

Notes on using the Policy Framework Tool:

This Policy Framework is a tool for women's organisations to explore the range of tools that are available.

Some of these are questions that women / women's organisations can put to public bodies – these are about their legal obligations, or other kinds of obligations.

Some of these are questions for women's organisations to think about how they show they are value for money / experts on gender equality / professional and high quality, etc.

Many of the questions for women's organisations can also be used by women's networks as well, to extend to questions about gender equality and women's organisations in a local area, for example. Strength in numbers can be very valuable to influence key decision makers as it shows solidarity and raises awareness of key issues for women and the women's sector. It can also be a way to share information, advice and support and make local changes happen that you know are important.

It is also important to hear local women's voices. You can hold consultation events or gather information by asking questions like:

- What are the key issues impacting on you / your community that you want to raise with local policy makers?
- What do you want to change locally?
- What are some of the ways that you could get your voice heard?
- Any examples of successes, things that worked well?