

Founder FAQs

1. What is the “Invest in Women Taskforce” funding pot?

The Invest in Women Taskforce funding pot is a dedicated pool of capital to support female-powered businesses to be deployed via a number of routes that meet the Invest in Women Taskforce criteria. It is funded by major investors Barclays, M&G, the British Business Bank, Morgan Stanley, the Visa Foundation, BGF and Aviva. The funding aims to address the significant gender disparities in the UK investment landscape by providing targeted support to female entrepreneurs across the UK.

2. When will the deployment of funding start?

The Women backing Women Fund will go live later in 2025. A Fund of Fund Manager is being selected to deploy the Women backing Women Fund capital and more details will follow once we have made the appointment in Q1 2025.

3. Can founders apply directly for funding from the Invest in Women Taskforce?

No, the Invest in Women Taskforce does not invest directly in businesses. Capital will be deployed by a UK-based investment managers. Investment managers/GP firms will target UK-based start-up and growth stage businesses for capital deployment.

4. How can I access funding from the Women backing Women fund?

Female founders can apply for funding from the female-led General Partners who will be selected to deploy the capital by the Women backing Women Fund. We are in the process of selecting a manager for the Women backing Women Fund and will keep the Taskforce's LinkedIn website updated as fund activity progresses. It is likely, however, to be Summer 2025 before applications will be open for female founders seeking funding from the Women backing Women Fund.

5. What kind of businesses are eligible for funding through the Women Backing Women fund?

The Women backing Women fund targets UK-based start-up and growth stage businesses. These businesses will be female-led or have at least one female founder or senior executive holding at least 10% equity stake in the business.

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6. Is there a specific focus on certain industries or sectors for funding?

The Women backing Women fund doesn't have a sector-specific focus, targeting a diversified portfolio of companies across different sectors, investment stages and regions in the UK to generate attractive returns for its investors.

7. Can I get follow-on funding if my business has already received initial investment?

The Women backing Women Fund may support follow-on investments through female-led General Partners, provided the business meets the funds criteria for gender diversity.

8. How do I find the right General Partners that are deploying the Women Backing Women Fund capital?

The Taskforce will announce the selected Fund of Fund manager, who in turn will contract with General Partners to deploy the capital from the Women backing Women Fund – all details will be on our LinkedIn and website.

9. Why not just focus on getting money straight to female entrepreneurs when they need it?

The aim is to create a fundamental shift in how capital is raised and deployed in the UK, making it an equal opportunity environment for female entrepreneurs. While deploying capital directly to founders could have been simpler, this approach also addresses the lack of female GPs and women on investment committees. As a result, only female-led and mixed GPs or investors with a balanced gender representation can access the funds.

10. Will the fund offer mentorship, networking or other non-financial support?

Part of the selection criteria for the fund manager and underlying GPs is their value-adding capabilities and strategic alignment with Invest in Women Taskforce goals and objectives. We will provide information about further resources once the manager and GPs are appointed. The Taskforce will continue hosting events and round tables for GPs and founders as part of wider ecosystem work. All details will be shared to our LinkedIn channel.

Visit the [Invest in Women Hub](#) for resources specifically tailored to female entrepreneurs who want to start, grow or scale their business within the UK.