

Local Economic Abuse Advocacy (LEAA) Model:

Scale-up strategy consultant

Welcome! Thank you for your interest in Surviving Economic Abuse. We are delighted to hear from you.

Surviving Economic Abuse is the only UK charity dedicated to raising awareness of economic abuse and transforming responses to it. Since we were founded in 2017, we have successfully campaigned to outlaw economic abuse as a form of coercive control, raised awareness and driven lasting systemic change for victim-survivors. But there is still so much more to do. Our exciting three year strategy sets out our ambitious goals to drive impact at scale for victim-survivors.

Surviving Economic Abuse (SEA) is seeking a consultant to support SEA to design a practical and evidence-based scale-up strategy for the Local Economic Abuse Advocacy (LEAA) Model in the UK over the next 3-5 years.

It should answer key strategic questions about the most effective and sustainable routes to scaling up adoption, the role of beacon sites, what elements of the LEAAM should be flexible or adapted to local context, and the infrastructure, partnerships, support mechanisms and evidence required to enable the model to scale.

We are looking for consultancy expertise in strategy development and scaling social impact models, alongside a strong understanding of domestic abuse, economic abuse, local authority practice, and multi-agency systems. The consultant should bring expertise in stakeholder management, evidence-informed strategy design, and producing practical recommendations for implementation, partnership development and long-term sustainability.

We very much look forward to receiving your application.



Sam Smethers, Chief Executive

To apply

Please submit:

- A CV
- A supporting statement setting out how you meet the criteria
- A very brief outline of how you will approach the work, limited to a high-level summary rather than a detailed approach

If you would like an informal discussion about the role, please contact recruitment@survivingeconomicabuse.org. One of the LEAA Model team will be available for conversations from 24 Aug to 2 September 2026.

Applications close at 11.59 on Friday 4 September 2026.

The successful candidate will be notified in September.

SEA is committed to protecting your **personal data** in accordance with GDPR. By applying for this role, you consent to the processing of your personal data for recruitment purposes. For more information on how we handle your data and your rights, please read SEA's Candidate Privacy Notice

Fees and payment

Freelance rate: £350 per day

About SEA

We are the only UK charity dedicated to raising awareness of economic abuse and transforming responses to it. **We work to save lives and stop economic abuse forever.**

Our vision is a world in which all women and girls achieve economic equality and can live their lives free of abuse and exploitation. Not only surviving but thriving.

Our mission is to raise awareness of economic abuse and transform responses to it.

To achieve this, we must ensure that the policies and practices of financial services firms, domestic abuse support services, public services and government reflect the needs of all victim-survivors of economic abuse.

We are committed to [centring victim-survivors in all that we do](#) and broadening our understanding of the needs of survivors, particularly those who are marginalised within society. We work alongside the Experts by Experience – a group of victim-survivors whose voices and experiences shape our work.

Our primary focus is on influencing the women's, public and financial services sectors, to create a model for improved support for victim-survivors of economic abuse, calling on government to facilitate these changes and work with them to improve their systems and practice. To find out more about our story and journey since we were founded in 2017, please visit <https://survivingeconomicabuse.org/about-us/our-story/>

Our values

- **We are purposeful** – everything we do is driven by our passion to make the world a safe and equal place for women.
- **We learn and share** – our team is curious, reflective, always learning and eager to share its expertise.
- **We work in partnership** – We know that we can only achieve our goals if we work alongside others – our colleagues, the women who inspire our work and our partners.
- **We are agile** – We are creative in meeting the challenges that must be overcome to create change.
- **We believe** – Our work is centred on survivors of economic abuse: their experiences and knowledge shape how we respond.
- **We value equity** – We believe in fairness and justice and we focus on removing barriers caused by systemic inequalities.

Detailed Terms of Reference

Background & Purpose

The Local Economic Abuse Advocacy (LEAA) Model is a coordinated, place-based approach to embedding economic abuse advocacy within local systems. It brings together domestic abuse services, money and debt advice, local authorities, financial services and other partners to ensure victim-survivors can access consistent, joined-up support that identifies, responds to, and prevents economic abuse.

The Local Economic Abuse Advocacy (LEAA) model was developed through research with frontline partners to identify what a robust, coordinated community response to economic abuse should look like. Victim-survivors, VAWG commissioners, and frontline practitioners were consulted, and examples of good practice were mapped across two regions: Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland, and Brighton and Hove.

The LEAA model is an evidence-based framework that supports communities to understand economic advocacy and build economic safety for victim-survivors of domestic abuse; from frontline practice through to commissioning and strategic leadership.

The model is structured around five pillars: Safety and Wellbeing; Essentials and Income Maximisation; Housing; Legal; and Perpetrator Accountability. Its aim is to strengthen organisational capacity to respond to economic abuse, improve coordination and partnership working, guide local strategy and service delivery, and ensure economic abuse is prioritised within VAWG commissioning and funding decisions.

The model strengthens identification, builds frontline capability, and improves referral pathways across services – so that economic abuse is addressed directly and survivors can achieve both immediate safety and long-term economic security.

The strategy should consider medium-term growth (3-5 years) and the requirements for longer term UK-wide adoption.

The consultancy should answer key strategic questions, including:

- What are the most effective and sustainable routes to scaling adoption?
- What role (if any) should beacon sites play in supporting implementation, innovation and learning?
- What elements of the LEAAM should be flexible/adapted to local context?
- What infrastructure, partnerships, support mechanisms and evidence are required to enable model to scale?

- What policy or commissioning influencing opportunities should be prioritised at local, regional and national levels to support the long-term scaling and sustainability of the LEAA Model.

Objectives

The consultant will support Surviving Economic Abuse (SEA) to design a practical and evidence-based scale-up strategy for the Local Economic Abuse Advocacy (LEAA) Model, building on learning from the Brighton and Hove, and Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland pilot. The strategy should set out how the LEAA Model can be expanded across England in a phased and sustainable way, with a view to future UK-wide adoption.

The consultant's objectives will be to:

- Assess the opportunities and constraints and enabling conditions for scaling the model
- Review relevant evidence and comparable models from across the domestic abuse, public health, system change and social impact sectors, identifying lessons for the LEAA and assessing the applicability of different scale up approaches
- Identify and compare potential routes to scale including (but not limited to) beacon sites, regional and strategic partnerships, commissioning approaches, and national and/or regional policy influencing
- Engage with SEA staff, partners and a proportionate number of external stakeholders to test assumptions, identify opportunities (approach agreed during inception)
- Assess which scale-up approaches are most likely to achieve widespread adoption while maintaining effectiveness and sustainability
- Identify the minimum viable infrastructure, support mechanisms and organisational capabilities required to enable successful implementation
- Develop a practical strategy for implementation, including key milestones, enablers and risks and resource implications
- Ensure the strategy reflects the role of by-and-for organisations, survivor-informed practice and system collaboration
- Recommend an evidence, learning, and evaluation approach that supports continuous improvement, commissioning and future investment

Scope of Work

The consultant will work with SEA to develop a robust and actionable scale-up strategy for the LEAA Model. This is expected to include:

1) Evidence and Comparative Model Review

- **Review of existing evidence and materials** , including learning from the Brighton and Hove and Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland pilot, relevant research, project documentation and current strategic plans.
- **Evidence and comparative model review** : review comparable models and programmes that have successfully scaled through local systems, identifying lessons from these models and applicability to the LEAAM.

2) Stakeholder engagement and opportunity assessment

- **Stakeholder consultation and engagement** with SEA staff, partners, and key external stakeholders to test assumptions, identify opportunities and understand barriers to scale.
- **Scale-up options analysis** setting out potential routes to scale, including place-based expansion, beacon sites, regional partnerships, commissioning routes and national and/or regional policy influencing.

3) Scale-up strategy

- **Development of a phased scale-up strategy** with clear objectives, priority actions, milestones, resourcing considerations, risks and dependencies.
- **Recommendations on delivery model and enabling conditions** , including partnership development, capability building, evidence generation, and conditions needed for adoption and sustainability.
- **Final strategy document**, including a concise summary for external audiences and a practical roadmap to guide implementation.

Deliverables

The consultant will produce:

- Brief inception note setting out the methodology, key questions and their proposed approach – 1 to 2 days
- Summary of the evidence review and comparative model analysis – 4 – 6 days
- Scale-up options appraisal and recommendations 3- 4 days
- Draft scale-up strategy for review and feedback 4 – 5 days
- Final scale-up strategy incorporating feedback 2 – 3 days
- Executive summary suitable for sharing with board, funders, partners and external stakeholders – 1 day

Timeline

The consultancy is expected to take place over 20 days, between October and December 2026. A detailed schedule will be agreed at the start but is likely to include an initial scoping and document review phase, stakeholder engagement, development of a draft scale-up strategy, and submission of a final strategy following feedback.

Review points and key dependencies will be confirmed at the start of the consultancy and kept under review throughout.

Consultant Qualifications

We are looking for an expert with significant experience in strategy development and scaling social impact models, alongside a strong understanding of domestic abuse, economic abuse, local authority practice, and multi-agency systems. They should bring strong expertise in stakeholder engagement, equity and inclusion, evidence-informed strategy design, and producing practical recommendations for implementation, partnership development and long-term sustainability.

We are seeking someone who understands the local authority domestic abuse commissioning landscape and frontline service delivery models, and who can confidently navigate the links between national and regional policy levels and local Coordinated Community Response (CCR).

Ways of working

The consultant will work closely with SEA throughout the work, using a collaborative and flexible approach making best use of SEA's internal knowledge, existing evidence, and strategic priorities.

The main point of contact will be the Head of Impact, Frontline Practice and Research, who will provide overall strategic oversight and sign-off.

SEA expects the consultant to engage regularly with the LEAA Model project team through agreed check-ins, share emerging thinking at key stages, and incorporate feedback into draft outputs.

Confidentiality, Compliance & Ownership

The Consultant shall maintain strict confidentiality overall project information (including relevant research, project documentation and current strategic plans provided by SEA) and use it solely for the purposes of this work. Any processing of personal data must comply fully with the UK GDPR, the Data Protection Act 2018 and all applicable data protection requirements. Where the Consultant processes personal data on behalf of SEA, this must be done only in accordance with SEA's documented instructions and any data processing terms included in the final consultancy contract.

All deliverables, analyses, and intellectual property produced under this consultancy shall be the exclusive property SEA. The Consultant shall immediately declare any actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest and take all necessary steps to mitigate such conflicts in agreement with SEA.