**Consultant for Programme Evaluation - Expression of Interest**

**Introduction**

Futures is an Ofsted rated ‘Outstanding’ provider with over 20 years’ experience delivering Employment, Skills and Career Services to vulnerable young people and adults.

For our Future Impact programme funded through a DDCMS Social Investment Bond, the Life Chances Fund, as well as Nottingham City Council and Nottinghamshire County Council, we are seeking to appoint independent consultants to undertake an evaluation of the performance of the programme.

**Future Impact**

The Future Impact programme works with young people aged 15-24 across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire that are not in education, employment or training (NEET) or still in full-time education but identified as being at risk of NEET (RONI).

It also has a specific focus on SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities), that are not receiving higher levels of support from an EHCP (Education Health and Care Plan) as well as targeting young people that are within the Youth Justice system. Both these groups are overrepresented in the NEET cohorts of Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County

The service supports individuals to overcome barriers and make transitions to and within the labour market helping them to acquire new skills and be resilient in the face of change.

The programme is Payment by Results with local commissioners funding a social investor that in turn appointed a delivery organisation (Futures) to achieve a number of medium- and long-term goals that have a social impact:

Medium-Term Goals: Young people with multiple barriers (e.g., conviction, experience of YJ/probation systems) are supported to enter sustainable employment, to enter and complete suitable education/training courses, develop their wellbeing, independence and stability & reduce their risk of re-offending.

Long-Term Goals: Support YP on a pathway to increase personal development (e.g., emotional resilience, mental wellbeing, safety), achieve practical outcomes (e.g., independence) and work-readiness (e.g., understanding expectations in employment). Ultimate Goals: YP are supported to achieve their potential, to achieve and sustain EET outcomes (i.e., increased retention in EET), enhance their personal development, reduce cycles/negative patterns of behaviour and reduce their risk of re-offending

The overall volumes and outcomes for the project are as follows:

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| Potential Service Users | 4,080 |
| Anticipated beneficiaries  | 740 |

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| Outcome No. | Description | Baseline | Target Numbers | Outcome Payment |
| 1 | Initial Wellbeing Assessment | n/a | 650 | £500 |
| 2 | Entry in Education or Training | Comparison - against similar programmes demonstrates that 10% of young people from the PG1/SEND target group re-enter education/training | 226 | £500 |
| 3 | Entry in Employment or Volunteering  | Comparison - against similar programmes demonstrates that 10% of young people from the PG1/SEND target group achieve sustainable employment | 345 | £500 |

Futures are seeking a consultant to undertake an evaluation of the performance of the programme within the following parameters:

**Evaluation Aim**

The evaluation will:

1. Identify best practice in supporting young people with greater complexity of need and higher support needs to achieve learning and work outcomes
2. Identify best practice in funding models to inform future commissioning of projects of this nature.
3. Identify effective and value for money approaches to supporting the target group that achieves high quality outcomes for clients
4. Engage stakeholders and commissioners, including but not exclusive to the two commissioners engaged with the project, in order to identify sustainable sources of funding to continue the Future Impact model beyond the life of the LCF programme
5. In support of (4) to build an evidence base to support the identification of cashable savings that would provide ongoing funding for the Future Impact model
6. Collect an evidence base to support the efficacy of early/intense intervention and support models in engaging and preventing young people with complex needs from remaining long-term NEET
7. Engage supporting partners and organisations, including health and social care providers in a holistic and intensive approach to supporting young people with greater complexity of need into employment
8. Engage social investor(s) in both supporting the Future Impact model and potentially in supporting future programmes.
9. Give recommendations for ways greater impact could be demonstrated in the project

**Evaluation Comparators**

We will use the following sources as a baseline to measure the success of the project:

1. Historic data of the performance of the same client group when supported by the 'lighter touch' NEET prevention programme delivered by Futures in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.
2. Current data of the performance of beneficiaries of the same age who do not demonstrate sufficiently high complexity of need to require support from Future Impact. This group is supported by Futures' current NEET prevention offer.
3. Publicly available data providing NEET and Not Known data will be used as an overall baseline
4. We will also share data with Nottingham and Nottinghamshire's SEND support service to measure progress, particularly against distance travelled and personal development milestones.
5. We will compare performance with that of previous programmes which target a similar beneficiary group using an outcome-based, payment-by-results model.
6. As the Area Based Provider for the National Careers Service, we will use both historic and current data of performance of NCS Priority Groups which are broadly comparable with the target beneficiary group of Future Impact.

**Evaluation Indicators: The indicators to be used to evaluate the programme**

Futures manages a bespoke management information system in order to deliver the NEET prevention service on behalf of Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County Council. These systems offer a very flexible and powerful suite of reporting tools, which both commissioner and delivery organisation are familiar with. Clients co-produce a Personal Development Plan with their Future Impact Careers Coach, setting out individual aspirations and goals. These are regularly reviewed to chart progress. There is 1:1 dialogue between Navigators and clients and group sessions to inform service priorities and delivery. Futures has developed Impact Success Measures for soft outcomes/distance travelled to evidence how the project increases confidence and resilience, measure satisfaction level and recommend changes This system is used to monitor Future Impact beneficiaries.

Overall impact of the project will be measured through an Impact Assessment and a Social Return on Investment assessment.

**Evaluation Scope**

Working with our operations, quality, and management information teams, you will identify a sample of beneficiaries and collect robust qualitative and quantitative evidence, to identify successful interventions, inform best practice, and the design of future interventions.

To support scaling and spreading the innovation you will develop a structured dissemination strategy to include completion of a recommendation report to senior commissioners, elected members, policy makers and stakeholders in Nottingham City Council and Nottinghamshire County Council.

We plan to publish the results of the evaluation and examples of best practice through wider networks, through local government networks and the voluntary sector

The full scope of the evaluation is as follows:

1. Develop an evaluation process based on our robust data collection and management information systems, which record quantitative outputs/outcomes in order to assess whether the project is achieving its stated performance objectives and delivering positive outcomes for the target cohort.
2. Carry out further assessment to determine whether the programme is achieving its wider objectives of developing and promoting a new way of working with the local authority through the delivery of this project via a PBR/SIB model.
3. Undertake a qualitative assessment of the impact of Future Impact programmes on individual young people. This will be achieved through social return on investment analyses, consultation, case studies and interviews of the young people who are receiving support through the scaled service, to identify the personal value of the support the young people are receiving and the outcomes of achieved by young people accessing the service.

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**EOI**

Please return your form in Word document format**. Once completed the form should be sent electronically to Alerts@the-futures-group.com to arrive by 23:59 on the 6th November 2022**

Please send any clarification questions to Alerts@the-futures-group.com**.** All responses to these will be published on [www.futuresforyou.com/future-impact-evaluation.html](https://www.futuresforyou.com/future-impact-evaluation.html). All questions and responses will be fully anonymised. The final day to submit clarifications is 31st October 2022.

Please be advised that any EOIs that are incomplete or submitted after the deadline will not be evaluated.

Details submitted in this Expression of Interest are required to help us evaluate the appropriateness of your organisation to undertake this evaluation

Futures will not be liable for any bid costs, expenditure, work or effort incurred by a supplier in proceeding with or participating in this procurement, including if the procurement process is terminated or amended. Futures reserve the right at any time to make a decision not to proceed with procurement process, and the right to accept any EOI in whole or in part.

**Part A: Organisational Details**

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| **Section A1) Organisational Details:**  |
| **A1.1** | Full name of applicant organisation: |  |
| **A1.2** | Address / Postcode |  |
| **A1.3** | Registered Office Address (if different) |  |
| **A1.4** | Type of organisation:* Public Limited Company
* A Limited Company
* A Company Limited by Guarantee
* A Partnership
* A Charity
* Other (please specify):
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| **A1.5** | Company / Charity Registration Number: |  |
| **A1.6** | If your organisation is not incorporated in the UK, BUT is incorporated or registered overseas, then please give the country in which it is incorporated or registered and the registration number |  |
| **A1.7** | If your organisation is part of a group of companies incorporated or registered outside of the UK, please state:• The registered name of your parent company• The organisation with which it is registered• The country in which it is registered and the registration number |  |
| **A1.8** | Organisation website address: |  |
| **A1.9** | Name and Job Title of main contact submitting this EOI: |  |
| **A1.10** | Full postal address of main contact:  |  |
| **A1.11** | E-mail address of main contact: |  |
| **A1.12** | Telephone number of main contact (both landline and mobile): |  |
| **Part B: Delivery Experience** |
| 1. **Please provide a brief overview of your organisation and its main activities.**

**(maximum 150 words)** |
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| 1. **Experience of Evaluation of Employment / Skills / Careers / Young People programmes (or a related discipline)**

**Please refer to the Futures Impact overview and provide examples of previous Evaluations that your organisation has been contracted to deliver.*** **Please include the name of contract examples and scale of evaluation**
* **Please reference experience in achieving the aims of the evaluation**
* **Please include information on how your evaluation was presented and disseminated to the client and local stakeholders**

**(maximum of 500 Words)**  |
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**Part C: Price**

Please provide an indication of the number of days you anticipate it would take to complete this evaluation exercise and your day rate

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|  **Organisation** | **Number of Days** | **Day Rate (£)** |
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**Part D: Procurement Timeline**

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| **Milestone** | **Description** | **Date** |
| 1 | EOI Issued | 21st October 2022 |
| 2 | Clarifications | 24th Oct – 4th Nov 2022 |
| 3 | EOI Deadline | 6th November 2022 |
| 4 | Evaluation of Responses | 7th – 11th November 2022 |
| 5 | Interviews of Successful Responses | 14th – 18th November 2022 |
| 6 | Appointment of Evaluation Consultant | 21st November 2022 |

**Part E: Indicative Evaluation Timeline (to be agreed with appointed consultant)**

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| **Milestone** | **Description** | **Date** |
| 1 | Analysis and research to occur. Including access to reports, case studies, customer focus groups, coaches, commissioners, key partner, and parents and carers of customers | Nov 2022 – Feb 2023 |
| 2 | Monthly check in with impartial Project Manager around updates. Progress an any needs to ensure access to requirements | Nov 2022 – Feb 2023 |
| *3* | Report and findings write up | Mar – April 2023 |
| 4 | Report findings shared with Project Managers and Operational Management | May 2023 |
| 5 | Report findings shared with Commissioners | May 2023 |
| 6 | Report findings share with coaches, wider company, other local stakeholders as well as customers and their families  | June 2023 |
| 7 | Evaluation Complete | 30th June 2023 |