

## **Guidelines and application form for accessing BME NRPF Emergency Fund**

This fund is intended as a resource to support Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) victims of Domestic Violence in Devon who, for whatever reason, have no recourse to public funds. Because of current immigration laws, some victims from BME communities cannot access safe housing or benefits to escape domestic violence. This means that women's support organisations sometimes have to choose between turning women away or using their very limited reserve funds to cover the costs.

The circumstances of each victim's case will be different so it is not possible to specify under what circumstances monies should be released; this decision is in the hands of the fund's administrators. Similarly, we do not wish to specify exactly what the money should be spent on - though we can offer some examples and general guidelines:

Recipients should:

- Have no recourse to public funds
- Have limited income
- Have exhausted normal channels of support

It should be noted that using this fund in an emergency situation does not preclude victims accessing other support services. We would encourage working with local and national DVA support services, both statutory and voluntary sector, throughout the process to explore long-term solutions.

Money might be spent on:

- Emergency accommodation – either by agreement with a Women's Refuge to cover costs or in a B&B.
- Transport .e.g. to get away from an area quickly; to travel to seek legal advice
- Clothes
- Daily living costs

However, these are guidelines and examples only and any final decision will be at the discretion of the fund administrators. There are three administrators and funds can be released on the agreement of any two.

### **Contacts**

In the first instance please contact one of the members of the BME/DV Action Group listed below to discuss the case.

**Maja Lelandais**

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**Sevil Fertinger**

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### **Invoicing**

If funding is approved, invoices should be sent to:  
NRPF Fund. c/o St Sidwells Centre, Sidwell St. Exeter. EX4 6NN

### Application for funds

Name of applicant	Date of Birth
Ethnicity/Nationality	How long in UK?
Brief description of circumstances	
Organisations contacted before this application?	
What will the money be used for?	
Amount requested?	
Contact details for person/organisation making application.	
AGREED	DENIED
Administrator's signature.	