



Expression of Interest for the National Lottery Community Fund project

Introduction

SafeLives has received a grant from the National Lottery Community Fund to work in partnership with three Local Authorities; Bolton, Leicestershire and Sheffield. SafeLives has previously worked in all three areas delivering steps 1 and 2 of the [Public Health Approach](#), and from our recommendations each area had clearly prioritised Authentic Voice as an area of focus. The project aims to implement steps 3 and 4 of the approach; to deliver a sustainable model for embedding child and adult survivors' voices in the design and delivery of policies and services intended to meet their needs. The project is funded for three years from January 2024-December 2026.

The project will be delivered by a core SafeLives team alongside Authentic Voice Coordinators (AVC) recruited locally and located in a local service in each of the three areas. The AVC role is crucial to the success of the project as they will have local knowledge and connections which will help ensure the implementation and embedding of the model is truly informed by the needs of local survivors.

We would like to invite expressions of interest from local organisations, community led and by and for organisations providing support to victims and survivors of domestic abuse to host the AVC role for the duration of the project. The AVC role is fully funded by the project and management, IT and oversight costs are included in the funding.

We believe victims and survivors should be supported throughout every stage of the recovery process - and that includes not only listening to them when they tell us what needs to change but creating opportunities for them to safely have their voices heard and inform the development of services.

We all have ambitions of creating a fairer, safer world – but we won't get this right unless we are guided by those with lived experience. SafeLives puts real life experiences at the heart of what we do. We believe that people who have been in an abusive relationship have a kind of knowledge that only comes from living through it – expertise by experience. We call this 'Authentic Voice'. Relationships are supposed to be safe, loving and supportive – an opportunity for us to grow and connect with each other and our community. But for too many people, domestic abuse is a lived reality – isolating people from their communities, creating fear, mental and physical harm, and chipping away at their sense of self, safety, and autonomy.



Authentic Voice gives survivors the opportunity to reclaim a part of themselves – an opportunity to tell their own story, witness other survivors speak their truth and be a part of lasting change. When survivors are central to the design and delivery of services, the results are transformative – for survivors’ recovery and for workforce development. Nothing should be decided about how best to help victims of domestic abuse without their insight.

About the Role

The Local AVCs will each work as part of a wider project team based in each of the three areas, with the aim of delivering a sustainable model for embedding child and adult survivors’ voices.

This model will involve creating spaces, opportunities, and networks for survivors from across Sheffield to share their lived experience in a variety of ways such as surveys, focus groups, forums and panels; and enable survivors to co-create the design, development and delivery of local policies and services intended to meet their needs.

The model will be inclusive and equitable, ensuring survivors from marginalised and seldom heard from communities can be active partners and have equal influence.

The posts will be hosted by local services within each area who will receive grant funding to cover the salary, on-costs and management costs for these roles. Funding will also be available to cover project costs relating to engagement with local survivors. This means that services can be flexible in how they provide the service to ensure it meets the needs of child and adult survivors.

For example, services may wish to employ two part time members of staff, one as an Adult Authentic Voice Coordinator, one as a Children and Young People’s Authentic Voice Coordinator.

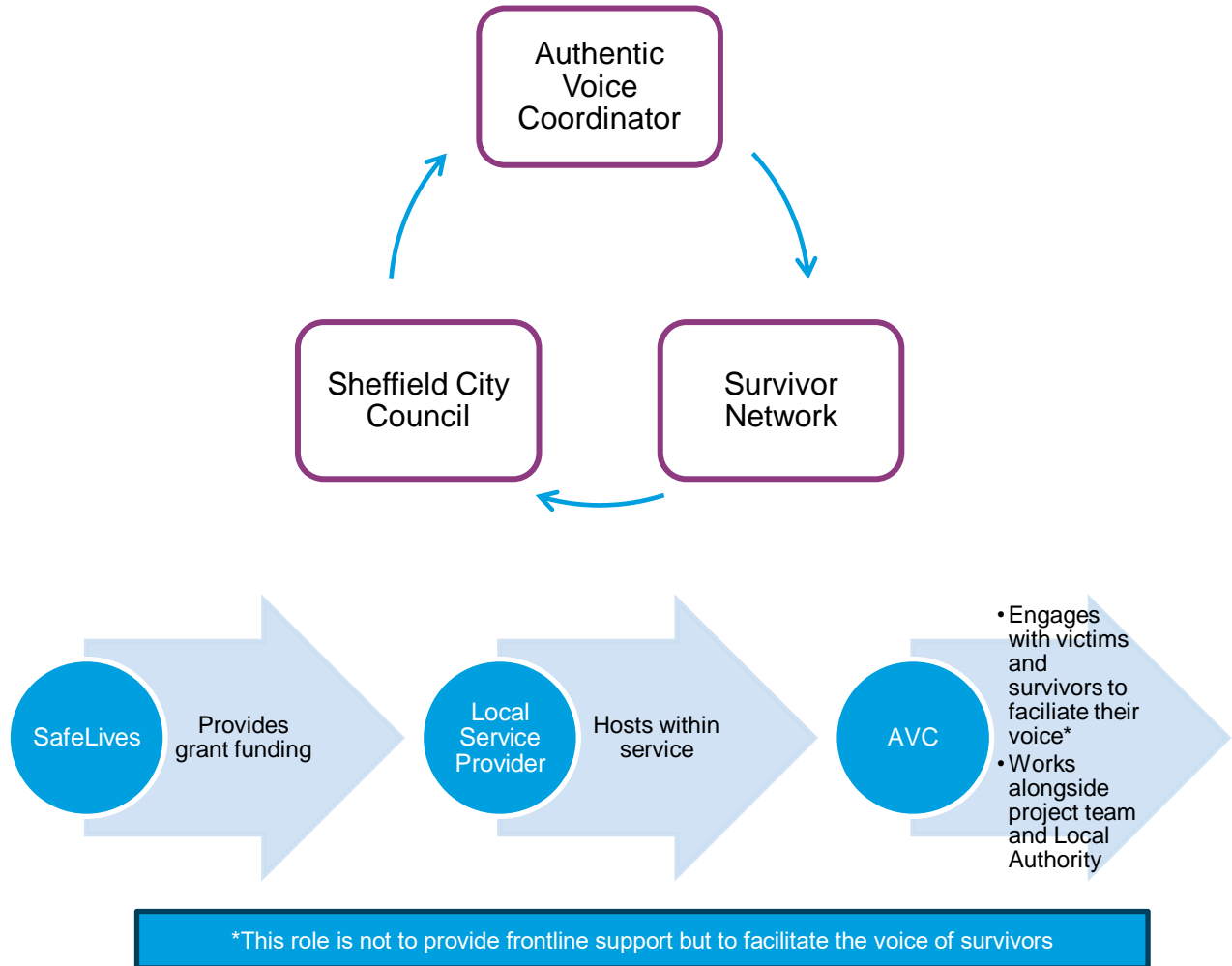
Services can also submit an Expression of Interest for only the Children and Young People’s Authentic Voice Coordinator or the Adult Authentic Voice Coordinator.



Project Team

The Local AVCs will form part of a wider project team in each of the three areas, consisting of a SafeLives Practice Consultant, SafeLives Authentic Voice Coordinator and local Authentic Voice Coordinator.

This role will also work closely with Sheffield City Council with the aim of ensuring survivor voice is embedded within the wider systems and local fora.



Each area will have its own individual Project Team which will feed into the Project Oversight Group with a membership of SafeLives and representatives from Bolton, Leicestershire and Sheffield.

Next Steps

To apply for this project please submit an Expression of Interest of no more than 1000 words, detailing your current service offer and evidence of why you would be well placed to host this role, including examples of similar work completed and/or roles within your organisation.

(Word limit 1000)

Expressions of Interest can also be made by submitting a video of no more than 10 minutes detailing the above.

We welcome applicants with experience in working with capturing diverse voices from marginalised communities.

Expressions of Interest will be reviewed by a panel consisting of SafeLives including a Pioneer and/or Changemaker who are experts by experience, and the Local Authority.

Please note we reserve the right to close this Expression of Interest early.

Please submit EOI to the following email address: nlcf@safelives.org.uk

Second Stage Interviews

If shortlisted for this project, there will be a second phase interview panel consisting of SafeLives including a Pioneer and/or Changemaker who are experts by experience, and the Local Authority, with project delivery specific questions.

In addition, you will be required to evidence the following -

- Audited financial statements for the last three years and auditors' management letters
- Interim management accounts covering the period since the last audited accounts
- Income and expenditure, cash flow and balance sheet forecasts showing future financial position, with comments on material changes in expected funding expenditure and cash flows, and any material future financial uncertainties and risks
- Your certificate of incorporation/registration
- You are GDPR compliant and have evidence of information sharing policies
- Your board/management committee minute authorising the Expression of Interest
- Up to date insurance cover notes/certificates (as stated in the contract)

The following organisational policies:

- Safeguarding policy (adult and children and including how your organisation processes safeguarding complaints)
- Equality and Diversity policy
- Data protection policy

