

Facts about the women's sector

- » There are over 11,000 charities in the UK that specifically work with women, making up 7% of all registered charities
- » In 2002/03, only 1.2% (slightly over £14 million) of central Government funding to the voluntary and community sector in the UK went to women's organisations
- » Along with lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) organisations, the women's sector received less funding from central government funding streams than any other equalities group
- » 1 in 5 women's organisations closed between 2004 and 2007 and this will get worse as cuts bite
- » In London there were 1.4 women's organisations per 10,000 population of women aged 15 years or over between 2004 and 2007

What will you get as a WRC trade union member?

- » Regular updates on the women's sector
- » why women? campaign materials
- » WRC's magazine
- » Information on free training and events across the UK
- » Opportunities to network with fellow trade union women

Women's Resource Centre

Ground Floor East, 33-41 Dallington Street, London, EC1V 0BB

Tel: 020 7324 3030 www.wrc.org.uk

Registered Charity 1070606 and Company Limited by Guarantee 2462336



why women?

WRC & Trade Union Women: Fighting Together for the Women's Sector

Join the why women? campaign
to support a vibrant and
sustainable women's sector

www.wrc.org.uk
[@whywomen](https://twitter.com/whywomen)



The Women's Voluntary and Community Sector – a trade union issue



We must support the women's sector
Sharon Holder, National Officer, GMB

Women's voluntary and community organisations are the UK's hidden emergency services. Women's organisations are vital because they:

- » Provide free, often life saving services to women from all walks of life
- » Keep women safe and empower them to transform their lives
- » Lobby for better laws to stop violence and discrimination against women
- » Bring about important social, economic and legal changes for women and men
- » Build cohesive communities for people to live and work in

How can trade unions support the women's sector?

- » **Sign up to the why women? campaign and affiliate your branch, region or national union to WRC**
- » **Join WRC as an individual member**
- » **Join us on Facebook and The Women's Café or follow us on Twitter**
- » **Advertise the campaign charter at your workplace and in your newsletter**
- » **Hold a screening of the why women? documentary and invite WRC to speak at your events**
- » **Link your union website to www.wrc.org.uk**

For more information contact whywomen@wrc.org.uk

Working together

It is essential that trade unions and WRC work together to protect and strengthen the women's sector. Women are being doubly hit by the economic down turn and essential services are at risk of closure.



We must work together for a sustainable women's sector. These vital services continue to fight for women's equality as well as ensuring that all women have access to support. We are stronger together. Vivienne Hayes, CEO, WRC

Together we can support women's organisations to:

- » Change lives and promote equality and human rights
- » Stop violence against women
- » Provide women-only spaces
- » Provide effective services that are value for money

why women?

WRC's **why women?** campaign calls on the Government to support women's organisations. The women's sector is under threat because it lacks adequate funding and with the cuts this will only get worse.

The **why women?** campaign is calling on the government to put gender back on the agenda by:

- » Acknowledging the systematic discrimination women face because of their gender; and
- » Sustainably funding the women's organisations



We are saving lives - that's the most important thing for us. Iranian and Kurdish Women's Organisation