

The background of the entire page is a gradient from purple at the top to dark blue at the bottom. On the left side, there is a dark silhouette of a woman with long, wavy hair, looking towards the right. The title 'SURVIVING ECONOMIC ABUSE' is positioned in the top right corner, with each word on a separate colored bar. A quote in white cursive script is on the right side. At the bottom left, the title 'Impact Report 2019-20' is written in large white sans-serif font, preceded by a horizontal line.

**SURVIVING**

**ECONOMIC**

**A B U S E**

*"The wider we cast our net, the more we can ensure that at every step, a woman rebuilding her life after economic abuse is met with understanding, and support..."*

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**Impact Report**  
**2019-20**

# Introduction



**Dr Nicola Sharp-Jeffs**  
Chief Executive



**Cathy Millis**  
Chair of Trustees

It has been fantastic to build on the momentum and success of 2018–2019, continuing to grow from strength to strength. Now three years on from its inception, SEA has developed from a bold idea into an established charity, transforming the lives of victim-survivors.

2019–2020 was another busy year. We worked hard to raise wider awareness of economic abuse, and with high profile media slots (including a piece that resulted in thousands of pounds worth of debt being written off for survivors), an award-winning campaign, and an invitation to Number 10 from the Prime Minister. It has been exciting to see our message go further than ever before.

Our team has grown to comprise 13 committed women, some of whom bring lived experience to their work. New team members have meant we can expand our efforts and reach, including delivering a suite of new resources called Tools to Thrive. Other activities we embarked on this year demonstrate the lasting impact we are making.

We worked with Lloyds Banking Group to develop a pioneering specialist team to support customers who are victims of economic abuse. Home Office funding allowed us to continue to find new ways of responding to victim-survivors. We trained 20 police forces and over a thousand professionals across domestic abuse, money, debt, housing and financial services

The three years also mark the end of the SEA's founding project, the Economic Justice Project, which has brought about real, measurable change in people's lives, reaching nearly 300 women and writing off over £600,000 worth of coerced debt. As we begin new ventures, we can do so with the sound knowledge that we have strong foundations on which to build.

We are immensely proud that we have come so far in such a short time but know that Covid-19 will bring a new set of challenges. Never has our 'agile' value been so important. We'd like to thank the Trustees for their strong leadership, a team who is always ready to do whatever it takes to achieve our mission, our funders for getting in touch and offering their ongoing support and the Experts by Experience who continue to guide us in all that we do.



# Economic abuse: The facts

Domestic abuse takes many forms. Some abusers repeatedly dictate their partner's choices and control their everyday actions, becoming violent or threatening to become violent if their demands are refused. An abuser may control how their partner acquires, uses and maintains money and economic resources, such as accommodation, food, clothing and transportation. This behaviour is known as economic abuse. Thanks to the work of SEA, economic abuse will be recognised within the statutory definition of domestic abuse, which will be introduced by the Domestic Abuse Bill when it receives Royal Assent.

## National prevalence



British women have experienced financial abuse in a current or former relationship<sup>1</sup>.



women, since the age of 16, have experienced non-physical (emotional, financial) domestic abuse from a partner<sup>2</sup>.



Women who can't find £100 at short notice are 3.5x more likely to experience domestic abuse<sup>3</sup>.

## Of those who experience domestic abuse



of women who experience domestic abuse report experiencing economic abuse<sup>4</sup>.



victim-survivors of coercive control have been coerced into taking out debt, which can take many years to repay and impacts their credit ratings<sup>5</sup>.



Economic abuse is linked to physical safety. Women who experience economic abuse are 5x more likely to experience physical abuse<sup>6</sup>.



Women experiencing coercive control who also experience economic abuse are at increased risk of being killed<sup>7</sup>.



of women experiencing domestic abuse said they had no money so could not leave<sup>8</sup>.



women reports experiencing economic abuse after leaving the abuser<sup>9</sup>.



of survivors of abuse who have children said they did not have enough money to pay for essentials for the children<sup>10</sup>.



survivors of abuse said they had to give up their home because of the abuse they had experienced<sup>11</sup>.



women said their mental health has been affected by financial abuse<sup>12</sup>.

## Help-seeking



of victim-survivors do not tell anyone about financial abuse: those that do are most likely to tell a friend or family members<sup>13</sup>.



of those who experience financial abuse recognise this from the outset of the relationship<sup>14</sup>.

## Responding to Covid-19

"Those isolating with an abuser will be petrified, trapped at home with seemingly no escape and with potential loss of earnings, resulting in financial difficulties." (Expert by Experience Group member)

In March, our attention turned to the global Covid-19 pandemic. With an impending lockdown, we quickly became aware of the impact this would have on victim-survivors living with abusers, leaving them trapped, cut off from regular sources of support or respite, and subjected to severe economic strain. Government orders to not leave the home gave abusers the opportunity to reinforce their power by creating economic instability and isolating their victim further.

We quickly provided information for victim-survivors on safety and economic well-being, publishing two new information resources: Economic abuse and the coronavirus (Covid-19) outbreak and Spotting the signs of economic abuse during the coronavirus (Covid-19), a resource specifically for friends, family, neighbours and colleagues outlining how to recognise economic abuse and recommending new ways of remaining socially connected.

We began to liaise across the sector and came together regularly at meetings with the Domestic Abuse Commissioner and meetings chaired by Women's Aid and End Violence Against Women (EVAW). Furthermore, we engaged with our corporate partners on how colleagues and customers could be supported at this time.

The spike in domestic abuse reports under lockdown resulted in an extreme demand for support. SEA saw an 85% increase in visits to the website in the initial weeks following the introduction of lockdown measures, and an overnight increase of 257% when the second three weeks

of lockdown were announced. Similarly, calls to the national financial support line operated by SEA in partnership with Money Advice Plus (MAP) saw a 65% increase in calls overall.

Looking ahead to 2020-2021, we know the pandemic and its aftermath will continue to impact our work. In turn, we will continue to respond and adapt to the changing lockdown measures, working to understand how these create a conducive context for abusers and what we can do to support and empower victim-survivors.

## The 'Experts by Experience' Group

"I feel part of a respected community and am proud to be associated with and to fight for legal recognition of this abuse alongside SEA. You often feel alone with the gravity of what happened to you and different from others after abuse. Working with you is validating and inspiring." (EEG member)

The Experts by Experience Group (EEG) is made up of victim-survivors of economic abuse. They inform and influence all aspects of SEA. Their voices are at the heart of everything we do.

Over the last three years, EEG members have played an active role providing insight, talking to the media, speaking to MPs and forming reference groups across issues to help shape and guide our work.

The EEG has grown from the first 18 members who took part in a Home Office roundtable discussion about the Domestic Abuse Bill to over 100 women. As the Group grew, we began to think more strategically about how best to work alongside members. In September 2019, we employed an Engagement Officer to support this work.

In March 2020, we checked in with members to learn how we were doing. Much of the feedback was very positive:

- Just under 90% strongly agreed they felt listened to and believed.
- 80% strongly agreed they felt part of a community of women.
- 80% strongly agreed SEA makes a positive difference to their lives.

Yet it was clear there was more to be done. There were requests for more regular contact from SEA, updating members on SEA's progress and the success of projects that members had directly fed into and informed. Members also felt that SEA's work could be more representative of women's race, socio-economic status, age, sexuality and disability.

In FY20-21 we will draft and consult on a strategy to ensure that members feel as supported, heard, engaged and respected as possible.

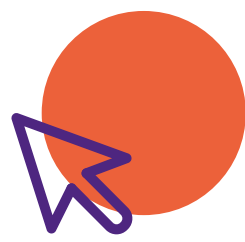
# 2019-2020 in numbers

In 2019-2020, the SEA team grew, as did our reach. This year's highlights include...



73

pieces of media coverage



32%

increase in website traffic



32

speaking engagements



288

women identified as experiencing economic abuse and supported with specialist debt and benefit advice



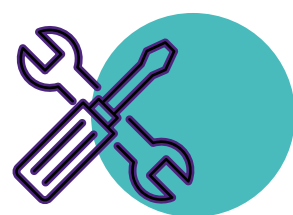
12

mentions of SEA in the Chartered Institute of Insurers (CII) Insuring Women's Futures manifesto



31

organisations requested and used resources



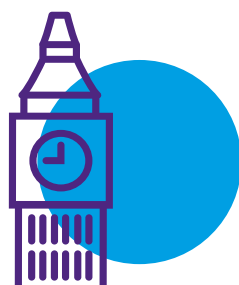
2

new resources for victims created in response to Covid-19 within the first month of the crisis



61

cases received advice via the national advice service for banks and building societies



24

mentions of economic abuse in parliament, 50% more times in 2019-2020 than in 2018-2019



1,000+

professionals trained, including: 314 police officers in 20 police forces; 135 bank staff; 327 domestic abuse charity, money and debt advice and housing staff; and 101 frontline financial capability workers



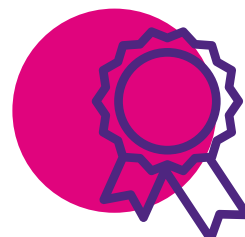
74

cases of debt written off, worth a total amount of £663,030.04



216

young people reached through our education training pilot



18

organisations received expert advice

# What we did in 2019-2020

It was another busy year for the team that included a round-table discussion with the Prime Minister, launching our first Best Practice Award for the banking industry and welcoming five new trustees on the board.

## Our impact:

### 1. Awareness-raising and education

We work with the media to develop awareness-raising campaigns and educate communities to increase understanding of economic abuse. We want society to understand what economic abuse is, how to recognise it and how to respond.

Thanks to an award-winning campaign, high profile media coverage, multiple speaking engagements and continued social media growth, we have reached millions to raise awareness of economic abuse.

Now recognised as the leading voice on this issue, SEA is regularly approached by a broad spectrum of broadcast, print and digital media for expert comment.

#### Highlights

**June 2019:** Survivor 'Sarah' appeared on This Morning in front of one million viewers. Other media coverage highlights include: a package on BBC Breakfast and a **Sunday Times story that resulted in £124,000 worth of debt written off for two survivors.**

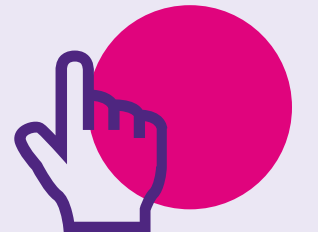
**July 2019:** Launch of the End Economic Abuse campaign, which included the triple award-winning "harrowing and heartbreaking" short film, Drowning. A Number 10 spokesperson called the film "Brilliant."

**July 2019:** Launch of Tools to Thrive, 20 new resources for women experiencing economic abuse. After the homepage, this became the site's most visited page.



186%

increase in Instagram followers



56,000

visitors to the website





**Louise's story**

**We support members of the Experts by Experience Group to share their stories in the media – if they wish – to help raise awareness of economic abuse. Following advocacy from SEA and bravely speaking out in the Sunday Times, Louise's debt has been written off and her credit file amended.**

Louise experienced economic abuse at the hands of her ex-husband both during and after their marriage. He had coerced her into taking out two joint buy-to-let mortgages, which, after they separated, he let fall into negative equity. Louise was jointly liable.

After a financial settlement with a court order that Louise's name should be removed from

the buy-to-let properties, the lender refused to do so without the perpetrator's approval, which he refused to give. The Financial Ombudsman Service refused to help with a "domestic dispute."

Louise returned to court and obtained further orders for the properties to be sold without the perpetrator's agreement. Despite finding buyers, the lender refused to allow the sales as they would not make enough money. The properties were subsequently repossessed and sold at auction at a greater loss, leaving an outstanding debt of approximately £60,000. Louise was being chased for debt, her credit file was devastated, and she and her daughter faced homelessness as her house was now at risk of repossession

**2. Professional responses**

We deliver training, develop tools and resources, provide expert advice and disseminate best practice to professionals who work with victim-survivors, so that they have the knowledge, skills and confidence to recognise and respond to economic abuse.

This year we delivered training to more organisations and individuals than ever before, and we recruited a Training Officer to lead this work.

**"The training was excellent, really made me think about what economic abuse actually is!"**

**"The training was absolutely outstanding."**

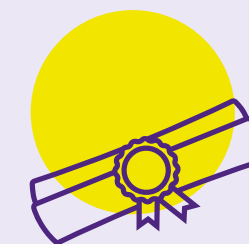
**Highlights**

**April 2019:** We continued our work with SafeLives to provide training on economic abuse as part of the Domestic Abuse Matters change programme for police. We have now delivered workshops to 20 police forces.

**July 2019:** We launched 'Tools to Support' resources to help professionals across sectors better support customers and clients experiencing economic abuse.

**August 2019:** We trained Lloyds Banking Group staff, supporting them to set up a specialist team to respond to cases of financial abuse.

**March 2020:** SEA's founding Economic Justice Project, which focused on coerced debt, reached its three-year conclusion.



Over  
**1,000**  
professionals  
trained



**5**  
new resources produced  
for professionals

**Money and debt advice:**

SEA's founding Economic Justice Project (EJP) which seeks to challenge the repayment of coerced debt, came to its conclusion in March.

Over this time, we developed an economic abuse assessment tool to identify women who had been coerced into debt and support them to find mechanisms to challenge its repayment. The EJP created the opportunity for SEA to pilot the Debt and Benefits Specialist role across the tri-borough of Westminster, Kensington & Chelsea and Hammersmith & Fulham.

We continued to work with Money Advice Plus and Solace Women's Aid which has allowed us to support a total of 288 women experiencing economic abuse, exceeding our target by 44%.

Debt has been written off in 74 cases, representing 25% of cases and a total amount of £663,030.04.

**Women accessing services from Solace Women's Aid through the project commented on the high quality of advocacy offered by the Specialist. In one meeting, Solace noted that three of the women described this as the 'best advocacy they've ever had'.**

**Police:**

We have delivered workshops with 20 police forces, training 314 police officers in total. An online package has been developed and will be hosted on the SafeLives community platform for police.

Overall, among the individuals trained, the ability to describe the tactics used by perpetrators of economic abuse went from 17% before training to 99% after training.

**"Valuable training – would be great for all first responders and investigators to get this."**

**Domestic abuse:**

As part of the Domestic and Economic Project (DEAP) in partnership with Money Advice Plus, we offered training to staff in domestic abuse services, as well as debt and money advice services, housing and the financial services sector.

- The total number of individuals trained in FY19-20 has exceeded the target of 200 and stands at 327.
- 439 people have been trained since the project began in September 2018.

**"The most informative training offered to date. Lots of useful information for me to consider/use when supporting vulnerable women."**

**Banking:**

SEA has provided expert advice to Lloyds Banking Group in a range of areas, including the development of a specialist team to respond to customers who are experiencing financial abuse. This year, we have also provided advice, training and support to staff at NatWest Group, Vanquis, Capital One, HSBC and Barclays Bank.

**"When reading a case summary, I will now read it really differently thinking about what we have spoken about today. I will also look differently at policies considering if they will work for those experiencing abuse."**

**Housing:**

Through the Whole Housing Project, initiated by the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance, we worked to integrate an understanding of economic abuse in practice responses (across housing tenures) and led the project's workstream on privately owned housing.

**Financial capability:**

SEA has worked with the Open College Network to become an accredited provider and has rolled out a Financial Capability Course in partnership with Gentoo.

**Resources for professionals:**

These have been created under a new brand called 'Tools to Support', designed as a variation on the 'Tools to Thrive'. In total, 31 organisations have requested access to the resources for professionals, including money and debt advice agencies, domestic abuse services, financial services firms, banks and local councils.

**Disseminating best practice:**

SEA continues to coordinate an international network of practitioners, researchers and policy-makers who share best practices. Network membership at the end of the year stood at 150 across 14 countries. An evaluation of the network found that 97% of the countries in the network found it beneficial. Taking on board our findings, we will continue to find ways to promote the network in the UK and internationally, update our monthly bulletin with a link to a dedicated webpage to the network and, as requested, find additional activities to ensure the community feels connected.

The National Working Group on Economic Abuse brings together domestic abuse and debt/money advice charities. It invites organisations to share information and support one another's campaigns. The group currently has 25 members and is convened by SEA. Over 2019-2020 we had two new organisations join – the Prison Reform Trust and the Child Poverty Action Group.



**Network membership at the end of the year stood at**  
**150**  
**across 14 countries**



### 3. Systems change

We advocate for and support the development of new approaches to economic abuse. We work with organisations to review their systems, policies and procedures, so that they understand how economic abuse impacts women who access their services and remove any barriers to economic safety..

In 2019–2020, we continued to work across a range of sectors and reached new organisations to transform ways they support victim-survivors.

#### Highlights

**May 2019:** SEA was shortlisted for a TrustLaw Innovation Award for our insurance project with law firm Cooley LLP.

**June 2019:** The Domestic and Economic Abuse Project (DEAP) with Money Advice Plus won an award for Best Partnership at the Institute of Money Advisers Awards.

**January 2020:** We worked with the Chartered Institute of Insurers to encourage recognition of the impact that domestic abuse has on women's financial stability across the industry.

*"We have seen how the insurance industry has moved from initial doubt that this was a distinct problem to a position where they accept that insurers can and should do more to ensure that the victims of domestic abuse are treated fairly and sensitively."*

(Alex Radcliff of Cooley LLP on partnership with SEA)

#### Financial services sector:

Through our national advice service for banks and building societies, we have advised on 61 cases, as well as taken on case work to help staff seeking expert advice to support customers. We have also produced several resources on how banks can respond effectively to customers who have experienced economic abuse.

#### Insurance:

Through TrustLaw, a global pro bono legal programme, we partnered with Cooley LLP and carried out research into how the insurance industry impacts victims-survivors. This research was the first of its kind in the UK. The research reviewed over 30,000 decisions of the Financial Ombudsman, using innovative search terms and methods to find real examples of situations where the victims of domestic abuse had been failed by the insurance industry.

Our work with Cooley LLP was shortlisted for a TrustLaw Innovation Award. Cooley LLP also hosted an Insurance Supper Club for SEA where our CEO and an EEG member spoke to attendees, leading to a discussion on how the industry might be able to support survivors of economic abuse.

SEA was also asked by the CII Insuring Women's Futures programme to inform their upcoming manifesto. SEA provided expert advice and informed the accompanying Financial Wellbeing Guide. SEA's CEO and newly appointed Banking and Insurance Specialist were listed as part of the Expert Advisory Panel of contributors to the report and SEA is listed as a future collaboration partner. We also held two online focus groups with survivors as part of the 'Talk 2 10K' initiative, which encouraged conversations about financial wellbeing during National Talk Money, Talk Pensions week (18–22 November).

#### Economic Abuse Evidence Form:

We consulted on the development and piloting of an Economic Abuse Evidence Form (EAEF) to transform victim-survivors' encounters with creditors. Often, conversations can be challenging when victims-survivors are trying to report economic abuse and they are not fully understood or handled sensitively. The exchanges can be inefficient and distressing for both parties. SEA and Money Advice Plus want to transform this process, so that when victim-survivors embark on the path to economic safety, they will be asked to disclose the details of the abuse only once. This information will be comprehensively documented by a trained professional, stored securely and shared with creditors involved in the case as needed. This transformation will put the needs of victim-survivors first.

#### Housing:

As part of the Whole Housing Project (in partnership with the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance), we held discussions with the National Housing Federation, which committed to raise awareness of tenancy reform in relation to rent arrears and the impact on victim-survivors within their policy work. This was a direct result of discussions with SEA.

We also worked with key stakeholder groups including the Financial Conduct Authority, Financial Ombudsman, Homes England and the National Association of Estate Agents to influence their practice.

In addition, SEA shared case studies with the Financial Ombudsman Service ahead of a meeting to discuss responses to mortgage fraud and coercion. This led to the re-opening of complaints of EEG members and compensation being provided to two women.

## 4. Influencing policy

We work with policymakers and commissioners of domestic violence services, so that they understand what economic abuse is and reflect this in the decisions they make.

In 2019-2020, we continued to focus our efforts on the delayed Domestic Abuse Bill, including calling for an amendment to criminalise post-separation abuse.

### Highlights

**June 2019:** The launch of the 'Benefits or Barriers' report, which called for separate payments of Universal Credit, was marked by an event in the House of Lords.

**July 2019:** Domestic Abuse Bill roundtable with the Prime Minister takes place at No. 10.

**March 2020:** Our proposed amendment to criminalise post-separation abuse gained support from the Domestic Abuse Commissioner.



11

consultations were responded to this year



We attended

5

meetings with ministers and MPs

### Universal Credit (UC):

Under UC, single payments to an entire household may entrench problematic and often gendered dynamics, including by giving control of payments to an abusive partner. We have been working to challenge this system and its potential to facilitate economic abuse by calling for a change in the current single payment policy. In June 2019, SEA co-authored the report 'Benefits or barriers? Making social security work for survivors of violence and abuse across the UK's four nations'. This report was launched in Parliament in June, marked by an event held at the House of Lords. SEA facilitated an EEG member to speak on the panel at the report launch.

Due to our work with partners, the government has since moved to a default position where the main carer receives the single payment; however we continue to pursue separate payments.

### The Domestic Abuse Bill:

Our policy work has continued to focus on influencing the Domestic Abuse Bill as it progresses through Parliament, ensuring it works to support victim-survivors of economic abuse.

We welcomed recognition of economic abuse within the statutory definition of domestic abuse but argued that this was at risk of being undermined by other Government policies that inadvertently facilitate it. These include the single payment in joint claims of Universal Credit, the legal aid means test and the no recourse to public funds rule.

We also proposed an amendment that would see post-separation abuse criminalised under the controlling or coercive behaviour legislation.

We established a group of 12 victim-survivors to work alongside us on the Bill, continuing to ensure survivors' voices are at its heart.

In June 2019, we were shortlisted by the Charity Awards for our campaigning and advocacy work on recognising economic abuse within the Domestic Abuse Bill. Our work was described as having 'shone a spotlight on a topic that was not well understood previously'.

In July, our CEO was invited by Theresa May to discuss the Domestic Abuse Bill in a roundtable discussion at Number 10.

Yet, by late 2019, the Bill was delayed due to political turmoil, including the prorogation of Parliament and a new general election.

To mark the reintroduction of the Bill to parliament in March 2020, SEA collaborated with the Ministry of Justice to make a short film shared on social media, featuring our CEO and highlighting how the Bill will recognise economic abuse for the first time.

As we look towards the next financial year of 2020-2021, we hope to see this bill become law and enable victim-survivors to access the support and protection they need.

# Accounts and financial review

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

## Income

The organisation's main sources of funding during the period were as follows:

### Unrestricted funds

- Goldsmiths: £5,000
- Lloyds Banking Group: £100,000 donation
- Treebeard Trust: £25,000 Impact Only Investment (grant)
- StepChange: £21,600 donation
- Earned income: £32,664 (consulting £18,828; training £13,836)
- Individual donations: £3,004 with the majority coming through the MyDonate and the JustGiving portals.
- Donated services and facilities: £96,539

### Restricted funds

£214,919 of grants from the Home Office across 3 initiatives:

- £65,850 to develop and pilot financial capability training for workers supporting victims and survivors of domestic abuse. This work was carried out with Gentoo.
- £124,431 to provide a national casework service for survivors of domestic abuse with financial difficulties; to deliver training to domestic abuse, money and debt, housing and financial services; and to support the banking industry and to develop tools/resources for professionals and victim-survivors. This work was carried out with Money Advice Plus via the Domestic and Economic Abuse Project (DEAP).
- £24,638 to deliver economic abuse training to the police as part of the DA Matters programme. This work was carried out with SafeLives. Partner payments across these 4 initiatives amounted to £86,235.
- Comic Relief: £37,485 of funding for the 'Thriving After Economic Abuse' initiative via the Tech vs Abuse programme.

- Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS): £32,409 to support the Economic Justice Project.
- The MSE Charity: £6,710 towards developing and delivering education on economic abuse to young people as part of financial capability learning and prevention.
- Smallwood Trust: £30,000 grant to support the role of Legal and Policy Advisor.
- Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) £45,000 as part of the Whole Housing Project.
- Lloyds Bank Foundation: £5,000 grant for training domestic abuse services on economic abuse.

### Project delivery income

- £36,486 other income recharged for the delivery of the projects.

The net increase in funds during the year to 31 March 2020 was £75,242 (2019: £111,654), of which £45,593 related to a surplus of unrestricted fund activity.

## Expenditure

The expenditure has supported the charity's growth over the past 12 months, enabling the CEO to appoint a further three team members who work to deliver projects as set out above. In addition, funds have supported the appointment of a Legal and Policy Advisor to lead our influencing work and a part-time team member who works directly to support the EEG (women with lived experience). The charity has also been able to appoint a full-time fundraiser to make grant applications to trusts and foundations. The team is supported by two part-time team members who work across operations and finance. All expenses have been vital to meet our core objectives to raise awareness and understanding of economic abuse and transform responses to it. This work has increased the charity's profile throughout the country.

## Investment policy

The charity does not have an investment policy at present but will review this in the coming year.

## Subsequent events

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and the impact of social distancing measures on victim-survivors of domestic abuse, the charity has been able to secure additional funds made available by the Home Office, Comic Relief, Standard Life, Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) and the National Lottery as part of their response to support work in this sector at this time (FY20–21). Specifically, these grants include:

- Home Office funding: for home working equipment/ additional staff and the creation of associated guidance resources during the Covid-19 pandemic – £76,260
- Home Office extraordinary funding for domestic abuse support services: to sustain and adapt activities during Covid-19 – £60,292
- Comic Relief Recovery Fund in partnership with the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) 'The Big Night In' Match Fund – Covid Response: to support professionals to detect and respond to economic abuse – £39,641
- Standard Life coronavirus pandemic fast-track applications: to conduct an analysis of immediate economic safety needs and future resilience of victim-survivors of economic abuse in the context of coronavirus – £37,000
- CAF Coronavirus Emergency Fund: towards an online forum for victim-survivors of economic abuse – £5,000

- The National Lottery Community Fund in partnership with the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) Coronavirus Community Support Fund: to provide specialist income and housing support for victim-survivors of economic abuse – £68,043

The charity is hugely appreciative of this funding, which has facilitated our continued support to frontline services and victim-survivors at this time, whilst ascertaining immediate and emerging economic safety needs going into FY20–21.

## Reserves policy

The "Free Reserves" of the charity at year end were £121,808.

The Board of Trustees reviews the reserves policy annually whilst the Audit, Finance and Risk Committee reviews the reserves position on a quarterly basis. SEA will aim to hold unrestricted reserves of around 2–3 months core costs (around £35,000 per month). These funds should be used as an emergency fund and used at the Trustees' discretion. Given the current extraordinary circumstances, the levels of reserves may fluctuate over the coming period accordingly.

Unrestricted funds raised since the beginning of the financial year will cover any deficit and will be used to maintain the "free reserves" policy as set out above.



# Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ended 31 March 2020

|   | Unrestricted funds 2020<br>£ | Restricted funds 2020<br>£ | Total funds 2020<br>£ | Total funds 2019<br>£ |
|---|------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Income from</b>                                  |                              |                            |                       |                       |
| Donations and legacies                              | 251,144                      | 133,795                    | 384,939               | 43,710                |
| Charitable activities                               | 32,663                       | 327,093                    | 359,756               | 283,195               |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>                                 | <b>283,807</b>               | <b>460,888</b>             | <b>744,695</b>        | <b>326,905</b>        |
| <b>Expenditure on</b>                               |                              |                            |                       |                       |
| Raising funds                                       | 30,331                       | 455                        | 30,786                | 24,310                |
| Charitable activities                               | 205,089                      | 433,578                    | 638,667               | 190,941               |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>                            | <b>235,420</b>               | <b>434,033</b>             | <b>669,453</b>        | <b>215,251</b>        |
| Net income before transfers                         | 48,387                       | 26,855                     | 75,242                | 111,654               |
| Transfers between Funds                             | (2,794)                      | 2,794                      | -                     | -                     |
| Net income before other recognised gains and losses | 45,593                       | 29,649                     | 75,242                | 111,654               |
| Net movement in funds                               | 45,593                       | 29,649                     | 75,242                | 111,654               |
| <b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>                     |                              |                            |                       |                       |
| Total funds brought forward                         | 80,694                       | 35,768                     | 116,462               | 4,808                 |
|   | -                            | -                          | -                     |                       |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>                  | <b>126,287</b>               | <b>65,417</b>              | <b>191,704</b>        | <b>116,462</b>        |

Full accounts for the year can be found in our Annual Report 2019–2020 on the Charity Commission website.

## Thank you

We'd like to thank all our supporters for their valued contributions. Your support makes all the difference to our work.

### Experts by Experience

Thank you to all the women who give their time as part of the Experts by Experience group.

### Funders

#### Statutory

Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS)  
Home Office  
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)

#### Via partnerships

Gentoo  
Hestia  
Money Advice Plus  
RISE  
StepChange

#### Trusts and foundations

Comic Relief  
Goldsmiths Company Charity  
MSE Charity  
Oak Foundation  
Smallwood Trust  
Treebeard Trust

### Corporate supporters

Association of British Insurers (pro bono meeting space)  
Beck Fitzgerald (pro bono legal)  
Cooley LLP (pro bono via Trust Law)  
EY (pro bono meeting space)  
Frazer Jones (pro bono meeting space)  
GK Strategy (pro bono political monitoring)  
Lloyds Banking Group (donation)  
Ridley and Hall Solicitors (pro bono legal)  
Salesforce (pro bono IT)  
Smart Energy (support via employee scheme)  
VK Law (pro bono legal)

### Charity supporters

Northumbria Law School (pro bono legal)  
Rights of Women (pro bono legal)  
Shelter (pro bono legal)

### Individuals

Professor Liz Kelly  
Jo Youle (pro bono facilitation and mentoring)  
Anthony Wills  
Alice Merry  
Emma Scott

### Individual supporters

All the individual and regular givers who contribute to SEA's work via MyDonate JustGiving

### Our memberships



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Surviving Economic Abuse (SEA) is the only UK based charity dedicated to raising awareness of economic abuse and transforming responses to it. The charity works day in, day out to ensure that women are supported not only to survive, but also to thrive.

### **Get involved**

If you would like to get involved in our work:

Contact us:

[info@survivingeconomicabuse.org](mailto:info@survivingeconomicabuse.org)

Follow us on Twitter

[@SEAresource](https://twitter.com/SEAresource)

Learn more about economic abuse and access useful resources at:

[www.survivingeconomicabuse.org/resources](http://www.survivingeconomicabuse.org/resources)

Join our 'Experts by Experience' Group:

[www.survivingeconomicabuse.org/survivors-ref-group](http://www.survivingeconomicabuse.org/survivors-ref-group)

Join our international network:

[www.survivingeconomicabuse.org/home/international-network](http://www.survivingeconomicabuse.org/home/international-network)

Raise funds or donate to us:

[www.survivingeconomicabuse.org/donate-to-us](http://www.survivingeconomicabuse.org/donate-to-us)