

- Please provide a list of all meetings held with the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) on the topic of a leavers fund to support victims of domestic abuse to leave abusive relationships.

Dates of meetings with COSLA about the fund to leave

06/07/2023	No meeting note – email follow up
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- Please provide all correspondence related to these meetings including the minutes of the meeting, any briefing notes provided to ministers related to these meetings, any notes or analysis produced before or after the meeting related to the establishment of a leavers fund for victims of domestic abuse, and any proposed timeline that may have been produced regarding the establishment of a leavers fund.

redacted–30(b)(i)	Section 30(b)(i) (free and frank provision of advice)
redacted–38(1)(b)	Section 38(1)(b) (personal information)
out of scope	Information is not in scope of original request

Documents for release in chronological order:

1	Email chain up to 06/07/2023
2	Email chain up to 08/08/2023
3	Email from Cosla with comments on development paper – 09/08/2023
4	Email to cosla with new version of development paper – 16/08/2023
5	Development Paper – Version 2

Email chain up to 06/07/2023

From: redacted–38(1)(b)
Sent: 06 July 2023 16:13
To: redacted–38(1)(b)
Cc: redacted–38(1)(b)
Subject: Re: fund to leave

Hi redacted–38(1)(b)

redacted–30(b)(i)
redacted–38(1)(b)

From: redacted–38(1)(b)
Sent: 06 July 2023 11:28
To: redacted–38(1)(b)

Cc: redacted-38(1)(b)
Subject: RE: fund to leave

Thanks redacted-38(1)(b)

redacted-30(b)(i)

Don't know if this info may be of help for your narrative/calculation's from <https://www.cosla.gov.uk/news/2023/data-highlights-crucial-role-of-councils-in-preventing-destitution>

Breakdown of Referral by Immigration Type	2020/21	2021/22	% Change
Leave to enter/remain with NRPF	167	322	+ 92.8%
EEA National	118	281	+ 138.1%
Asylum Seeker	35	67	+ 91.4%
Appeal Right Exhausted (ARE) Asylum Seeker	6	6	-
Destitution Domestic Violence Concession	11	17	+ 54.5%
Visa Overstayer	30	29	- 3.3%
Other	72	73	+ 1.4%

redacted-38(1)(b)

From: redacted-38(1)(b)
Sent: 06 July 2023 11:17
To: redacted-38(1)(b)
Cc: redacted-38(1)(b)
Subject: fund to leave

Hi redacted-38(1)(b)

Thank you for your time today.

I have attached the development paper and welcome both of your ideas/comments/suggestions as we develop proposals for the fund to leave.

redacted-30(b)(i)

Many thanks
redacted-38(1)(b)

Homelessness Unit, Homelessness Prevention Team

Temporary contact number – redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)

Email chain up to 08/08/2023

From: redacted-38(1)(b) >
Sent: 08 August 2023 11:33
To: redacted-38(1)(b)
Cc: redacted-38(1)(b)
Subject: RE: fund to leave

Hi again – I'm reaching out to redacted-38(1)(b) who is actually here today but obviously catching up post leave.
Parameters– we are looking at a pilot yes? What is the timescale for the purposes of the funding and period of time to use the money and is there admin cost funding attached? (or could there be?) How long will the pilot be and who will be involved in any further design of process and decision making on whether or not the fund to leave is then to roll out.
Sorry – should have all this in my note which I prob do but can't find it as redacted-38(1)(b) was leading on this.
redacted-38(1)(b)

From: redacted-38(1)(b)
Sent: 08 August 2023 10:52
To: redacted-38(1)(b)
Cc: redacted-38(1)(b)
Subject: RE: fund to leave

Hi redacted-38(1)(b)

redacted-38(1)(b)

We were looking for COSLA input into the fund to leave development paper, particularly views around whether this is something that should be delivered by LAs and if you think this pilot should be restricted to a certain LA area, Housing Options hub area or be open to the whole of Scotland?

Many thanks

redacted-38(1)(b)
Homelessness Unit, Homelessness Prevention Team
The Scottish Government, Atlantic Quay, Glasgow, G2 8LU

Temporary contact number – redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)

From: redacted-38(1)(b)
Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 10:33 AM
To: redacted-38(1)(b)
Subject: RE: fund to leave

redacted-38(1)(b) hi

redacted-38(1)(b) Our colleague redacted-38(1)(b) is on leave. Can you remind me what you are waiting for from redacted-38(1)(b)?
redacted-38(1)(b)

From: redacted-38(1)(b)
Sent: 08 August 2023 09:38
To: redacted-38(1)(b)
Cc: redacted-38(1)(b)
Subject: RE: fund to leave

Hi redacted-38(1)(b)

Just wondering where you are with responding to this. Would you prefer a wee teams meeting?

Many thanks

redacted-38(1)(b)
Homelessness Unit, Homelessness Prevention Team
The Scottish Government, Atlantic Quay, Glasgow, G2 8LU

Temporary contact number – redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)

From: redacted-38(1)(b)
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 11:17 AM
To: redacted-38(1)(b)
Cc: redacted-38(1)(b)
Subject: Re: fund to leave

Hi redacted-38(1)(b)

We have shared this with our colleague redacted-38(1)(b) who leads on benefits and will return from leave at beginning of next month. Also, awaiting a view from ALACHO on this too.

Regards

redacted-38(1)(b)

From: redacted-38(1)(b)
Sent: 24 July 2023 10:51
To: redacted-38(1)(b)
Cc: redacted-38(1)(b)
Subject: RE: fund to leave

Hi redacted-38(1)(b),

Wonder if you have had time to consider this development paper on the fund to leave?

I would be particularly interested in your views on whether this is something that should be delivered by LAs and if you think this pilot should be restricted to a certain LA area, Housing Options hub area or be open to the whole of Scotland?

Many thanks

redacted-38(1)(b)

Homelessness Unit, Homelessness Prevention Team
The Scottish Government, Atlantic Quay, Glasgow, G2 8LU

Temporary contact number – redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)

From: redacted-38(1)(b)
Sent: Thursday, July 6, 2023 11:17 AM
To: redacted-38(1)(b)
Cc: redacted-38(1)(b)
Subject: fund to leave

Hi redacted-38(1)(b)

Thank you for your time today.

I have attached the development paper and welcome both of your ideas/comments/suggestions as we develop proposals for the fund to leave.

redacted-30(b)(i)

Many thanks

redacted-38(1)(b)

Homelessness Unit, Homelessness Prevention Team
The Scottish Government, Atlantic Quay, Glasgow, G2 8LU

Temporary contact number – redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)

Email from Cosla with comments on development paper – 09/08/2023

From: redacted-38(1)(b)
Sent: 09 August 2023 16:37
To: redacted-38(1)(b)
Subject: Fund to leave - COSLA LA/Policy lead questions and comments for your consideration
Attachments: Fund to leave - development paper - July 2023 (COSLA Advisor Comments).docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi redacted-38(1)(b)
In redacted-38(1)(b) absence and with a response considered quickly by COSLA's lead in this area with input from the leads in LA areas, here are a range of thoughts and comments to help inform thinking.
In discussion with my colleague, we did spin back to the learning from pandemic times and wondered if LA distribution is the only route under consideration. I wonder if you've had a look at the emergency funding that had (or may still be?) been made available to women engaged in cse/prostitution during lock down? This was administered by Victim Support. A chat with redacted-38(1)(b) might also be useful? The public funds/public health distinction seems to be very important in respect to nrpf considerations.

redacted-38(1)(b)

Fund to leave – Development Paper

Recommendation

Financial support for women experiencing domestic abuse - The Scottish Government should explore options for a dedicated support fund, or entitlements with clear guidance and capable of delivering short-term recurring payments, to support women leaving an abusive partner. This should include essential crisis costs to enable a woman to leave and to bridge the gap between leaving and the first Universal Credit payment.

The 'fund to leave' is to provide financial support, within our devolved powers, to women so they have immediate relief from destitution and poverty when they leave their current home for a place of safety because of domestic abuse.

Considerations			COSLA Advisors' Comments/Questions
Name	Fund to leave doesn't seem appropriate What should this fund be called?		

Cost	redacted–30(b)(i)	redacted–30(b)(i)	redacted–30(b)(i)
Support	Should this fund also come with access to specialist support, including reducing financial related control that still may exist? Also referrals to appropriate support?	What protocols needs to be put in place?	Would a Leavers’ payment be better delivered in conjunction with the support provided by Third Sector orgs, (i.e. Women’s Aid/Shakti).
Fund Criteria	redacted–30(b)(i)	redacted–30(b)(i)	redacted–30(b)(i)
Delivery method	redacted–30(b)(i)	redacted–30(b)(i)	redacted–30(b)(i)
Pilot/Test of Change	Where do we focus the pilot	redacted–30(b)(i)	redacted–30(b)(i)
Systems	Can we use existing IT systems or do new ones need to be set up		redacted–30(b)(i)
Data	How do we collect relevant and useful data Do we need data sharing agreements?	redacted–30(b)(i) Need to capture if someone is accessing the fund more than once	redacted–30(b)(i)
Outcomes	What outcomes do we want to see and how will this be monitored	redacted–30(b)(i)	redacted–30(b)(i)
Lived experience input	How do we best get involvement of women with lived experience?		
Raising awareness	How do we promote the fund?		SG and Local Government have access to a range of methods to promote fund. However, key point is not to promote until scheme is in a sufficiently mature state of development.

Migrant women and women with NRPF	What are the implications for someone with NRPF?		redacted-30(b)(i)
Unintended Consequences	Will this fund affect the recipients benefits or tax?		Potentially yes. (Need to involve DWP/HMRC early in the development process).
Others	What role can the banks play What happens if someone doesn't have a bank account? Can someone receive cash?		Paypoint may be an option, (however higher value payments can sometimes exceed small shop's available float that they carry in their tills).

Fund to leave development – Stakeholder engagement

Stakeholders		
Scottish Government		
redacted-38(1)(b)	Equality Unit - VAWG	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	G/T team	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	PRS team	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	RSL team	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	Social Security – Reserved Benefits team	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	Asylum and Refugee Integration team	redacted-38(1)(b)
External		
redacted-38(1)(b)	COSLA	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	COSLA	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	COSLA	
redacted-38(1)(b)	Improvement Service	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	ALACHO	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	ALACHO	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	SOLACE	redacted-38(1)(b)
?	HO Hub rep	
?	VAWG Network	
redacted-38(1)(b)	SWA	redacted-38(1)(b)

redacted-38(1)(b)	CIH	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	Engender	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	CPAG	redacted-38(1)(b)
?	Change team rep	
?	Amina	
redacted-38(1)(b)	Cyrenians - Cyrenians launch new housing initiative to help women and children fleeing domestic abuse STV News	
redacted-38(1)(b)	Wheatley Group Rep	redacted-38(1)(b)
?	Dundee City Council	
?	East Lothian Council	

Meetings	
SG Researchers	SG only
SG Procurement Team	SG only
SG Third sector team	SG only
DWP	
HMRC	

Email to cosla with new version of development paper – 16/08/2023

From: redacted-38(1)(b)
Sent: 16 August 2023 10:09
To: redacted-38(1)(b)
Cc: redacted-38(1)(b)
Subject: RE: Fund to leave - COSLA LA/Policy lead questions and comments for your consideration
Attachments: Fund to leave - development paper - version 2 - updated August 2023.docx

Hi redacted-38(1)(b)

The development paper has moved on a fair bit and I wonder if you might have some time to look at this version for your thoughts and comments? This version includes comments from SWA, CPAG and Engender.

Let me know if you would prefer a chat over teams.

Many thanks

redacted–38(1)(b)

Homelessness Unit, Homelessness Prevention Team
The Scottish Government, Atlantic Quay, Glasgow, G2 8LU

Temporary contact number – redacted–38(1)(b)
redacted–38(1)(b)

From: redacted–38(1)(b)

Sent: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 4:37 PM

To: redacted–38(1)(b)

Subject: Fund to leave - COSLA LA/Policy lead questions and comments for your consideration

Hi redacted–38(1)(b),

In redacted–38(1)(b) absence and with a response considered quickly by COSLA's lead in this area with input from the leads in LA areas, here are a range of thoughts and comments to help inform thinking.

In discussion with my colleague, we did spin back to the learning from pandemic times and wondered if LA distribution is the only route under consideration. I wonder if you've had a look at the emergency funding that had (or may still be?) been made available to women engaged in cse/prostitution during lock down? This was administered by Victim Support. A chat with redacted–38(1)(b) might also be useful? The public funds/public health distinction seems to be very important in respect to nrpf considerations.

redacted–38(1)(b)

Development Paper – Version 2

Fund to leave – Development Paper

Background

- Women's pre-existing economic inequality means they have fewer financial resources, capital /savings, less access to pensions, and more existing debt.
- Women's disadvantaged position in the labour market, including part-time, insecure and/or low-paid employment, underemployment, and unpaid care work, has a direct impact on their incomes and poverty.

- Systemic gender issues, including women’s caring responsibilities, violence against women, gendered health inequalities, interrupted employment patterns, lower incomes, mean that women are more reliant on social security, with women twice as likely to be reliant on social security as men.
- Single parents (92% women), BME women and disabled women have been particularly impacted by the social, economic, and labour market implications of the pandemic.¹
- Women who lived in households that earned less than £10,000 were more than four times as likely (14.3%) to have experienced partner abuse in the last 12 months than women living in households with an income of £50,000 or more (3.3%).²
- In line with the recent response to Scotland ending food bank usage ‘Cash First’³, the fund to leave is about providing a cash solution; which is more empowering and allows for a broader range of solutions to be sought than vouchers, and treats people in need with dignity.

Recommendation

Financial support for women experiencing domestic abuse

The Scottish Government should explore options for a dedicated support fund, or entitlements with clear guidance and capable of delivering short-term recurring payments, to support women leaving an abusive partner. This should include essential crisis costs to enable a woman to leave and to bridge the gap between leaving and the first Universal Credit payment.

It is important that such a fund is quickly accessible to people at the time they feel ready to leave and can be accessed without the knowledge of the perpetrator and with appropriate safeguards to ensure they are not provided with information on the applicants location. It will also be important to have options appropriate for women who have no bank account, or no access to their own bank account. The fund must also work in both urban and rural locations, and include a monitoring and recording function that is not burdensome for any party, and allows partners to learn what is effective. Raising awareness of the fund will be critical.

The funding will come from Ending Homelessness Together so must support the prevention of homelessness for those at risk due to experiencing domestic abuse. This pilot will test how useful the fund will be in terms of the monies offered, but will also test what other support and signposting, such as benefits and VAWG specialist support can be provided under the terms of this fund, it could include possibilities for working with new partners, including financial institutions.

Considerations	Questions	Thoughts	Other info
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¹ <https://www.engender.org.uk/content/publications/Close-the-Gap-and-Engender-Joint-Briefing-on-the-impact-of-COVID-19-on-women-with-childcare-responsibilities-in-Scotland.pdf>

² <https://womensaid.scot/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/SWA-Briefing-the-cost-of-living-crisis-Sept-22.pdf>

³ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/cash-first-towards-ending-need-food-banks-scotland/>

Name	<p>Is Fund to leave appropriate?</p> <p>What should this fund be called?</p>	redacted–30(b)(i)	<p>Already in place (don't want to confuse):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discretionary Housing Payment (DHP) • Scottish Welfare Fund –Community Care Grants (CCGs) and Crisis grants • BRC Hardship Fund • Self-Directed Support (SDS) • UC Hardship Grant / Fund • TSB Emergency Flee Fund • Victims will benefit from key support - gov.scot (www.gov.scot) • Support for Migrant Victims • VSS Emergency Assistance Fund - Victim Support Scotland • Victims' Fund extends its reach to women in Commercial Sexual Exploitation - Victim Support Scotland
Cost	redacted–30(b)(i)	redacted–30(b)(i)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personalised budgets: (initially 2010 up to 3k per person, average spent £794)⁴ • Scottish Welfare Fund <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ CCG average 20/21: £692⁵ ○ Crisis Grant average 20/21: £115⁶ • UC Hardship Grant/ Fund: usually £500⁷ • TSB Emergency Flee fund: Up to £500⁸ • English / Welsh equivalent to fund is £250 / £500⁹
Considerations	Questions	Thoughts	Other info

⁴ <https://www.jrf.org.uk/report/providing-personalised-support-rough-sleepers>

⁵ <https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/statistics/2022/07/scottish-welfare-fund-statistics-annual-update-2021-222/documents/scottish-welfare-fund-statistics-annual-update-2021-22/scottish-welfare-fund-statistics-annual-update-2021-22/govscot%3Adocument/scottish-welfare-fund-statistics-annual-update-2021-22.pdf>

⁶ <https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/statistics/2022/07/scottish-welfare-fund-statistics-annual-update-2021-222/documents/scottish-welfare-fund-statistics-annual-update-2021-22/scottish-welfare-fund-statistics-annual-update-2021-22/govscot%3Adocument/scottish-welfare-fund-statistics-annual-update-2021-22.pdf>

⁷ <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/universal-credit/sanctions/hardship-payment/>

⁸ <https://www.tsb.co.uk/supporting-you-domestic-or-financial-abuse/>

⁹ <https://www.womensaid.org.uk/excellent-start-as-government-announces-pilot-of-emergency-fund-for-domestic-abuse-survivors/>

<p>Support</p>	<p>Should this fund also come with access to specialist support, including reducing financial related control that still may exist?</p> <p>What additional costs will providing different levels of support need? Is signposting enough?</p> <p>Also, need to consider referrals to appropriate support and the costs involved in this as well as data collecting and data sharing issues ?</p> <p>Comments: CPAG - Referrals to welfare rights as well</p>	<p>What protocols needs to be put in place, and with which organisations?</p> <p>Does this also give opportunities to help in terms of setting up bank accounts, etc.?</p> <p>Safe Spaces (domestic abuse spaces) are already in banks and pharmacies.</p> <p>It would be great to link it in with at least the SWA domestic abuse helpline number.</p> <p>There is also an opportunity to link in with housing.</p> <p>At the point of leaving, a woman (and family) can be at more risk than ever, and so this must be considered in terms of support offered, as well as how this can be accessed.</p> <p>All household members should be considered in terms of the support on offer...for example, the children and/or other caring responsibilities.</p> <p>There should be support that links to LGBTQ agencies.</p> <p>We need to consider BME support.</p> <p>Comment: Engender - Needs of disabled women also crucial - accessibility of info/support in terms of different impairments (also impacting the costs of leaving) and for learning disabled/ ND women</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Someone may not wish to take up support initially, so this should be about opportunities in terms of offering support and engagement, rather than there being a prerequisite that support is taken to receive the money. When considering the support, we should seek the views from Survivors in terms of useful resources and places to link in with; this might differ from one area to another. We may also find that rural and urban are different <p>Comments: Engender - Consideration of intersectionality is vital here - cultural competence, language, accessibility, inclusion. Also age in relation to targeting/ take up. All of this support work must be in line with best standards re. trauma</p> <p>Help to Rent Database (crisis.org.uk)</p>
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		<p>Links to security measures and how to put these in place would help.</p> <p>If providing support costs additional expenditure this will impact the amount available from the fund to give to women</p>	
Considerations	Questions	Thoughts	Other info
Fund Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> redacted-30(b)(i) 	redacted-30(b)(i)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 57% of the people on Universal Credit in April 2023 were women¹⁰
Delivery method	redacted-30(b)(i)	redacted-30(b)(i)	<p>Recent qualitative views around help at the point of fleeing is a request from survivors to keep systems as simple as possible.</p>
Pilot/Test of Change	<p>Where do we focus the pilot?</p>	redacted-30(b)(i)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> redacted-30(b)(i).
Systems	<p>Can we use existing IT systems or do new ones need to be set up?</p> <p>how can the existing systems (for data? Processing? Recording? Etc) be used to maximum efficiency in a proportionate way within the limitations of this project</p> <p>Needs to be quick and easy</p>	<p>What have England / Wales done?</p> <p>redacted-30(b)(i)</p> <p>Could it link in with SWF, or DHP? (ringfenced) Comment:</p> <p>CPAG - Theoretically it could be - but evidence tells us these funds have been failing people experiencing domestic abuse.</p> <p>DHPs are not suitable for everyone - they are limited to people who are already getting housing benefit or the housing element of universal credit - which will rule out anyone not getting benefits at the point they leave until they have accommodation set up. This is a gap in support</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We need a system that has the opportunity to monitor and record. We need a system that is fast. This includes human resource and capacity. We need a system that doesn't require a bank account in place.

¹⁰ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/universal-credit-statistics-29-april-2013-to-13-april-2023/universal-credit-29-april-2013-to-13-april-2023>

		<p>that we hope this new fund can help fill.</p> <p>SWF budgets are increasingly under pressure. CCG applications tend not to be fast. I'll attach the report on this I wrote a while back</p> <p>redacted-30(b)(i)</p>	
Data	<p>How do we collect relevant and useful data? Comment: Engender - As much equalities data as possible (without infringing anonymity in rural areas) will be very useful for building evidence and informing us about need for certain groups - useful for subsequent targeting/outreach</p> <p>What data do we need to collect for governance and evaluation? (speak to stats team)</p> <p>Do we need data sharing agreements?</p>	<p>redacted-30(b)(i)</p> <p>Need to capture if someone is accessing the fund more than once</p> <p>Comment: CPAG - It is possible they might have good reason to access the fund more than once, this should be built into the guidance</p>	
Outcomes	<p>What outcomes do we want to see and how will this be monitored</p> <p>Comment: Engender - Key outcome should be equally accessible by marginalised groups, after weighting for differentials like</p>	<p>redacted-30(b)(i)</p>	<p>redacted-30(b)(i)</p>

	<p>likelihood of poverty.</p> <p>SWA may be able to suggest outcome akin to cost of living crisis data - e.g. WAE report showing that 73% surveyed said they would be unable to leave abusive partner for financial reasons</p> <p>Possible logic modelling required?</p>		
Evaluation	<p>This needs to be evaluated so we have something to present for evidence of impact.</p> <p>Will the evaluation be published?</p>	<p>Can this be done as part of the delivery mechanism?</p> <p>Be clear on the expectations of the evaluation</p>	
Lived experience input	<p>How do we best get involvement of women with lived experience?</p>	<p>SWA has a survivor participation group.</p> <p>Change team (speak to redacted-38(1)(b))</p> <p>What other stakeholders can input into this?</p>	<p>SWA focus group – redacted-38(1)(b) to try and set up for end of August?</p>
Raising awareness	<p>How do we promote the fund?</p> <p>Comment: CPAG - Info available in different languages Engender - culturally competent, trauma-informed, LGBTI inclusive, gender-sensitive, accessible.</p>	<p>A recent survivor focus group said that one of the most useful places to read about DA help is the back of public toilet doors.</p> <p>Support Teams will be a useful resource in terms of promotion too; RRTP group, etc.</p> <p>The VAWG networks.</p>	

	Also need to consider where the budget for this comes from. We don't have a comms budget so it will need to come from the fund itself or rely on social media	Public transport. Universities and higher education buildings.	
Migrant women and women with NRPF	What are the implications for someone with NRPF?	redacted-30(b)(i)	Amina have a hardship fund for women in financial crisis, which takes a lot to administer and also has a strict criteria.
Unintended Consequences	Will this fund effect the recipients benefits or tax? Comments: CPAG - Not if DWP agree - SWF, DHPs, Scottish child payment etc are all ignored for the purposes of UC. Someone on SG reserved benefits team should be able to advise the process for ensuring the fund does not impact on other benefit Engender - Survivor participation group or similar lived experience input will also be important here	Need to ensure appropriate safeguards so that the perpetrator does not receive information To ask about options for best and appropriate contact – consider using bright sky app which hides info on phones Statutory services may remove support if receiving this fund. i.e social work	Awaiting advice from HMRC and DWP
Others	What role can the banks play? And other financial institutions, post office, building society, credit union What happens if someone doesn't	Comment: COSLA - Paypoint may be an option, (however higher value payments can sometimes exceed small shop's available float that they carry in their tills.	

	have a bank account? Can someone receive cash?		
What happens after the pilot?	Need to risk assess including the impact of continuing and not continuing		

Fund to leave development – Stakeholder engagement

Stakeholders		
Scottish Government		
redacted-38(1)(b)	Equality Unit - VAWG	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	G/T team	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	PRS team	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	RSL team	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	Social Security – Reserved Benefits team	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	Asylum and Refugee Integration team	redacted-38(1)(b)
External		
redacted-38(1)(b)	COSLA	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	COSLA	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	COSLA	tbc
redacted-38(1)(b)	COSLA	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	Improvement Service	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	ALACHO	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	ALACHO	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	SOLACE	redacted-38(1)(b)
?	HO Hub rep	
redacted-38(1)(b)	MECOPP	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	SWA	redacted-38(1)(b)
	Reps from local WA groups?	
redacted-38(1)(b)	CIH	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	SFHA	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	Engender	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	CPAG	redacted-38(1)(b)
?	Change team rep – ask redacted-38(1)(b)	

redacted-38(1)(b)	Amina – The Muslim Women’s Resource Centre (MWRC)	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	Shakti Women’s Aid	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	Cyrenians - Cyrenians launch new housing initiative to help women and children fleeing domestic abuse STV News Cyrenians partners with Women in Safe Homes fund Scottish Housing News	
redacted-38(1)(b)	Crisis	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	Shelter?	
redacted-38(1)(b)	Wheatley Group Rep	redacted-38(1)(b)
redacted-38(1)(b)	Dundee City Council	
redacted-38(1)(b)	East Lothian Council	
redacted-38(1)(b)	LGBT Youth	redacted-38(1)(b)
	Women are at greater risk of homelessness and abuse - Govan Law Centre 0800 043 0306	

ANNEX A

redacted-30(b)(i)

Universal Credit Amounts Monthly Rate ¹¹	Rates 2022/23 (£)	Rates 2023/24 (£)
Standard allowance – Single		
Single under 25	265.31	292.11
Single 25 or over	334.91	368.74
Child amounts		
First child (born prior to 6 April 2017)	290.00	315.00
First child (born on or after 6 April 2017)/ second child and subsequent child (where an exception or transitional provision applies)	244.58	269.58

1. The Housing Element of UC will usually cover the cost of rent in the social sector, but in the private rented sector claimants are subject to local housing allowance

¹¹ [Benefit and pension rates 2023 to 2024 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/benefit-and-pension-rates-2023-to-2024)

(LHA). The monthly LHA is based on size and location of accommodation and in Scotland range from the lowest rate at £260 for a room in Dumfries and Galloway to the highest rate at £1,695 for 4 bedrooms in the Lothians¹². Single people under 35 years old are only eligible for a single room rate.

2. These amounts are also subject to the bedroom tax and benefit cap, which can be mitigated via claiming DHPs. These figures are for illustration purposes to indicate our intention to use as the basis of cost analysis.

¹² [Scotland: Universal Credit Local Housing Allowance monthly rates 2023 to 2024 - GOV.UK \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/publishing.service.gov.uk)