Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council

Title of Report:	**Ending Violence against Women and Girls 2026-27**
Committee Report Submitted To:	Leisure & Development Committee
Date of Meeting:	17 November 2026
For Decision or For Information	For Information
To be discussed In Committee	No

Linkage to Council Strategy (2026-31)	
Strategic Theme	P2
Outcome	Healthy, active, engaged communities that are more resilient, cohesive, and prosperous. Safe communities working together to promote positive relationships.
Lead Officer	Head of Community & Culture Community Development Manager Community Facilities Development Officer

Estimated Timescale for Completion	
Date to be Completed	31st March 2027

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	**£207,036** (100% funded from The Executive Office)
Included in Current Year Estimates	**N/A**
Capital/Revenue	revenue
Code	1061
Staffing Costs	Nil net cost – 100% funded as per above

Legal Considerations	
Input of Legal Services Required	No
Legal Opinion Obtained	No

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:		Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:		Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed		Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:		Date:
	Screening Completed:		Date:

Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	DPIA Required and Completed:		Date:

1.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to inform members of the funding received from The Executive Office (TEO) for 2026-27 to deliver against the Ending Violence against Women and Girls (EVAWG) Strategy, the outcome of the associated Local Change Fund Grants and activities delivered and planned through Momentum Funds.

2.0 Background

2.1. The Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (EVAWG) Strategic Framework was launched by the NI Executive in September 2024. It intends to bring together a whole of society and whole of government response to address this issue which impacts the lives of far too many women and girls across our society. The main focus of this strategy is on prevention. This recognises that tackling the underlying causes of violence, abuse and harm towards women and girls and stopping it before it starts is vital.

2.2. TEO requested that Council submit a 2-year action plan for 26/27 and 27/28 to continue both the small grant fund known as the Local Change Fund and Momentum activities which had commenced in 25/26. A letter of offer has been received and the overall amount awarded for grants and programme delivery in 26/27 is detailed below.

	2026/27
Momentum Funding for programme delivery	£50,000
Local Change Fund grant programme	£157,036
Total	**£207,036**

3.0 The Local Change Fund Grant Programme

3.1. The purpose of the Local Change Fund is to mobilise grassroots action, support innovative delivery and maximise the impact of community-led initiatives contributing to the prevention outcomes of the EVAWG Strategic Framework:

- Outcome 1 - Changed Attitudes, Behaviours & Culture.

  Everyone in society understands what violence against women and girls is, including its root causes, and plays an active role in preventing it.

- Outcome 2 - Healthy, Respectful Relationships.

  Everyone in society is equipped and empowered to enjoy healthy, respectful relationships.

- Outcome 3 - Women and girls are safe and feel safe everywhere.

  Organisations and institutions across government and society embed the prevention of violence against women and girls in all that they do, so that women and girls are safe and feel safe everywhere.

3.2. The parameters of the programmes are set out below:

i. Applicants can apply for 100% grant aid.

ii. There are 3 grant levels – £1,000 - £5,000 (Tier 1), £,5001 - £15,000 (Tier 2) and £15,001 - £25,000 (Tier 3).

iii. Applicants must score 65% or above to be considered for funding.

iv. All projects must include a focus on Outcome 1 and specifically demonstrate how project proposals will increase awareness and understanding of what violence against women and girls is, including its root causes., and applications above £15,000 must include an element of mentoring.

4.0 The Process

4.1. In line with approved processes, the EVAWG Grant Programme for 2026/27 was administered as detailed below:

Action	Date
Date of funding workshop	Information workshops held on 7th August (online), 13th August (Ballycastle) and 14th August (Coleraine)
Opened for Applications	31st July 2026
Closed for Applications	28th August 2026
Grant Assessments Complete	11th September 2026
Notifications to applicants	28th September 2026

5.0 Outcome

5.1. Council received 31 applications requesting £229,138.20 with £149,558 considered eligible. Details of successful applications are outlined in **Annex A** of this report.

- 6 applications were ineligible.
- 25 applications were assessed and scored.
- 10 applications were unsuccessful, as they scored less than the 65% threshold.
- 15 applications successfully scored above the funding threshold with a total amount request of £189,223. Of this amount, £149,558 was considered to be eligible expenditure.
- A request was made to TEO to increase the initial award allocation from £105K to fully fund these applications and this was approved.
- Successful applicants have received their letters of offer and attended a training and information workshop on 22nd October.
- Detailed feedback has been provided to unsuccessful applicants, where requested, and the Community Development team will provide support to unsuccessful applicants to building capacity for any future funding.

6.0 Momentum Funding

6.1. In addition to the Local Change Fund budget, Council received £50,000 in order to continue momentum activities and build capacity to deliver across the 3 EVAWG Outcomes. The following activities have taken place/ are planned in 2026-27:

- Older People and Ending Violence Event– 60 Older People attended an event to share and learn more about EVAWG issues facing older people. The event was attended by the Older Peoples Commissioner and included information from PSNI, PCSP, White Ribbon, Threshold, COAST and Age Friendly.
- Establishment of CCG EVAWG working group bringing together those with statutory responsibility around EVAWG and key partner agencies, to share best practice, network and identify and address gaps were possible.

- Capacity Building and training programme planned for community groups to increase confidence and capacity to develop and deliver EVAWG programmes, including promotion of links with TEO funded regional expert organisations
- Development of communications campaign across social media and Council civic, sports and community facilities to be rolled out commencing January 2027.
- A programme of activities for the general public linking with Museum Service, Roe Valley and Flowerfield Arts Centres and PCSP using the mediums of art and local history.
- A Showcase and Learning event planned to take place in March 2027 to celebrate the work carried out by the 15 organisations in receipt of the Local Change Fund grants, share learning and hear from experts in the field.
- White Ribbon 'Listen, Learn, Lead' interactive prevention workshop, designed to move participants beyond simply understanding violence against women and girls towards recognising the role they can play in creating change – adapted workshop for Elected Members delivered in October 2026 and staff training to be delivered in November 26.

7.0 Communications Campaign

7.1. Council secured an external design consultancy service to develop a creative messaging campaign based on the key themes of 'What is Violence Against Women and Girls' and 'There's something everyone can do'. The messages that have been developed are based on the EVAWG Strategy Framework and the whole spectrum of violence, abuse, and harm against women and girls. The campaign will be rolled out in January with materials displayed in Council venues including civic offices, town halls, leisure centres, sport and community facilities as well as adshels and bus shelters, and accompanied by a social media campaign. The draft campaign images are attached at **Annex B**.

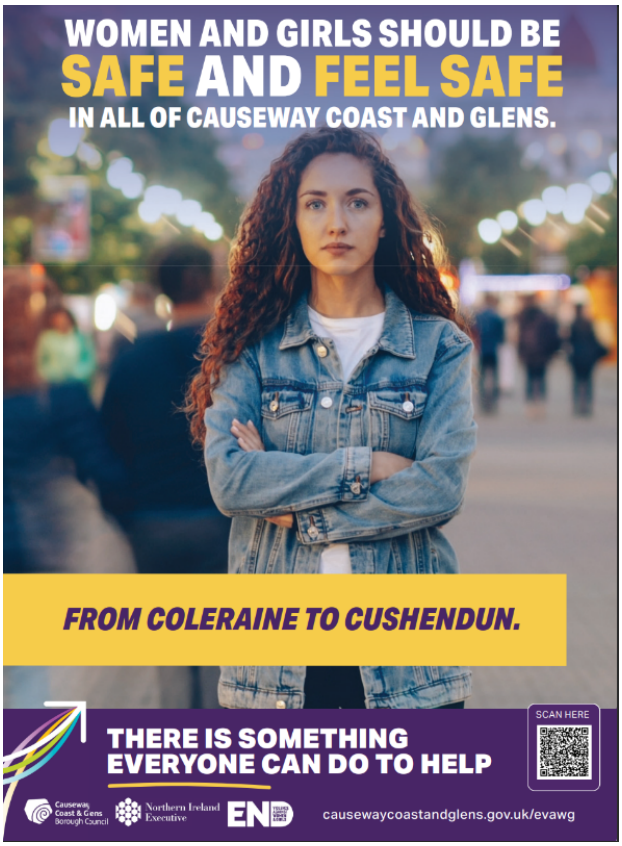
Annex A

Summary of applications & awards.

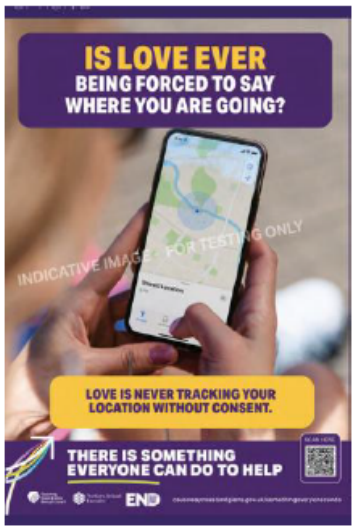
	Name of applicant group	Eligible Yes/No	Score	Amount Requested (£)	Amount awarded (£)
1.	Big Telly Theatre	Yes	91%	15,000	15,000
2.	Building Communities Resource Centre (BCRC)	Yes	85%	5,243	5,243
3.	Ashes to Gold	Yes	76%	7,650	7,650
4.	Zachary Geddis Trust	Yes	76%	14,160	14,160
5.	North West Play Resource	Yes	76%	24,199	21,399
6.	RDA Causeway Coast and Glens	Yes	74%	3,235	1,660
7.	Bytes Local	Yes	72%	25,000	16,000
8.	Magilligan Community	Yes	72%	15,000	10,000
9.	Focus on Family	Yes	71%	7,656	7,656
10.	Destined Ltd	Yes	69%	13,220	6,600
11.	Dry Arch Children's Centre	Yes	67%	9,500	7,000
12.	Solas Wellbeing	Yes	67%	14,760	8,700
13.	Gortnaghey Community Association	Yes	67%	4,600	3,450
14.	Drumsurn Community Association	Yes	67%	5,000	5,000
15.	Roe Valley Residents Association (RVRA)	Yes	66%	25,000	20,040
16.	Causeway Rural and Urban Network	Yes	<65%		
17.	Feeny Community Association	Yes	<65%		
18.	Benbradagh Community Support	Yes	<65%		
19.	St Patrick's Primary and Nursery School PTA	No			
20.	Cairde Neachtain	No			
21.	Bloomin Education CIC	No			
22.	West Bann Development	Yes	<65%		
23.	St Aidans GAC	Yes	<65%		
24.	Crossroads PTA	No			
25.	St Anne's Primary School PTA	No			
	TOTAL			**189,223**	**149,558**

Annex B

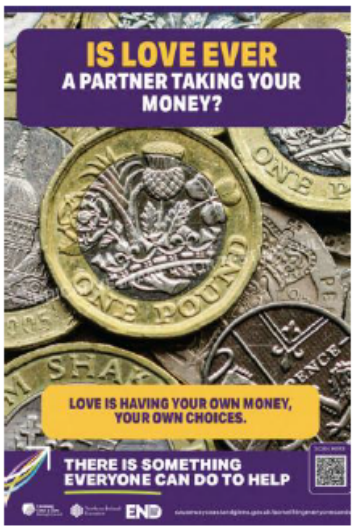
Ending Violence Against Women and Girls Draft Campaign Images







1 · Coercive control



2 · Financial abuse



3 · Online & tech abuse



4 · Everyday harm



5 · Physical & sexual abuse



6 · Psychological abuse