



**Queries relating to the procurement of Extension Period mental health and well-being support provision, Extension Period Supported Employment provision and the final evaluation for the ESF/ Big Lottery funded Brighter Futures project**

**The following queries have been raised for:**

1. **Extension mental health and well-being support provision**

**Question 1:** How long are participants expected to be engaged with the provision?  The Employment provision states 26 weeks but I can’t find any indication for the Mental health and wellbeing lot.

**Response to Question 1:** Realistically, it would probably take most providers a minimum of six weeks to timetable in all the required interventions e.g. initial assessment, action planning, condition management support, signposting to therapeutic support and follow up, well-being workshops and visits to community venues. However we do not wish to specify a minimum or maximum duration as we want providers to have the freedom to propose and justify their own format within which they would also personalise their delivery to take account of the diverse and fluctuating nature of mental health conditions.

# Question 2: Do you foresee online training being used to supplement the workshops?

**Answer to question 2:** Please feel free to offer supplementary online training in addition to the workshops if you believe this would be of benefit to the participants.

# Question 3: As it is partly funded by the National Lottery, is this opportunity only open to not for profit organisations

# Answer to question 3: This opportunity is not restricted to not for profit organisations, however funding is paid on an actual, eligible and compliant direct costs basis i.e. the provider will be paid for the actual costs incurred in their delivery of the project and therefore it is impossible to make a profit

1. **Extension Supported Employment provision**

# Question 1: As it is partly funded by the National Lottery, is this opportunity only open to not for profit organisations

# Answer to question 1: This opportunity is not restricted to not for profit organisations, however funding is paid on an actual, eligible and compliant direct costs basis i.e. the provider will be paid for the actual costs incurred in their delivery of the project and therefore it is impossible to make a profit

1. **Project Final Evaluation**

**Question 1:** In the timescales, it states that the delivery of the evaluation will start in November 2021 – is that a typo as it’s quite a while after appointment?

**Answer to Question 1:** The timescales are correct as stated in the specification. We are procuring well in advance of the delivery starting in November 2021 so that the evaluator is in place from the beginning of the project extension period and can, if they wish influence the types of evidence we gather as we proceed with the delivery rather than seeking to retrospectively gather this evidence.

**Question 2:** In terms of the SROI/economic impact element, please can you provide a bit more detail about what you are looking to achieve from it. Are you looking to understand the social value that has been generated as a result of the project or more about the physical impact (e.g. getting x people into work has reduced the amount of benefits claimed by £X but also generated X for the local economy)?

**Answer to Question 2:** We would like applicants to recommend the type of value for money calculation they feel is most appropriate for a project of this type.

**Question 3:** There is a discrepancy in the budgets outlined in the tender documents. On page 3, it says the budget is £35,000, however on page 8 question 8.1, it states the budget is £50,000. Please could you confirm which it is?

**Answer to question 3:** Many thanks for alerting us to this discrepancy on page 8 question 8.1. The budget is £35,000

**Question 4:** How many beneficiaries have been supported to date?

**Answer to question 4**: The project has engaged 2445 people so far; somewhat over our initial Big Lottery set project target of 1882. A raised target will be set by the Big Lottery for the extension period.

**Question 5:** We wondered if you would

* consider extending the deadline for bids as January tends to be a very busy month.
* share the interim evaluation?

**Answer to question 5:** Unfortunately, we cannot, for this reason, extend the deadline for bids. We are able to share the interim report and will make this available at <https://www.business2businesslimited.com/current-partnership-opportunities>