

13. **Of that £1.1m, around £500k is allocated to five of the national helplines and, once the organisations sign the required grant variation documentation which we have sent to them, they should receive their first payments within two weeks.** We are working with the other five organisations to agree grant agreements – which, for most of them, is dependent on their submitting revised detailed costings to reflect having received smaller awards than they asked for - and aim to distribute the funding to them by the end of May.
14. **You requested whether we could relatively quickly distribute the remainder of that £2m pot to organisations with whom we have existing relationships.** A number of organisations have contacted us with requests for funds. We propose, as below, awarding funds to three of them, and to the new code word scheme. The proposed recipients are:
- a. **Karma Nirvana have requested £71k to employ three additional staff for between 10 and 12 months on their national “honour”-based abuse (HBA) helpline.** This is based on recent rises in call volumes. The principle in previous bids has been to pay for around six months’ additional staffing costs as this funding is about surge capacity. Hence we recommend funding the three staff for six months, coming to **£37,500**. There is a handling risk in awarding Karma Nirvana less than they asked for. They have been critical of what they say is the insufficient attention given to HBA by the Government during the pandemic, and these criticisms have reached the media and, through sympathetic local MPs, Parliament. Granting them less than their desired allocation could lead to claims that victims of DA, and BAME victims more generally, are not being treated equally. However, the difference in this case could be clearly justified, including on the basis of equal treatment with other bidders. We also recommend funding them **up to £10k** in arrears for national amplification of a communications campaign for victims of HBA being developed locally by Oxford Against Cutting.
 - b. **Sign Health, which supports deaf victims of DA, have requested £24,422 to establish a weekly support forum via Zoom.**
 - c. **The Employers Initiative are seeking £20k to employ a new member of staff and to produce additional guidance and materials for businesses.** While we have not previously funded them they offer a unique service and, subject to due diligence checks, we believe it would be possible to make a case to fund them.
 - d. **Payments for the codeword scheme in retail outlets for DA victims (see Name Redacted submission of 11 May).** While the £2m was originally announced in headline terms to enhance online support services and helplines for domestic abuse, in more detailed communications we also referenced support for innovative means of enabling victims to seek advice and help, which the codeword scheme would meet. Name Redacted submission of 11 May recommended spending **£300k** on this, to provide accompanying materials for retailers and flagging the scheme on relevant social media and other outlets. We believe that the scheme will be broadly welcomed but does need support for which there is no other readily identifiable source of funding.
15. **We recommend making the above funding awards.**
16. **If you agree with these four awards, this would represent an additional £391,922, which would leave £516,539 to be allocated.** If you were to choose one of the other financial options in the codeword submission, of paying £150k or