

We are – of course – disappointed that our bid to Police Scotland to deliver training on coercive control was rejected. Congratulations to SafeLives, ASSIST and other partners for getting this contract; we wish them a smooth and successful project.

Training has and will continue to be a core and significant part of our work at Scottish Women's Aid; we stood ready and able to take on the challenge and looked forward to ensuring a consistent national approach to training in line with our other projects.

A gendered understanding of domestic abuse is vital. Our strategic work with the police and prosecutors to develop and mainstream this understanding of violence, abuse and inequality will continue, as will our work alongside local services, police, and partnerships to facilitate community understanding and support for the new Domestic Abuse Act.

It has been a phenomenal year for us at Scottish Women's Aid so far and one in which our training capacity in particular has gone from strength to strength. We are thrilled to have two new national government funded training projects related to Scotland's new law: one focused on coercive control and local services and the other on building capacity to support the implementation of Equally Safe across Scotland. We look forward to continued work informed by 40 years of delivering life-changing and life-saving services in Scotland.