

DOMESTIC ABUSE WORKFORCE PROGRAMMES EVIDENCE FUND

Frequently asked questions

This document summarises the questions raised during the informational webinars, as well as those submitted directly to the Foundations Programmes Team in relation to this funding call.

Please note: this document is intended as a supplementary resource and should not be used in place of the Application Guidance which has been incorporated into the Application Form and Call Specification. Those documents remain the primary and comprehensive source of guidance – we recommend that you use this as you complete the Application Form. Any information provided here does not replace or add to its contents.

If you have any further questions that are not included in this document, please email programmes@foundations.org.uk.

Question	Answer
1. I was interested to understand Foundations has expectations or requirements regarding lived experience involvement in funded applications... whether applications are expected to involve people with lived experience of domestic abuse in the design, delivery, governance, or evaluation of programmes, and whether any guidance is available on the level or form of involvement that would be considered valuable.	While we have not set out an expectation that applications for the funding call need to be developed with people with lived experience, we will be looking to understand how the workforce programme itself has been developed through consultation with those from lived experience, particularly marginalised groups and minoritised ethnic families. This may include consultation during design, delivery, governance or evaluation, as relevant.



2. It would also be helpful to understand whether lived experience involvement forms part of the assessment criteria for selecting programmes into the evaluation	We will assess applications against the criteria set out in Appendix 1: Application Assessment, of the Call Specification. While lived experience is not a standalone assessment criterion, we expect applications to evidence how their programme aligns with the scope and aims of the call. This includes seeking workforce programmes that have been developed through consultation with people from lived experience, especially marginalised groups and minoritised ethnic families.
3. Will the findings from the mapping exercise referenced in the webinar slides and call specification be shared, i.e. the training slash programmes that are promising	There's currently no plan to publish this list in its current format, and that's because Cordis Bright, our partner who conducted the mapping as part of the Restart feasibility study, needed to rely on information that was publicly available. It was done as an initial exercise to establish whether we should go forward with the call, rather than a complete and accurate list of which programmes would be promising or not.
4. How many programmes will you evaluate?	In this Strand, we're looking potentially for up to two programmes, but it will depend on the programmes that we are receiving. So this is an estimate at this point in time.
5. Will feedback be provided to those applicants that have not been successful? The application process is intensive and therefore gaining feedback would be very helpful.	Yes, regardless of outcome we provide all applicants with detailed feedback.
6. We have questions that are commercially sensitive, is there a chance for a 30 minute meeting or another option for an anonymous Q&A.	If you have any specific questions, you're welcome to send them across to our programme's e-mail address and we can come back to you via that.



7. Would you consider funding a programme with an element of Safe and Together implementation not in London under this fund?	This fund is open nationally. It doesn't have to be only London programmes and there's no kind of programme which is explicitly restricted, as long as they meet the requirements outlined in the call specification.
8. We have worked in two ways with buy and for organisations, one where the local ICB held funding and we work in partnership with By and For organisations where they hold the funding and we support the delivery, which might fit the call for evidence best.	Strand 2 of this call is about building evaluation capacity and readiness of By-and-For Organisations, rather than evaluating their programme currently. The evaluation partner and Foundations would work directly with the By-and-For Organisation partner on an evaluation capacity plan. In which case, it appears your programme would be better suited to Strand 1.
9. Can you remind me of the code that the e-mail needs to include in the header?	DA13.B - DAWE, and this is also confirmed in our Call Specification.
10. Could we have a meeting to discuss application and whether we would meet scope?	Please reach out with specific questions to our email address: programmes@foundations.org.uk With DA13.B - DAWE in the subject heading.
11. How do you define evaluation ready?	Evaluation readiness means that a programme has a clear and well-developed theory of change, with a strong link between what the programme delivers, the mechanisms through which it aims to achieve change, and the outcomes it is seeking to influence. It also means that the organisation has sufficient capacity to participate in an evaluation. This may include having an appropriate lead or point of contact to support activities such as recruitment, data collection, liaison with the evaluator, data sharing, and monitoring the fidelity of programme delivery. Relevant previous evaluation activity, such as a feasibility study or internal evaluation, may also help demonstrate readiness. Please see the call documentation for further information.



12. Are you expecting that the programmes include all key skill gaps?	No, these are simply thematic areas we would like to see but do not expect a single programme to include all of them.
13. Is there scope to support adaptations of existing programme resources to ensure child and adult experience is included and co-produced with by and for organisations. Our programme is ready and evidence-based but could be improved by this.	This sounds like the programme is still in the development stage and improving its implementation. We are looking for programmes that have been delivered consistently and not looking to develop elements further. Refining the theory of change and some components of implementation may be required, but this description suggests there would be a considerable number of new elements to be developed. It would be useful to understand the scale of adaptation, the extent to which it does or does not change the delivery model or how it has been evaluated previously. See also: Question 17
14. Can funds be used for cost for staff to develop and deliver the programme?	We are seeking programmes that are already established, rather than in development. In terms of staff time for delivery, yes that can be included in your budget. Please see the call documentation for further information.
15. Will you fund a coordinator time to support with recruitment of cohort bookings and data collection or just delivery? Can salary costs be included?	Yes. Salary and staffing costs can be included where they are directly related to delivering the programme for the purposes of evaluation. Please include these clearly in your budget breakdown, including how you plan to resource this type of staffing cost. To note, we fund delivery of programmes for the purpose of evaluation. Costs associated with delivery should be reasonable and proportionate, and may include activities surrounding delivery such as set-up, recruitment and cohort coordination, data collection, reporting, participation in evaluation activities, and dissemination. Please see the call documentation for further information.



16. Will support be given to find independent evaluators?	Foundations has a panel of independent evaluators, and we will be conducting the commissioning of the evaluation partner. Delivery partners are not involved in the selection process, aligned with the need for independence in the process. Foundations will take a considered approach to identify an evaluation partner that has the appropriate experience within the domestic abuse sector.
17. If we were to add new modules to an already existing program, would this be okay if the model doesn't change?	Minor adaptations to programme content may be possible, depending on the nature and scale of the proposed changes. Any proposed changes/additions that you would like to make prior to the delivery period beginning would need to be explained in your application and will then be considered on a case-by-case basis. Applicants should consider whether any proposed adaptations would affect delivery timelines, resourcing requirements, participant commitment, or the consistency of the programme model. There will be a set-up period of up to five months before delivery begins, which provides time to finalise the delivery model in the context of the evaluation. Some minor tweaks can be introduced here. For example, in a previous evaluation, an additional session was introduced between the pilot and full-scale evaluation stages to address an identified gap in content. This type of change may be acceptable where it does not fundamentally alter the programme model.
18. I was hoping that I could meet with a member of the team to discuss whether our training would meet the scope of this call? We are currently going through the process of the programme being evaluated by Foundations for a guidebook focused on the impact the programme has on CYP affected by domestic abuse.	The purpose of this call is to evaluate domestic abuse workforce development programmes, rather than evaluate direct programmes with children and young people. We would recommend you consider if your programme aligns with this criterion, along with the specified details that can be found in the call specification, Section 2.2. Programme scope: Sector, themes and design requirements. Please see the call documentation for further information, and do keep an eye out for other calls which might apply well with your programme and organisation. If you still have further questions, please do email the team.


