Stand With Us Fund Application Guidance

Introduction

Stand With Us was set up to address the critical lack of investment in frontline organisations supporting women and girls who experience male violence.

Originally started with money raised by Reclaim These Streets in the wake of the appalling kidnap, rape and murder of Sarah Everard by a serving Metropolitan Police Officer, the fund exists to make the UK safer for all women and girls.

Women-led charities are vital in supporting women and girls who are affected by male violence but many of these organisations face severe underfunding and are struggling to meet escalating costs amid rising demand.

Stand With Us exists to address these challenges. The fund supports organisations to become stronger and more effective; better meeting the needs of women and girls and influencing wider change for all women and girls across the UK. Organisations can apply for up to £25,000 to fund areas related to organisational development, including strategy, governance, leadership, movement building, alliances, fundraising, impact, systems and processes.

The first round of the fund was launched in 2022 and was profoundly impactful:

- 25 organisations supported, reaching 13,359 women and girls
- Organisations leveraged £4 for every £1 invested, raising an additional £2.1million.

The second round of the fund launches after close consultation with an Advisory Group of VAWG sector experts.

This fund is for organisations that have an income of between £100,000 and £500,000 (from their last set of annual accounts).
We will fund organisations whose primary purpose is providing services directly to women and girls. The organisations will be delivering a frontline service to women and/or girls who have been affected by male violence and abuse including (but not limited to) domestic violence, coercive control, rape, sexual abuse, forced marriage, ‘honour’ based violence, FGM, sexual harassment, economic and financial abuse.

With the funding we have raised to date, we expect to be able to support at least 18 organisations across the four UK nations.

The deadline for applications is 5pm on Tuesday 30th July 2024.

Grants will be paid in January 2025 and will last for one year.

Once you have read this guidance, please attend one of our How to Apply webinars for more information or send queries to grants@rosauk.org.

**Background to the Fund**

Rosa has worked with an Advisory Group comprised of Rosa Trustees, VAWG experts from across the UK and two representatives of Reclaim These Streets, to determine the parameters of the Stand With Us fund. The Advisory Group developed and agreed the details of the fund, including the type of organisations the fund will support; the aim and priorities of the fund, and how much organisations can apply for. The recommendations made by the Advisory Group were considered and approved by Rosa’s Board of Trustees.

**What Rosa wants to achieve with this funding**

The Stand With Us fund (Round 2) aims to achieve the following outcomes:

- **Women and girls** will be supported by organisations delivering frontline services to end male violence against women and girls, ensuring women and girls can be safe, healthy and equal.

- **Women and girls organisations** will be empowered and strengthened, meaning that they will be in a stronger position to survive, thrive and grow into the future.

We want to enable organisations to be in a stronger position to survive, thrive and grow by investing in organisational development work such as developing strategy, strengthening governance and leadership, a stronger voice in the women’s movement, creating stronger alliances and partnerships, increasing fundraising, volunteering and activism, demonstrating impact and more effective systems and processes.

This means organisations will be able to report one or more of these changes:
• a clearer or a more detailed strategy
• more effective governance
• more effective leadership
• a stronger voice within the women’s movement
• stronger alliances with other women’s organisations
• more able to attract funding from other sources
• more able to demonstrate the impact of your work
• more effective systems and processes

Examples of the types of activities we will fund against each of these outcomes are provided later in this guidance.

Who can apply?

This fund is for women’s and girls’ organisations delivering frontline services addressing male violence against women and girls that have an income of between £100,000 and £500,000 (from their last set of annual accounts).

In order to apply, your organisation must meet all the following eligibility criteria:

• Be a women’s and/or girls’ organisation. Rosa defines women’s and girls’ organisations as those which are run by, for and with women and girls. This means that your organisation will be governed and led by women. It will have a Board of Trustees (or similar) where the Chair is a woman, and the majority of members are women. The majority of your organisation’s employee leadership team will be women. Your organisation will have the principle objective of working with women and/or girls and the majority of your organisation’s beneficiaries are, and will always be, women and/or girls.
• Be an organisation delivering a frontline service to women and/or girls who have been affected by male violence and abuse including (but not limited to) domestic violence, coercive control, rape, sexual abuse, forced marriage, ‘honour’ based violence, FGM, sexual harassment, economic and financial abuse.
• Be a not-for-profit organisation
• Have an income of between £100,000 and £500,000 from your last set of annual accounts (these are full year accounts which have been signed off by your board).
• Have unrestricted reserves of no more than 12 months expenditure.
• Have a written governing document, e.g. a constitution or set of rules.
• Have a governing body with at least 3 unrelated members.
• Have a UK-based bank or building society account in the name of the organisation, with at least 2 unrelated signatories.
• Have an appropriate safeguarding policy in place (every organisation that delivers charitable activities has a duty to safeguard volunteers, staff members, participants and donors).
• Deliver all their work in one or more of the four UK Nations: England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

Rosa UK, 4th Floor, United House, North Road, London N7 9DP
Registered Charity No: 1124856; Company Limited by Guarantee No: 6598018
The Stand With Us fund will prioritise the following organisations:

Women’s and girls’ organisations which are:

- operating in the top 10% of the most disadvantaged areas in the UK -based on the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD);
- based in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland;
- led by and for Black and minoritised women and girls;
- led by and for disabled women and girls;
- led by and for LGBTQ+ women and girls;

In addition, organisations that have not previously been funded by the Stand With Us fund Round 1 (SWU 1) will be prioritised in the second round of the fund.

**How much can you apply for?**

You can apply for a grant of up to £25,000 over a 1-year period from January 2025 to December 2025.

**What sort of work will Rosa fund?**

We will fund organisational development work that will support your organisation to survive, thrive and grow into the future.

We know that developing an organisation takes time and resource, so through this programme we are funding extra capacity in organisations, rather than supporting existing costs.

The table below sets out the types of changes we want to see, as well as examples of the type of work we will fund.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>The change we want to see</th>
<th>Examples of work we will fund</th>
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<tr>
<td><em>When we are assessing your application, we want to see that our grant will help you make one or more of the changes listed below.</em></td>
<td><em>Here are some of the types of work we can fund (it is not an exhaustive list). It isn’t our intention to direct you to apply for these costs, but simply to give you an idea of the breadth of costs we can consider.</em></td>
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</table>
| Your organisation has more effective leadership | Leadership training for senior staff members or to enable staff to take the next step into leadership roles  
|                                                | Specialist management or skills-based training courses  
|                                                | Mentoring and coaching  
|                                                | Organisational awaydays to support the growth and sustainability of your organisation  
|                                                | Extra capacity and expertise to support current staff develop how your organisation is led and managed through a review process or by providing mentoring and coaching.  
|                                                | You may also want to include costs for staff self-care: we recognise that this takes many different forms. |
| Your organisation has more effective governance | Commission expertise and/or extra capacity to undertake a governance review, conduct a board skills audit, or run training for the board and staff team. |
| Your organisation has a clearer or a more detailed strategy | Backfill the Chief Executive’s role so they can develop a business plan, a new service, or a theory of change.  
|                                                    | Buy in additional capacity or expertise to help you do this. |
| Your organisation has stronger alliances with other women’s organisations | Organise a programme of visits to other organisations doing similar work to you, in order to share learning, build partnerships and improve your work;  
|                                                    | Backfill a staff members’ time to enable them to develop partnerships with other organisations;  
|                                                    | Pay a membership fee, or subscription cost where this would enhance your work and your reach.  
|                                                    | Organise shared workshops to strengthen collaboration between women’s organisations. |
| Your organisation is more able to attract funding from other sources. | Develop a fundraising strategy, employ a fundraiser, or invest in staff training.  
|                                                                 | Research how you could tap into new sources of funding such as Trusts and Foundations you haven’t worked with before, crowd funding, community giving, or setting up a social enterprise. |
| Your organisation has a stronger voice within the women’s movement. | Develop a communications or marketing strategy for your organisation. |
- Employ someone to develop and run your social media presence or train existing staff in how to do this.
- Train volunteers so they are more confident undertaking media work, or public speaking.
- Develop and run a training course for women who are interested in your work and who would like to volunteer for you.
- Undertake a recruitment drive to attract new volunteers to support your work

Your organisation is more able to demonstrate the impact of its work.

- Improve how you collect and use information about your organisation’s impact.
- Design and implement a monitoring system, a way of collecting feedback or
- Purchase a database and input your data into it.
- Buy in extra resource to develop new ways of communicating your impact to stakeholders and potential funders such as using case studies.

Your organisation has more effective systems and processes.

- Design and implement a new I.T system and develop new processes such as referral systems or financial controls in order to improve your work and secure the organisation’s long-term future.
- Train employees in new ways of working that will improve the way services are delivered

What cannot be funded?

We will not fund the following types of activities:

- organisations that do not meet our eligibility criteria including our definition of a women’s and/or girls’ organisation
- responsibilities of statutory agencies
- profit-making work
- party political activity
- activities promoting religious beliefs
- work outside the UK
- applications from individuals
- overseas travel
- interest payments on loans
- building purchase
- costs that your organisation has already incurred (‘retrospective costs’)
How to apply

To apply, please complete our brief online application form by 5pm on Tuesday 30th July 2024. We are unable to accept late applications.

Rosa will be hosting ‘How to Apply’ webinars to help applicants develop their applications. Please register using the links below:

10.00-11.00 Thursday 4 July
11.00-12.00 Tuesday 23 July

Once you have read this guidance click and select ‘new applicant’ to start your application. If you have applied previously to Rosa, please use your existing login details to log in and start a new application.

If you start your online application, but are unable to complete all the required information, don’t worry. You can simply save your form and come back to it later. To access your form again, use this link, then log in using your email address and the password you created.

If you forget your password, you can create a new one by clicking on ‘Forgot Password?’ and following the instructions.

We encourage you to contact us if you have any queries about submitting an application. If you have any access requirements please let us know what support we can provide. The best way to contact us is to send an email to grants@rosauk.org. Please use ‘Stand With Us Fund’ as your email subject and provide your organisation name, contact name and contact number if you would like to speak to someone. We will do our very best to respond to your queries as soon as we can.

How will decisions be made?

Stage 1

We will do basic eligibility checks before shortlisting. Applications will be shortlisted based on:

- Passing the eligibility checks
- How well the proposal fits with the aim and priorities of the fund
- Need and opportunity for strengthening your organisation at this time
- A good geographic spread of applications across the four UK nations
- A number of organisations operating in the top 10% most disadvantaged areas in the UK – based on the Indices of multiple deprivation (IMD);
- A number of organisations led by and for: Black and minoritised women and girls; disabled women; or LGBTQ+ women and girls
- A number of organisations that have not previously received a grant from the Stand With Us 1 fund.

Rosa UK, 4th Floor, United House, North Road, London N7 9DP
Registered Charity No: 1124856; Company Limited by Guarantee No: 6598018
Assessments will be carried out by Rosa grants assessors.

**Stage 2**

Applications that pass the shortlisting process will go through to the next stage, which may involve a pre-arranged call with your organisation to discuss your application. The assessments will be carried out by the same group of assessors.

**Stage 3**

We take a participatory approach to our work, and value the experiences of those closest to the work we are supporting. Therefore, applications will be considered by a grants panel which is made-up of women with relevant expertise, which includes understanding of the VAWG sector. Rosa’s grants panels are always chaired by a Rosa Trustee. Recommendations from the Grants Panel will be approved by Rosa’s Grants Committee which is made up of a group of Rosa’s Trustees.

**Application timetable**

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<tr>
<td>Fund opens</td>
<td>Tuesday 18th June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Closing date for applications</td>
<td>5pm Tuesday 30th July</td>
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<tr>
<td>Notifications to applicants not shortlisted</td>
<td>By 16th September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Call to discuss your application (if necessary)</td>
<td>September/October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Notification of outcome for all other applicants</td>
<td>By Monday 16th December</td>
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We recognise that this is a fairly long assessment process, but feel it is important to build in enough time to shortlist and assess applications, and to undertake the high-quality grant making that we are proud of at Rosa.

**If you are successful**

We look forward to building a relationship of trust and support with funded organisations and we will be here to discuss any queries regarding your grant during the funding period. We are open to discussing proposed changes to your grant, recognising that circumstances change.

**Grant payments and reporting**

We will pay your grant up front in January 2025, after we receive your signed grant agreement.

We understand how challenging reporting on grants can be, therefore we will ensure that the monitoring of this fund is light touch to prevent adding additional burden to organisations. We will also provide guidance material and be available for any queries to take you through our simple reporting process.
There will be a short mid-point grant report and a simple end of grant report form to complete, which will capture how funding has been used and the extent to which it helped.

**Relationships and additional support**

We actively invest in building relationships with women’s organisations. Throughout the life of your grant, we’ll be in touch to schedule in catch up support calls (video calls where possible) to hear about how you are getting on, to draw out stories we might be able to share, to understand how we might be able to further support you and to keep you informed of other opportunities.

Alongside provision of grant funding, Rosa will also provide capacity building support that will be tailored in collaboration with the organisations we fund.

To find out more about Rosa’s work you can follow us on X (Twitter) and sign up to our newsletter (on the homepage of our website www.rosauk.org) to hear about future funding opportunities.

**If you are not successful**

We understand the need for funding of this kind is great and that we are highly likely to receive more applications than we can support. As far as possible we want to be able to offer some support to all applicants. If your application is unsuccessful, we will write to you telling you the reasons why. We do provide feedback on common errors and application weaknesses.
## Application form questions

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<th>APPLICATION QUESTIONS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Contact Information</td>
<td>Provide basic organisation information and details of the lead contact for the application.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Where did you hear about the Stand with us Fund?</td>
<td>Please tell us how you found out about the programme. You can choose from the following options:</td>
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<td>- Press</td>
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<td>- X (Twitter)</td>
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<td>- Facebook</td>
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<td>- Rosa Newsletter</td>
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<td>- Organisation</td>
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<td>- Word of Mouth</td>
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<td>- Directly from Rosa</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Other</td>
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<td>We would like to keep in contact with you through our newsletter where you will be advised of future funding and networking opportunities. If you would like to stay in touch, please select yes.</td>
<td>Rosa champions initiatives that benefit women and girls in the UK. We would like to keep you up to date about future funding programmes and networking opportunities. If you are happy for us to stay in touch, please select yes.</td>
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<td>Eligibility Questions</td>
<td>Applicants that meet the following criteria are eligible for funding:</td>
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<td>- You are an organisation working on the frontline to support women and girls affected by male violence.</td>
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<td>- To apply to this fund applicants must be a women or girls organisation. Rosa defines women’s and girls’ organisations as those which are run by, for and with women and girls. This means that your organisation will be governed and led by women. It will have a Board of Trustees (or similar) where the Chair is a woman and the majority of members are women. The majority of your organisation’s employee leadership team will be women. Your organisation will have the principle objective of working with women and/or girls and the majority of your organisation’s beneficiaries are, and will always be, women and/or girls.</td>
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<td>• Your organisation does not have to be a registered charity, but its activities must be charitable, legal and for the benefit of women and/or girls.</td>
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<td>• You have an income of between £100,000 and £500,000 from your last set of annual accounts (these are full year accounts which have been signed off by your board).</td>
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<td>• You must be able to produce annual accounts for three full years.</td>
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<td>• You must have unrestricted reserves of 12 months expenditure or less.</td>
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<td>• You must have a written governing document, e.g. a constitution or set of rules.</td>
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<td>• You must have a governing body with at least 3 unrelated members.</td>
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<td>• You must have a UK-based bank or building society account in the name of the organisation, with at least 2 unrelated signatories.</td>
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<td>• You must have an appropriate safeguarding policy in place.</td>
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<td>• All your work must take place in one or more of the four UK Nations: England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.</td>
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<td>• The work you want us to fund must not have a party-political nature.</td>
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<td>• The work you want us to fund must not promote religious belief.</td>
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**Organisation Type**

This fund will support not-for-profit organisations run by and for women and girls.

There are several different types of not-for-profit organisations in the UK, each with different legal structures. Please choose your organisation type from the drop-down list:

- Registered charity
- Community interest company
- Not for profit company limited by guarantee
- Unregistered charity/not for profit organisation
- Charitable incorporated organisation/Scottish charitable incorporated organisation
- Industrial and provident community benefit society
- Other - please state
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| **Please tell us how you are set up** (150 words max) | • How many people sit on your governing body (e.g. trustees or directors)? How many are women/girls?  
  • Is your Chair a woman?  
  • How many paid staff do you have? How many are women?  
  • How many employees are in your senior leadership team? How many are women?  
  • How many unpaid workers/volunteers do you have (excluding your governing body)? How many are women?  
  • Is there anything else you’d like to tell us about the way your organisation is set up? |
| **Please tell us when your organisation started** | Please enter the date when your organisation started |
| **Please tell us a bit about your organisation** (250 words max) | Please briefly tell us about your organisation’s history, purpose and work.  
  You can split your response into sections by telling us:  
  a) how and why your organisation was set up  
  b) what you are trying to achieve (your aims)  
  c) what you do (your activities)  
  d) where your work takes place (geographic location and reach, and the characteristics of the area you work in)  
  e) who it is for (your beneficiaries) |
| **Please tell us if your organisation works in any geographical areas that are listed in the top 10% most deprived in your nation’s indices of deprivation. You can use the links provided to find out where areas score on the indices of deprivation. Please list the post code areas that you work in that are within the top 10% most deprived.** | Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) – [https://gweddill.gov.wales/statistics-andresearch/welsh-index-multiple-deprivation/?lang=en](https://gweddill.gov.wales/statistics-andresearch/welsh-index-multiple-deprivation/?lang=en)  
 Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) - [https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/SIMD](https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/SIMD)  
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<tr>
<td>Please tick one of the boxes if your organisation is led by and for Black and minoritised women and girls; led by and for disabled women; led by and for LGBTQ+ women and girls.</td>
<td>Please tick one of the boxes is your organisation is led by and for Black and minoritised women and girls; led by and for disabled women; led by and for LGBTQ+ women and girls.</td>
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</table>
| If you have ticked yes to any of the above boxes, please tell us more about how your organisation is led by and for Black and minoritised women and girls, disabled women and girls or LGBTQ+ women and girls. | If you have ticked yes to indicate that your organisation is led by and for Black and minoritised women and girls, disabled women and girls or LGBTQ+ women and girls please tell us more about this in the box provided. You could tell us more about:  
  a) how and why your organisation was set up  
  b) who governs and manages it  
  c) what you are trying to achieve (your aims)  
  d) what you do (your activities)  
  e) who it is for (your beneficiaries) |
| Last financial year end date. | Please tell us the end date for your organisation’s last complete financial year. Your financial year must be a 12-month period but may be different to the calendar year. |
| Total income for the last financial year. | Please tell us your organisation’s total income for the last complete financial year. |
| Total expenditure for the last financial year. | Please tell us your organisation’s total expenditure for the last complete financial year. |
| Restricted reserves at last financial year end. | Please tell us the total amount of restricted funds your organisation had at the end of the last complete financial year. Restricted reserves are funds that your organisation may hold at the end of the year which must be spent in a particular way. |
| Unrestricted reserves at last financial year end. | Please tell us the total amount of unrestricted funds your organisation had at the end of the last complete financial year. Unrestricted reserves are funds that are available for the purposes of the organisation, to be spent in agreement with the management committee.   
In order to be eligible for this fund, you must not have more than 12 months of expenditure in your unrestricted reserves. |
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<td>Please tell us if there is anything of note regarding your organisation's most recent financial accounts.</td>
<td>This question is optional. If there is anything in your most recent financial accounts you want to highlight then please tell us here. This may include information around surplus/deficits or your reserves.</td>
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<td>Amount requested</td>
<td>Please put the period of the grant in here. You will need to include the amount requested and when you would like the grant to run to.</td>
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| Please tell us why you need this funding now (150 words max) | Please tell us what your organisation needs in order to develop. This should relate to one or more of the areas below:  
- Strategy  
- Governance  
- Leadership  
- Voice in the women’s movement  
- Alliances and partnerships  
- Funding  
- Demonstrating impact  
- Systems and processes.  

Briefly tell us how you know this (e.g. your staff or Trustees have identified a need, feedback from funders, advice from other organisations or consultants) |
| Please tell us how you will use the funding (150 words max) | Tell us what you will do with this funding. For example, if you plan on recruiting a consultant for strategic development, tell us how you will do this. If you would like to set up an IT system, tell us how you would do this. Or if you will be backfilling a senior employee’s time, explain how you will do this. |
| Please tell us how your organisation will change as a result of this funding (150 words max) | Tell us how this funding will help you meet the need you identified above. You will need to show us that this grant will help your organisation achieve one or more of these changes:  
- a clearer or a more detailed strategy  
- more effective governance  
- more effective leadership  
- stronger voice within the women’s movement |
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| • stronger alliances with other women’s organisations  
• more able to attract funding from other sources  
• more able to demonstrate the impact of your work  
• more effective systems and processes | |
| If your organisation received a grant from the first round of the Stand With Us (SWUS1) programme, please tell us how a second grant would enable your organisation to build on your earlier work. If you are applying to fund a post that was funded by SWU1 please also tell us how you would approach longer term funding for this post, once SWU2 funding has ended. (150 words max) | Tell us what your first grant achieved, the work you still need to do and how a second grant would build on the work you did using your first grant.  
If you are applying to fund a post that was funded by SWU1 please also tell us how you would approach longer term funding for this post once your second grant from Rosa has ended. |
| Please estimate how many women and/or girls your organisation will help between January 2025 and January 2026. | You could base this on how many women and/or girls you helped last year. |
| Please confirm the start and end date for the grant | We can only accept requests for one year funding. |
| Budget | Please use the budget items below to outline, as clearly as possible, how you will spend the grant. The total figure for the budget must be the same as the total amount requested. Only enter numbers into the cost field and do not use commas or pounds. Do not ‘round up’ or ‘round down’ any amounts. Please use the comments section next to each budget item to describe the costs the grant will help to fund.  
**Budget items:**  
**Direct staff costs** - This might include a new staff post or backfilling a senior member of staff. |
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<td>Please tell us where you need funding towards a specific role and where possible show how you have worked out the cost. Please note: Rosa is committed to supporting organisations to pay the Living Wage. We try to ensure that grants made towards staff costs are paid at least the Living Wage, where possible.</td>
<td><strong>Associated staff costs</strong> - This might include management, training, travel or support for staff. <strong>Volunteer costs</strong> - This might include training, travel, subsistence, equipment, volunteer support. <strong>Other Direct Costs</strong> - This includes any other costs directly associated to the work you are delivering. For example, consultancy fees, new systems or membership fees. <strong>General running costs</strong> – This might include rent, utility costs, insurances and any other costs related to the day to day running of your organisation. <strong>Up to 15% of your total request can be general running costs.</strong> Please use the comments box to tell us which of your general running costs you are including here, but you do not need to show us how it has been calculated.</td>
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<tr>
<td>What other non-financial support do you need right now?</td>
<td>Rosa will work to provide additional support for the organisations we fund. It would be helpful to hear from you about what non-financial support your organisation needs so we can ensure our support is targeted and relevant to the current needs of the sector.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attachments required:</td>
<td>As part of the assessment process, we will carry out due diligence checks. This includes assessment of finances and governance structures. Please provide all the requested documents. Please note that if any of these accounts are available to view on the Charity Commission website you do not need to attach to this application. However, you will need to attach a note which makes it clear which accounts can be viewed online.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Please upload your signed annual accounts for your most recent financial year.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Please upload your management accounts, signed by your Chair or CEO.</td>
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<tr>
<td>APPLICATION QUESTIONS</td>
<td>GUIDANCE</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Please upload a copy of a bank statement from within the last 3 months.</td>
<td>Your bank statement should show your account name and number as well as recent transactions and account balance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Please upload a copy of the governing document for your organisation.</td>
<td>Please use a zip file to submit more than one document.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Please upload your organisation’s safeguarding policy(ies).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>