

The logo for Solace, consisting of the word "solace" in white lowercase letters on a red rectangular background.The logo for Labyrinth Project, consisting of the words "labyrinth" and "project" in white lowercase letters on a dark grey rectangular background.

## Empowering Women Fund

### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Common questions concerning the grant making process, our funding areas, and timelines. For additional questions or enquiries, please contact [labyrinth@solacewomensaid.org](mailto:labyrinth@solacewomensaid.org).

#### Can individuals apply?

We understand the outbreak is having a huge impact on many individuals and communities across the UK. Unfortunately, this fund is not available to individuals.

#### How much funding is available?

Total funding available will be allocated as follows: Northern Ireland – £50,000, Scotland – £60,000, and England – £190,000.

#### How much can I apply for?

Seed funding grants are between £500 to £1,000, Women Sector small grants £1,000 to £5,000 and large grants £5,000 to £25,000.

#### What types of organisations will you fund?

Not-for-profit and run predominantly by, for and with women. We define 'led by' as either 75% or more of an organisation's Trustees and 50% or more of staff members (including senior) are women OR 50% or more of the Trustees and 75% or more of staff members (including senior) are women.

The annual turnover of the organisation must not exceed £1million.

#### Do you fund un-constituted groups?

Yes, but the funding request will need to have clear aims and can only apply for Seed Funding grants.

#### Our group has not got a bank account, how will you pay the grant to us?

If awarded a grant, we will try to facilitate payments. Your Grants Officer will contact you to discuss options.

#### Can we apply for more than one type of grant?

You should only apply for one type of grant.

**Can I request funds for my staff and volunteer costs?**

Yes, you can apply for funding for staff and volunteer costs that relate to your funding request.

**What is the difference between project costs and core costs?**

Project costs are costs that directly relate to the project you will deliver. These include materials, staff costs for staff delivering the project, venue hire etc.

Core costs are the costs of running your organisation and include management costs, HR, rent, utility costs etc.

We will fund both project and core costs but core costs should not exceed 15% of the budget.

**Do you fund existing work as well as new work?**

Yes, but the project will have to meet the fund priorities and aims.

**Can you accept an application from a partnership of two or more organisations?**

Yes, we will accept partnership applications for the women's sector grants. If you would like to speak to us to discuss in more detail, please email us at

[labyrinth@solacewomensaid.org](mailto:labyrinth@solacewomensaid.org).

**Can we apply for funding to cover costs that we have already spent?**

No, we cannot fund retrospective costs.

**When do any successful grants need to be spent by?**

By September 2022. If you are awarded a grant, your Grants Officer will discuss start and end dates with you for your project.

**When do I need to do to apply?**

The deadline for Round One applications is 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 5pm. There will be a second round of funding available in the summer and details of all deadlines will be available on the website.

Please email [labyrinth@solacewomensaid.org](mailto:labyrinth@solacewomensaid.org) if you would like to be alerted when round two opens for applications.

**I have forgotten my password for my online application form; how do I retrieve it?**

Please contact us at [labyrinth@solacewomensaid.org](mailto:labyrinth@solacewomensaid.org).

**Can I do an offline application form?**

No, all applications need to be submitted using the online form. Please note, if you have contacted us for support submitting your application, this does not apply to you.

**How can I check whether the work we are seeking funding for is eligible?**

You can either attend one of our online workshops or send us an email to arrange a phone call to discuss.

**If we do not have independently examined or audited accounts yet, will you accept management accounts?**

Yes, we will and, if possible, a copy of your previous year's audited accounts.

**Why do you request references for Seed funding grants?**

This is an audit requirement, as we are not able to carry out checks on the Charity Commission website and via Companies' House.

*If you have read all the guidelines and the FAQ, and you still have a specific question that is not covered in the FAQ, please contact us at [labyrinth@solacewomensaid.org](mailto:labyrinth@solacewomensaid.org).*