hours per week sessional workers, as well as a small contribution towards operational costs. The project will deliver an IDAA outreach service in the North East sector, providing high quality, high impact support for women struggling to overcome immediate and long term impact of domestic abuse.

5.4.2 The DAISY Project offers a unique model of service which operates at a grass roots level, providing intense and medium to long term support to families affected by domestic abuse. All workers are professionally qualified IDAAs and have the knowledge and skills to offer a consistent, safe and effective response to high risk victims of domestic abuse.

5.4.3 The DAISY Project will facilitate group activities and general practical support provided by a pool of sessional workers, recruited from women who are DAISY survivors of domestic abuse and ready to take steps back into employment. The IDAA worker will deliver risk management sessions, children requiring specialist support will be referred on to appropriate children's services. The sessions will be delivered locally, near to major public transport networks.

5.4.4 This work will be delivered collaboratively with Glasgow Women's Aid to ensure the maximum geographical spread and avoid duplication of services. The project would work with the following number of service users:

	Number of women	Number of children
2024/25	10	5
2025/26	40	20
Total	50	25

5.5 Glasgow Women's Aid

5.5.1 Glasgow Women's Aid is seeking £4,000 for recruitment costs in 2024/25 and £91,754 in 2025/26 to fund 1 full time Children and Young Persons Outreach worker and 1.5 Women's Outreach/IDAA workers, as well as a small contribution towards operational costs. This will increase the staff team allowing them to engage with more women and children/young people referring from the North East sector.

5.5.2 The proposal aims to provide services for women, children/young people who have experienced domestic abuse by offering a range of effective interventions to help them recover from their experiences. The services offered will include weekly 1-1 support sessions and regular groupwork. Every service user will be allocated a key worker who will support the women and children/young people to develop support plans. For children/young people, these sessions will be delivered in schools with group work taking place at one of GWA's refuge spaces in the evenings or weekends. The sessions for women will take place in a confidential space, in a place suitable for the individual service user.

5.5.3 Outreach workers will also provide programmes in schools within the North East to give teachers and other professionals an opportunity to make referrals. GWA will also work directly with ASSIST for formal and informal referral routes, linking with MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference).

5.5.4 This work will be delivered collaboratively with the DAISY Project to ensure maximum geographical spread and avoid duplication of services. The project would work with the following number of service users:

	Number of women	Number of children
2024/25	40 – 60	40-60
2025/26	80-100	60-80
Total	120-160	100-140

5.6 The submitted proposals by both projects detail how they will work collaboratively to maximise reach and avoid service overlaps. This will be achieved by cross referencing initial contact and assessment to other agencies involved at first point of contact. Regular meetings will take place between the projects to ensure both organisations have a clear understanding of demand, levels of waiting lists and services being requested.

- 5.7 Both these organisations are currently funded from the GCF 2023-26. There are appropriate governance arrangements in place and these projects are currently monitored under the GCF Performance Management Framework. There are no compliance issues with either organisation.
- 5.8 Members are requested to consider the proposals as detailed in paragraphs 5.4 and 5.5 above and agree to award interim funding from the unallocated funds within the Glasgow Communities Fund for the provision of services in the North East, as follows:-

Organisation	2024/25	2025/26
The Daisy Project	£14,116	£48,392
Glasgow Women's Aid	£4,000	£91,754
Total	£18,116	£140,146

6. Legal and Internal Audit

- 6.1 Officers have liaised with colleagues in Legal Services and Internal Audit on the process to ensure that due diligence has been being undertaken.

7. Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

Financial: Re-allocation of funds within the Glasgow Communities Fund budget. Outcomes will be maximised through targeted use of resources and joint working and resourcing with partners

Legal: No new legal issue

Personnel: No direct personnel issues

Procurement: No procurement implications

Council Strategic Plan: The proposed Violence Against Women Programme in North East for 2024-26 supports the Council's Strategic Plan, specifically:-
Grand Challenge 1 - Mission 3: Improve the health and wellbeing of our local communities

Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2021-25? Please specify. Yes, the proposal has the potential to impact on the council Equality Outcomes in relation to the following improvement aims: Improve economic outcomes for people with protected characteristics; and Improve access

to Council Family services by people with protected characteristics.

What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report?

The programme aims to support women at risk of domestic abuse.

Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio-economic disadvantage.

It is anticipated that funding recommendations will have a positive impact on third sector jobs, skills, local communities, social and community cohesion.

Climate Impacts:

Does the proposal support any Climate Plan actions? Please specify:

None

What are the potential climate impacts as a result of this proposal?

None

Will the proposal contribute to Glasgow's net zero carbon target?

No

Privacy and Data Protection Impacts:

No privacy or data protection impacts identified

8. Recommendations

Committee is invited to:

- Note the report;
- Agree the City Administration Committee as the approving body for sector awards from the Glasgow Communities Fund 2023-26; and
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