

Call for engagement: Developing the new London Resilience Equalities Partnership

Background

[Protection Approaches](#) has been commissioned by the Greater London Authority's [London Resilience Unit](#) to establish a new Equalities Partnership within the London Resilience Forum (LRF). This partnership will bring together equity-focused and equality-led organisations to influence how London prepares for and responds to emergencies and crises. This partnership will build upon existing efforts such as the work of the [London Communities Emergencies Partnership](#) (LCEP) and the [Faith and Belief Sector Panel](#) to ensure that communities most affected by emergencies are central to London's resilience planning.

The LRF is a multi-agency group responsible for ensuring London can respond effectively to emergencies – from terror attacks and natural disasters to public health crises and large-scale evacuations. Members include emergency services like the Metropolitan Police and London Fire Brigade, alongside voluntary groups such as the British Red Cross and LCEP.

We are inviting organisations whose primary purpose is to support, represent, or advocate for marginalised communities and/or groups with protected characteristics under the Equality Act, to help us shape this new Equalities Partnership. Your input will inform what the partnership should look like, what it should do, and how it can support your communities. We want to ensure that those who are most affected by emergencies are at the heart of how London builds its resilience.

Why is this needed?

Emergencies – from the COVID-19 pandemic to flooding, terror incidents, fire, or the cost-of-living crisis – do not affect all communities equally. People already facing structural inequality often face the greatest harms. While the organisations that support marginalised communities during crises play a vital role in promoting community wellbeing and resilience and offer valuable insights into what more inclusive responses to shocks can look like in practice, they are rarely included in official planning or decision-making.

We believe that by creating a permanent Equalities Partnership within the LRF, we can ensure that community expertise informs city-wide emergency planning, and that equity organisations are recognised and supported as strategic partners in building a more resilient London.

What do we want to know from you?

We want to hear from equalities organisations working with/for marginalised communities across the capital on four key questions:

1. **When there's a crisis or emergency, what worries you most** about the risks facing the communities your organisation works with/for?
2. **Do you think your group/organisation has knowledge or insight** that could help include marginalised communities in emergency preparedness and response activity in London? If yes, what are those insights?
3. **If a Partnership of equalities organisations was set up** to include marginalised communities' perspectives and needs in London's emergency planning and response, what work should the Partnership focus on?
4. **What would your group/organisation need** in order to participate in such a Partnership, and to strengthen your work on emergency preparedness and response in London?

How to take part

- **Questionnaire:** the simplest way to tell us about your work is to fill out our simple online questionnaire which can be [accessed here](#) – **submission deadline 25th July 2025**
- **Share your work over email:** Completing a questionnaire may not be the best format for you. If you would like to share your experience via email you can send us your contributions or links to them on farida.mostafa@protectionapproaches.org **submission deadline 25th July 2025**
- **Through a conversation:** If you would rather, you can have a conversation with us about your work and experiences in supporting your communities through crises and enhancing community. Email: farida.mostafa@protectionapproaches.org
- **Workshops:** Organisations who contribute in any of the ways above will be invited to participate in workshops over the summer to discuss and co-design the structure, purpose, outputs and membership of the proposed Equalities Partnership, and ensure it centres community expertise and needs.

Barriers to participating

If you would like to participate in this research but face barriers to doing so (such as needing childcare, interpretation, or your organisation not being able to pay for your time etc.), please get in touch with us at farida.mostafa@protectionapproaches.org or 020 3859 9509. We will work with you to ensure you are able to participate, as we have a specific budget to address such barriers.

Why take part?

We understand that community organisations have limited time and resources and rightly want to know the purpose and impact of the research they participate in and how data will be used.

Your responses to this survey will inform the structure, purpose, outputs and support functions that will comprise the Equalities Partnership, which will inform LRF's preparedness and response to crises. The survey will be an opportunity to ensure that the needs of the communities you work with/for are included in the formation and implementation of the Partnership.

We commit to communicating the findings of our consultations and survey with participants, as well as updating participants about project outcomes by March 2026.

Who are we?

Protection Approaches is a London-based charity working to change the way identity-based violence is understood, and by so doing change the way we respond to and prevent it. We work to support and champion community-led approaches to building connected and cohesive communities; to communicate the evidence of what works to local and national government to strengthen state-led system transformation; and to foster greater engagement between community and policy experts.

For more info: please contact project lead Farida Mostafa on farida.mostafa@protectionapproaches.org or 020 3859 9509