#

**Market Engagement Questionnaire for Community Partnership Advisory Service (CPAS)**

# Overview

The Council is reviewing its Community Partnership Advisory Service. The service is primarily aimed at delivering support to people from ethnic minority backgrounds and faith communities to embed a positive safeguarding culture.

CPAS raises social awareness within local communities on safeguarding issues, to enable children, particularly those who may be marginalised, to live safely from harm.

The service actively engages with both statutory and non-statutory partners, including medical and health agencies on issues such as female genital mutilation.

CPAS provides training and consultation with faith leaders, senior community workers and grass roots organisations. It ensures that people from ethnic minority backgrounds and marginalised communities have access to information, resources and training to assist them when delivering services. It helps to bridge the gap between vulnerable residents and the Council and its statutory partners, which may not always be accessible to everyone.

The service has been successful in ensuring marginalised community groups are informed of their responsibilities regarding safeguarding children. The service reports into the Community Engagement sub-group of Camden Safeguarding Children Board.

1. **Market testing**

The Council wishes to undertake soft market testing on the re-commissioning of this service, and therefore would welcome the views of providers on the questions set out below.

Interested parties will not be prejudiced by any response or failure to respond to this soft market testing and a response to this notice does not guarantee any invitation to participate in any future public procurement process that the Council may conduct.

This notice does not constitute a call for competition to procure any services for the Council and the Council is not bound to accept any proposals offered. The Council is not liable for any costs, fees or expenses incurred by any party participating in the soft market testing exercise. Any procurement of any services by the Council in due course will be carried out strictly in accordance with the provisions of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

Any responses provided will not be treated as commercially confidential, unless expressed by the providing party, and may be used by the Council in the final service specifications used for the contracts, but no organisation will be individually identified.

We would like to receive feedback on the following areas (see questions in section 5) and any other comments that you may have. Organisations will have the opportunity to ask clarification questions on the specification should a procurement process be undertaken.

Following this market testing exercise the Council intends, subject to governance to run a commissioning exercise, which would likely include the following key stages (see indicative timeframe in section 4).

1. **Indicative timeframe**

**Please note that these dates have not been finalised and are subject to change.**

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| **Stage** | **Date** |
| Review of the current model and engagement with market and residents | 10 May 2023 – 2 June 2023 |
| Tender advert released | September 2023 |
| Deadline for tender | October 2023 |
| Contract award | End November 2023 |
| Commencement Date of Contract | April 2024 |

1. **Market Questionnaire**

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| 1. What is your general level of interest in bidding for this contract? (Please briefly explain why below)
* High (very likely to bid)
* Medium (may bid)
* Low (unlikely to bid)
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| 1. What experience do you have in delivering safeguarding training to community groups, outlining the benefits and outcomes that have been achieved within ethnic communities and faith groups?
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| 1. Please outline examples of successful partnership development and work with safeguarding children partner agencies, in Camden and elsewhere?
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| 1. Please provide examples (from current or previous contracts) of making a significant impact on improving the knowledge and awareness of safeguarding children, for people from ethnic minority backgrounds and faith communities in Camden, as well as particularly relevant safeguarding issues (FGM, spirit possession)?

Please include any examples of where you have assisted communities in building links to statutory services to ensure that children are safeguarded from harm. |
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| 1. To ensure that the delivery of CPAS is effective and safe, please outline any suggestions you may have that could be considered in the potential design and structure of this service. For example:
2. use of volunteers?
3. incorporating virtual interventions? (e.g. online groupwork or social/educational interaction opportunities using Zoom or MS Teams)
4. one-to-one/ groups?
5. something else?
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| 1. What do you see as the key challenges and opportunities in delivering these services?
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| 1. In your experience, what innovative ways could be explored to improve the delivery of Social Value to communities, i.e. improvements in the economic, social and/or environmental well-being of the areas? How do you think you may be able to deliver Social Value as part of any future contract for these services?

Please see <https://www.socialvalueuk.org/what-is-social-value/the-principles-of-social-value/> for more information |
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| 1. Is there anything that you are currently doing to promote equalities and diversity within any current contracts you have?
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| 1. Would you be willing to further discuss any aspect of your engagement market response with a council officer? If yes, please state your preference between a group workshop or meeting on a 121 basis.
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1. **General Information**

Following this market testing exercise Camden Council will consider options for developing the provision in question.

**Please return your completed questionnaire by 5pm on Friday 19th May 2023 to:**

Kerry.Prevost-Cooper@camden.gov.uk