

Freedom of Information Request 2024/25

Requested by Natalie Ward

Women's Aid Federation of England

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Freedom of Information Request details:

Women's Aid Federation of England is requesting information regarding your services for survivors of domestic violence and abuse. The request aims to **gain a full picture of all the domestic abuse services funded by your local authority** and what form this funding takes.

We have formatted this request as a table to make it clear what information we are asking for and have provided a list of definitions to support with completing the request. If you would like any further clarification, or the request to be submitted in a different format, please email foi@womensaid.org.uk.

This Freedom of Information request should be completed directly by the local authority and not referred to another organisation to complete.

Definitions:

- **Refuge/safe accommodation:** Accommodation and support provided for survivors experiencing domestic abuse. Accommodation can be in any or all of shared, self-contained, or dispersed housing.
- **Non-refuge/community-based services:** Services for survivors of domestic abuse provided separately from accommodation services. This may include floating support, outreach, IDVA/DAPA projects, formal domestic abuse counselling, group work programmes/support groups, helpline services, drop-in services, prevention and awareness work etc.
- **In-house services:** Services delivered directly by staff employed by the local authority and not contracted to another organisation.
- **Commissioned funding:** Funding secured through a competitive tender process.
- **Grant funding:** A sum of money provided under a Grant Funding Agreement, where applicants must meet the conditions of a fund.

Q1. Refuge/safe accommodation services

Please fill out this table with information about **all** the **refuge and/or safe accommodation** services for survivors of domestic abuse that your local authority funds in your area in 2024/25, including any refuge/safe accommodation services that are delivered in-house.

Refuge/safe accommodation services							
a. Which organisation/s do you currently fund to run refuge and/or safe accommodation in your area?	b. When did the current contract for this commissioned service start ? (Month/Year)	c. When does the current contract for this commissioned service end ? (Month/Year)	d. How is the funding for this service delivered? Please mark as many options as relevant with an 'X'.				e. If known, how many bedspaces for adults does your local authority fund this organisation to provide?
			Commissioned funding	Grant funding	Service delivered in-house	Other (please specify) / Comments	
<i>e.g. Avon Valley Domestic Abuse Service</i>	<i>e.g. May 2024</i>	<i>e.g. May 2027</i>	X	X		<i>e.g. mixture of contract and grant funding.</i>	<i>e.g. 12</i>
Changing Pathways (formerly Thurrock Women's Aid)	January 2019	January 2025				Commissioned/grant	18

f. If there is any other information you would like to provide to clarify your answers to Q1 please tell us here:

The building that houses the refuge accommodation has 15 units for women and children and there is an annex to the refuge which provides 3 units for single women.

Q2. Non-refuge/community-based services:

Please fill out this table with information about **any non-refuge/community-based services** for survivors of domestic abuse your local authority funds in your area in 2024/25, including any services delivered in-house. Please include details of any non-refuge/community-based services you fund which are provided by organisations already listed in Q1.

Non-refuge/community-based services	
a. What non-refuge/community-based services do you currently fund for survivors of domestic abuse in your area?	b. Which organisation/s currently hold/s this contract?
<i>e.g. Domestic abuse outreach service and IDVA project</i>	<i>e.g. Avon Valley Domestic Abuse Service</i>
Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub IDVA	Changing Pathways
Housing Safeguarding Team	In-house team of qualified IDVAs with housing knowledge and experience. Provide Sanctuary scheme plus community-based support.
Compass (24-hour helpline- Essex)	Safe Steps