



Evaluation of Barnardo's RISE (Reducing the Impact of Sexual Exploitation) Project

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1. Introduction

Barnardo's Scotland is looking to commission an evaluation of its RISE (Reducing the Impact of Sexual Exploitation) project, in order to learn from the implementation of the project, and inform future development and delivery.

It is proposed that the study will commence in March 2018 and conclude by September 2018.

2. Background

Funded by Barnardo's, Police Scotland, and Comic Relief, RISE is a partnership between Barnardo's and Police Scotland. The project was launched, as a two year pilot, in December 2016. The pilot operates in Aberdeen and Dundee.

Within the context of the pilot, the Scottish Government's National Action Plan to Prevent and Tackle Child Sexual Exploitation (2014, and Update March 2016) is highly relevant. In line with the Action Plan, the pilot project recognises that preventing and tackling child sexual exploitation (CSE) requires a co-ordinated, multi-agency response, in which effective work with children, young people, parents, and carers, requires skilled practitioners, and *"must be accompanied by work to detect, disrupt and prosecute perpetrators and reduce re-offending"*.

The pilot relates to achieving a number of the Scottish Government's National Outcomes¹, and is designed to contribute to achieving progress towards the Scottish Government's aim of eliminating CSE in Scotland, which in turn contributes to the Scottish Government's vision of making Scotland the best place in the world to grow up in.

¹ Primarily: Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens; Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed; We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk; We live our lives free from crime, disorder, and danger; We have strong resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others; and We have tackled the significant inequalities in Scottish society.

The overall aim of RISE is to identify and protect children and young people from CSE. The project adopts a proactive, multiagency approach, to improving existing processes and responses to identifying and protecting children and young people from CSE, and to assist in disrupting perpetrators and perpetrator networks, thereby protecting other potential victims.

CSE Advisors from Barnardo's are embedded within local child protection arrangements, and are co-located within Police Scotland Divisions in the two pilot sites. The Advisor roles take a proactive, multiagency approach, aiming to ensure effective systems and supports are in place to identify and robustly respond to CSE. Advisors work in partnership with Police Scotland and other key agencies – by sharing skills, specialist knowledge, and intelligence – in order to provide a coordinated response to CSE.

The CSE Advisor role has, to date, focused primarily on:

- enabling culture and systems change, in order to embed effective responses to CSE into existing arrangements
- capacity building, through awareness raising and training across a wide range of professionals (and others) involved in supporting children and young people – this has involved, for example, work with police, schools, housing, social work, local Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) teams, sexual health clinics, residential care workers, and community safety wardens, as well as work with foster carers, and parents/carers
- working in consultation with Police Scotland, to coordinate intelligence information, to assist in improving identification and disruption of perpetrators and perpetrator networks, in order to protect current victims and prevent potential victims of CSE.

3. Aims & Objectives

The principle aim of the research is to examine the RISE pilot project. This is in order to assess the implementation of the project, whilst also identifying any early indications of impact.

Four main research objectives underpin this principle aim:

- i) To examine the processes and structures which have been put in place to implement the project. This should include a

description of the models of working that have been established in the two pilot areas.

- ii) To assess the effectiveness of these processes and structures across the two pilot sites. This should include:
 - a. an assessment of the extent to which the project has increased identification of CSE
 - b. an assessment of the extent to which the project has aided disruption of perpetrators
 - c. consideration of the factors that have enabled the project to identify, support and protect children and young people considered at risk of, or having experienced CSE. This should include any challenges experienced, and strategies/processes to overcome these
 - d. investigation of how the project has been experienced and received by project staff and key partners.
- iii) To provide an indication of the overall impact of the project – by gaining insights into the impact the project has on the intended outcomes of the pilot, as described above.
- iv) To establish, and report on, the key lessons learned in implementation of the project and on the potential challenges and opportunities for the future delivery and sustainability of the project, to ensure that the learning from this research can benefit the future delivery of the project, and other similar initiatives.

It should be noted that given the short-term nature of the pilot, and the focus of this research, it is not expected that a literature review or economic analysis will form part of this study. It is expected that the research will include both pilot sites.

4. Research Design/Methodology

Barnardo's does not wish to recommend a methodology to contractors. Researchers should therefore clearly illustrate how they intend to evaluate the project against its aims and objectives. Such data should, where appropriate, and as far as is possible, be representative of the range of key stakeholders involved.

The contractor will be required to design and undertake a programme of research to address the research aim and core objectives for the project as outlined in Section 3 (above).

It is intended that the research will examine inputs, effectiveness of the process, outputs, as well as providing an early indication of impact and sustainability.

Contractors will be expected to demonstrate an awareness of undertaking this type of research. Previous experience of projects which adopt a similar methodological design is also essential.

Contractors are also required to demonstrate experience and knowledge of the ethical and legal guidelines governing social research practice.

Potential contractors should outline the principles and rationale underpinning their stated approach, including a consideration of cost implications, possible limitations, and how these will be addressed. Please outline any potential problems or weaknesses with your proposed approach and how you would seek to address them.

5. Research outputs

Key outputs will be:

- A **final report** (up to 50 pages, excluding references and annexes) that meets the aims and objectives of the research, as outlined in Section 3 of this specification, and includes an **Executive Summary** which also provides a stand-alone summary of key findings from the research
- A **verbal presentation** of the key findings.

The final report must be prepared in a clear, accessible and concise manner.

Contractors should cost for the above outputs in their tender. Depending on the ease of process and quality of reporting, potential contractors should note that one or more drafts of the report are likely to be required before a final draft is agreed. This should be allowed for in the timetable and costs proposed.

The final report will need to be signed off by **Friday 28 September 2018**.

Contractors will also be expected to provide a fortnightly email/telephone update on progress, as agreed with Barnardo's Project

Manager. These progress reports should draw out the key learning points to date (so that these can be fed into the ongoing development of the project), and, where appropriate, discuss the implications of the research undertaken on the subsequent stages of the research.

6. Ownership & Publication of Outputs

The ownership of the research material, including the final report and any data produced as a result of the research, lies with Barnardo's. The date and format of any publications will be determined by Barnardo's.

7. Contractor Responsibilities

The contractor will be responsible for research design, fieldwork, data analysis, and preparation of the final report to a standard agreed with Barnardo's.

It is the responsibility of the contractor to ensure that the proposed methodology does not contravene the provisions of the Data Protection Act, 1998 (and, from May 2018, GDPR).

Your tender should state:

- Which (if any) professional codes of practice you will follow
- How you will address any ethical issues that are identified in the specification
- What other ethical issues you think are relevant, and how you would address them.

Academic institutions are asked to clearly state what impact, if any, any required clearance of their own ethics committees would have on the timescales for the research.

The research proposal will also be required to be submitted to Barnardo's Research Ethics Committee (BREC), before proceeding – six weeks should be allowed in timescales for this.

8. Contract Management

The research will be managed by Daljeet Dagon who will be responsible for the day-to-day liaison with the contractor and for agreeing final versions of all research tools and outputs (Daljeet.Dagon@barnardos.org.uk; 0141 243 2393).

9. Timetable

It is anticipated that the study will be completed within seven months commencing March 2018 and reporting September 2018. The contractor must be in a position to begin the project by that date and to complete the work within the specified timescales.

A detailed research schedule will be agreed with the contractor, which will form part of the research contract. The indicative timetable is as follows:

Tenders submitted	Friday 2 March 2018
Contractor appointed	Wednesday 14 March
Project inception meeting	w/c 19 March
Information gathering & securing access and ethical approval	w/c 19 March – w/c 16 April
Final project design agreed	By Friday 27 April
Main fieldwork and initial analysis	May – July
De-brief meeting and discussion of final draft report	w/c 6 August
Final analysis and preparation of final report	August
Submission of draft final report	Friday 7 September
Revisions to draft final report, if required	w/c 17 September
Project completion	Friday 28 September

10. Access Arrangements

The contractor will be responsible for arranging access to research participants. Contractors should also note that agreed access arrangements will need to be adhered to, where the research involves access to Police Scotland staff, etc.

11. Contract Price

A budget of approximately £10,000 (excluding VAT) is available for this work. This must cover liability for all costs including staff costs, attendance at two meetings, equipment, access to data, any reimbursement of research participants, travel and subsistence, overheads, and production of final outputs.

Payments will be phased and linked to the successful completion of key stages of the research.

Full economic costs must be made. Tenderers liable for VAT should indicate this in their proposal.

12. Contract conditions

The research project will be governed by a contract with Barnardo's.

Tenderers should outline potential risks to the successful completion of the project within the timescales and budget. These risks may be organisational and/or specific to this research project. Tenderers should outline the risks, state the likelihood of their occurrence, describe what steps would be taken to reduce likelihood, and describe measures that will be taken if risks materialise.

13. Criteria for the evaluation of tenders

Tenders will be assessed for their value-for-money and on the following criteria.

Tenderers should be aware that if a tender is judged unsatisfactory on any of the listed criteria, it may be ruled out of further consideration.

CRITERIA	WEIGHTING
Proposed methodology to fulfil the requirements of the brief	30%
Understanding and interpretation of the research brief	25%
Relevant expertise and skills of researchers, including previous experience of undertaking similar research projects	15%
Project team organisation and management arrangements, particularly the allocation of day-to-day responsibility, and quality control	10%

Ability to communicate clearly and concisely	10%
Ability to deliver the work within the required timescales	5%
Risk assessment – degree of risk attached to the tender, including assessment of contractor’s own risk, contingency arrangements for completing the contract, and approach to data security	5%

14. Guidance for Submitting a Tender

The following information should be included in a response:

- Name of the tenderer(s), and name of person for further contact (if different)
- A brief statement detailing an understanding of and interpretation of the purpose, specific objectives and scope of the project (please limit to 1,000 words or fewer)
- Details of proposed methodology and timescale, including dates for the completion of discrete stages of the work as detailed in the specification (please limit to 1,000 words or fewer)
- A statement of ethical issues that are expected to arise in conducting the work and a statement of these will be addressed
- Details of approach to quality assurance (including adherence to timescales and the quality of key outputs) and any relevant procedures/accreditation
- CVs of all staff involved, including details of their role, their particular expertise and time input in person days (including, where applicable, staff not yet appointed) and associated management arrangements for the project (CVs and associated information should not run to more than two pages per person)
- Details of previous relevant research experience
- Contact details for two people who have agreed to be approached to supply references in relation to this work (to be taken up depending on the nature of the competition)
- A clear statement of the tender process and costs under the following headings for each stage of the project:
 - Research/management costs
 - Equipment and materials
 - Reimbursement of research participants (as applicable)
 - Travelling expenses directly related to the research (including any costs for attendance at meetings)
 - Overheads
 - Any other costs
 - VAT (if applicable)
 - Total

Contractors are advised to provide the above information in a format similar to the below.

Costs	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3, etc...	All Stages
Staff				
Equipment & materials				
Travel				
Reimbursement of participants				
Overheads				
Other (specify)				
VAT				
TOTAL				

- Day rates for each member of the project team
- Details and costs of any work to be subcontracted, including information on whether the same sub-contractor has been used previously
- A risk assessment for the project should be presented in a table similar to the one below, detailing potential risks, likelihood, measures to reduce their likelihood, and plans to deal with risks that do materialise

Issue	Likelihood of risk (low, medium, high)	Mitigating action(s)	Recovery Plan

Responses should be based on the information given in this Research Specification and upon the professional knowledge of the contractor. Clarification of specific points can, however, be sought from Daljeet Dagon (Daljeet.Dagon@barnardos.org.uk).

Tenders must be submitted to Daljeet Dagon (Daljeet.Dagon@barnardos.org.uk) by 15:00hrs on **Friday 2 March 2018**.