

Represent Women

2025 March bulletin

News and updates for the women and girls sector
and it's allies in North East England



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Women and girls sector updates, requests and resources

- **Own My Life** April facilitator training can be booked [HERE](#) (7th - 11th April). Their [article](#) shares their journey of working with female police officers and staff in the Met Police.
- **SmartWorks** Pop Up shop. [Toffee Factor Ouesburn](#), no ticket required. Thursday 3rd April 12-8, Friday 4th April 10-2.
- **Sisters of Support** Co Durham are looking for volunteers, including keen volunteers with capacity to run new groups, event volunteers for occasional volunteering, fundraising volunteers for both applications and community events, pro bono support on policy/HR etc. Email [Carrie](#) to find out more

- **[Women X film festival](#)** team are looking for:

Volunteers - to watch films and read scripts that are in consideration for the festival, this includes free training. They can get in touch via [Rianne Pictures](#)

Festival submissions - For any filmmakers we are accepting films for the festival until May 23rd, they can submit directly via filmfreeway.com/womenx

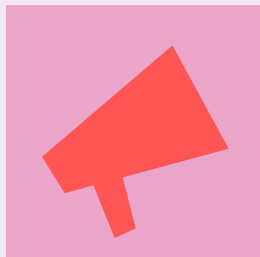
Festival Space - Collaborators who would like to use some space at our festival venue during the festival weekend (19th - 21st September) in Darlington, this may be a workshop, panel, contact [Rianne Pictures](#)

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Women and girls sector updates, requests and resources

- **The Girls Network** are seeking more mentors across the North East to inspire young girls go to [Become a mentor | The Girls' Network](#)
- **WHIST** is hiring a Fundraising and Insights Lead, 23 hrs a week – funded until 31st March 2026 £27,174 FTE salary pro rata (actual salary £17,857) plus pension. Email [Corrine Devine](#) to find out more and apply.
- **Changing Relations** an Arts education company is hosting a [webinar](#) on Wednesday 7th May which explores young people's experience of peer sexual abuse and the cultures which enable it. In the webinar they will share findings from our recent Weaving Stories About Peer Sexual Abuse project during which they co-produced an animation about young people's experiences and undertook an accompanying education programme.

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Wider VCSE sector updates

- **Northumbria PCC** is funding Stalking Prevention Assemblies via the Alice Ruggles Trust. They are in need of volunteers to help deliver the assemblies. [Find out more](#).
- **A consortium of universities, including Durham**, have teamed up to undertake research to understand the experiences of women impacted by gambling related domestic abuse- key focus on the impact this has on their accessing or remaining in safe accommodation. Please email Jo for full information. Complete the [survey](#) and email to enquire about round table opportunities.
- **Papyrus** online funded suicide prevention training sessions in April for anyone based in Newcastle and the surrounding areas who supports children and young people. Register [here](#)
- **Stomping Grounds North East** are seeking dedicated individuals to join the Stomping Grounds North East CIO as voluntary Trustees. We are especially keen to hear from those with lived experience as part of a minoritised group. Please apply [here](#)
- **North East BIC** free creative business vent, Sunderland 28th March, free event coming up: [Creative Businesses - Creativity Collaboration Panel - North East BIC](#)

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Funding Opportunities

- **Newcastle Building Society - Community Fund** (Grant – North East, Cumbria and North Yorkshire). £5,000. Charities. Closing date – 14th April 2025. Grants are available for charities and community groups within a 10-mile radius of Newcastle Building Society's branch. The current round supports projects addressing: Food poverty, Sustainability and the environment, Work and opportunity, Homelessness, Debt management.
- **The Big Give- Women and Girls Fund**. matched funding scheme. Closing Date 30th May. **Represent Women are considering running a training/learning session on The Big Give process.** If you are interested please contact Jo
- **Trust House Major Grant** for work with families in need. Up to £50k, some multi year grants available.
- **Pilgrim Trust Young Women in Mind** sign up for a reminder, details coming in March/April

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Represent Women update

Represent Women:

- Attended the initial North East Homelessness Alliance meeting and contributed to early plans
- Delivered a session on 'the language of women' at the Connected Voice women and girls network- speak with jo if you would like similar support at a network in your area
- Co-led the first women-only Time to Talk session with Community Foundation
- Attended HerCircle's A Story of Hope event
- Attended the Gendered Violence conference. Northumbria University.
- Participated in the VAWG external advisory panel
- Presented at a NECA learning hour on the need for female representation and a gendered lens when decision-making
- NECAs- North East Employment and Skills strategy to discuss and feedback on the second draft. Further evidence and feedback was provided.
- Attended the North East Anti- Racism Coalition
- Child poverty roundtable- Hosted by Amanda Bailey and NECA to further explore how we address Child Poverty

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Represent Women update

Represent Women:

- Attended the Marmot City Conference to learn about how this approach could benefit the women and girls sector organisations
- Presented to the Durham Police and Crime Commissioners DASV Provider's Forum- We gave a presentation about Represent Women and our work so far
- Met with Pilgrim's Trust to discuss their next round of funding

If you would like to discuss any of these issues/events further please reach out to us

We welcome suggestions on further representation opportunities

- The new website is up and running! [Check it out here](#). If you, or someone you know of, is not included in the [directory of women and girls services](#) across the North East please speak to [Jo](#) and she'll add the details
- Represent Women membership [find out more and sign up here](#). If you'd like to chat through the tiers or the membership reach out to [Jo](#)
- Our '[theme collector](#)' form, which is a tool to collect data on what is impacted the women and girls sector and how that changes over time. Members can share the issues impacting their work and the women they work with monthly. **Note you must be a registered Represent Women member to complete the form.**

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Events, training and consultations

Represent Women Launch events

Join us for the Represent Women Roadshow in Northumberland.

Join us for an in-person event by Represent Women, focusing on the North East women and girls sector and its allies. These events will feature an overview of Represent Women's work, findings, and celebrations of women's organisations. Attendees can enjoy networking opportunities over tea, coffee, and cake. We welcome those involved in the sector, including local MPs, funders, and leaders.

- Sunderland 26th March, 10-12. [Reserve your space](#)
- Durham 2nd April, 10-12. [Reserve your space](#)
- South Tyneside 9th April, 1-3. [Reserve you space](#)
- Newcastle, 29th April, 1-3. [Reserve your space](#)
- Northumberland, 30th April, 11-12.30. [Reserve your space](#)
- Teesside, 8th April 1-3. [Reserve your space](#)

If you face any barriers to attendance, please contact us.

Other events

- **North East Anti-Racism Coalition April event. Monday 7 April 1-4pm . Stadium of Light, Sunderland. [Book here.](#)**
- XXXX
- XXXX

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Reports, wider reading and women's issues in the media

- [New Endometriosis Pill approved- BBC News](#)
- [Gov agencies gather top tackle honour based abuse- CPS](#)
- [More women doctors than men for the first time- Independent UK](#)

REPORTS

- [Lessons learned from the restart programme and key standards for developing a perpetrator housing programme- Drive Partnership.](#)
- [Women and childrens poverty making the links. Women's Budget Group](#)

For further reading the Women's Grid is a reliable source of news, campaigns and updates on issues facing women in the uk

The Represent Women Bulletin goes out to our network around the third week of each calendar month. To contribute email [Jo Armstrong](#).

We are interested in sharing your:

- **Events**
- **Reports**
- **Vacancies**
- **Training and networking**
- **Funding, consultation and research opportunities**

Sign up for the mail list [here](#)