

CALL FOR TENDERS

Women and the cost-of-living crisis in my local area

WBG-supported research

The project

As part of a project funded by Smallwood/Sisters Trust, The Women's Budget Group is inviting local women's organisations based in the UK to apply for a grant of £5,000 to explore how the cost-of-living crisis is affecting women in their local communities.

In 2022, we saw prices of essentials soaring and incomes not keeping up. This is affecting most families in the UK but [women are being impacted in particular ways](#):

- Women generally have lower incomes and savings to cushion the rising cost of living
- Women are usually the "shock absorbers" of poverty, shielding their children and families from its worst impacts
- Women are less able to increase their paid working hours or move onto better paid but less flexible jobs due to caring responsibilities
- Women are more likely to work in and depend on public services whose budgets are being squeezed by high inflation.

This crisis is also [affecting places differently](#), with London, the North of England, the Midlands and Scotland some of the regions worst affected by higher prices.

We would like to support local women's groups who want to explore how the cost-of-living crisis is impacting women in their local communities and provide policy recommendations for local authorities to address these impacts.

How we can support you

This is part of our programme to support local women's groups to access and use data for feminist activism. We can advise on:

- Data available and where to access it to investigate the cost-of-living crisis locally
- How to structure your analysis and which methods to use (e.g. interviews, focus groups, etc)
- Provide feedback on your final report and advise on policy recommendations
- Help with dissemination of the results.

Eligibility

We invite applications from local women's organisations or individual dedicated feminists embedded in their local community and based in the UK.

No previous formal experience of research is needed – we welcome both new and seasoned researchers! However, there must be a time commitment of 23 days over a 9-month period to carry out this research project and engage with WBG support.

Timeline

The following is an estimation of the 9-month project timeline:

Applications close: 15th February (end of day)

Selection process and first contact: 28th Feb

Desk research, fieldwork and data support: April-July

Final report write-up and feedback: Aug-Oct

Launch & dissemination of final report: Nov-Dec

Financial support

We provide a grant of £5,000 to contribute towards time and staff costs for the organisation/individual conducting the research plus in-kind support through training and data advice free of charge.

How to apply

To apply please [fill in this form](#).

In the application form we ask:

- The usual organisational details (or where you are based and local links if you are applying as an individual)
- What particular issues related to the cost-of-living crisis you would like to analyse locally
- Whether you will be looking at the impact on particular groups of women
- To provide us very briefly with initial plans for dissemination of your results and who you would like to target locally.

The deadline for applications is the 15th February (end of day). If you would like to have an informal chat about the project please contact Emma at emma.thackray@wbg.org.uk.

Selection process

We are looking to support one project in 2023 and to roll it out for more organisations in the following year.

In order to keep the process fair and prioritise those who would most benefit from it we will apply the following selection criteria:

- Prioritise areas that rank higher in the index of multiple deprivation [[see here for the list](#)]
- Local grassroots groups that cannot get funding for research from other sources
- Applicants with good links to their local community, particularly with economically marginalised groups
- Applications that include ideas for dissemination with a view of changing policy.

We will contact the successful applicant by the 28th February.

To apply please fill in this form by no later than the 15th February 2023.

For a discussion about the project and process please contact the project lead at emma.thackray@wbg.org.uk