

Title of Report:	Ending Violence Against Women and Girls – Change Fund (2025-26)
Committee Report Submitted To:	Leisure & Development Committee
Date of Meeting:	15 April 2025
For Decision / For Info	For Decision
To be discussed In Committee	No

Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)	
Strategic Theme	Healthy, Active & Engaged Communities
Outcome	The Borough comprises cohesive and stable communities which work collaboratively with a range of stakeholders to address issues and deliver on opportunities
Lead Officer	Head of Community & Culture; Community Development Officer

Estimated Timescale for Completion	
Date to be Completed	31 March 2026

Legal Considerations	
Input of Legal Services Required	YES/NO
Legal Opinion Obtained	YES/NO

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	N/A 100% external funding
Included in Current Year Estimates	No
Capital/Revenue	Revenue
Code	1061
Staffing Costs	n/a

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	No	Date:

1.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to present the outcome of the assessment of applications received to the Ending Violence Against Women and Girls Change Fund 2025-26 for approval.

2.0 Background

2.1 As per the report presented to the Leisure and Development Committee on the 17th December 2024, Council can avail of up to £90,000 of grant funding for the 2025/26 allocation of the Ending Violence Against Women and Girls Change Fund (funding programme).

2.2 Following mandatory information sessions, the Ending Violence Against Women and Girls grant programme was opened for applications on 10th March 2025 with a closing date of Friday 28th March 2025. Council facilitated 3 information sessions to potential applicant groups across the borough. A link to apply to the grant was sent to all groups who had attended the information sessions. Groups could apply for funds from 1 of 3 tiers:

- Tier 1 – up to £5000;
- Tier 2 – Between £5001- £15,000;
- Tier 3 – Between £15,001- £25,000.

3.0 Applications Received

3.1 Applications were received from 13 organisations. An assessment panel of Council Officers assessed the applications received against the criteria as stated in the Guidance Notes for the programme. Applicants were required to attain a score of at least 65% to be recommended for funding, in line with Council's Grant Funding Policy. An extract from the Guidance Notes for the grant programme, detailing assessment criteria, is attached at **Annex A**.

No. of applications received	13
No. of applications withdrawn	0
No. of ineligible applicants	0
No. of successful applications (scoring 65% and above)	9
Total eligible costs	£110,925
Budget available	£90,000
Shortfall	£20,925

3.2 Out of the 13 applications received 3 did not reach the threshold of 65%. Detailed feedback will be provided to unsuccessful applicant groups. 9 applications have been recommended for funding for a total of £110,925. The amount applied for exceeds the expected budget by £20,925 (19%). The recommended awards for funding have been reduced accordingly to bring these within budget. A list of the successful applications and the grant amount recommended can be found in **Annex A**.

4.0 Recommendation

It is recommended that Council provide approval to award funding to 9 organisations totalling £89,849.25 through the Ending Violence Against Women and Girls Change Fund 2025-26 as noted in **Annex A**.

Annex A

Successful Applications and Grant Amount Recommended

Group name	Tier	Application	Score	Eligible Costs	19% Reduction
Zachary Geddis Trust	2	£14,965.00	78	£14,965.00	£12,121.65
Zanshin NI	1	£4,120.00	71	£4,120.00	£3,337.20
Big Telly Theatre Company	2	£15,000.00	85	£15,000.00	£12,150.00
Destined	2	£14,870.00	87	£14,870.00	£12,044.70
Feeny CA	2	£9,300.00	87	£9,300.00	£7,533.00
Dry Arch	2	£7,850.00	89	£7,850.00	£6,358.50
Limavady Hens Shed	1	£5,000.00	71	£5,000.00	£4,050.00
Roe Valley Residents Association	3	£24,820.00	90	£24,820.00	£20,104.20
Magilligan CA	2	£15,000.00	78	£15,000.00	£12,150.00
	Total	£110,925.00		£110,925.00	£89,849.25

Criteria and Scoring

Applications to Tiers 1 & 2		Score 0-5	Weighting	Available Points
1.	How will your project support the Prevention Outcomes of the EVAWG Strategic framework? (Outcome 1 is mandatory)		X7	35
2.	Ability to deliver the proposal to meet local needs		X7	35
3.	Investment effectiveness(including value for money) of the proposal		X4	20
4.	The organisations understanding of violence against women and girls		X 2	10

Applications to Tier 3		Score 0-5	Weighting	Available Points
1.	How will your project support the Prevention Outcomes of the EVAWG Strategic framework? (Outcome 1 is mandatory)		X6	30

2.	Investment effectiveness (including Value for Money) of the proposal		X 4	20
3.	Ability to deliver the proposal to meet local needs		X 6	30
4.	The impact of the mentoring or collaboration aspects of the proposal		X 2	10
5.	The organisation's understanding of violence against women and girls		X 2	10