**Social Work England 00339 – Response to Clarification Questions**

**Q) Are you looking for participating students from all courses?**

**A) We are keen to hear from University providers, fast track routes into Social Work and apprenticeships etc. We would expect providers to demonstrate some involvement in each area representatively. Around the scale and numbers, we would expect bidders to propose to Social Work England, as to what they think is achievable in the timescales available.**

**Q) Social Work England are particularly interested in those with protected characteristics. What support will you provide bidders with, to access samples of that nature?**

**A) Social Work England can offer signposting. We have been successful around our past partnering with organisations where we have been able to direct people towards a research partner who has a dedicated email contact, or an administration assistant for example. In terms of Social Work England using the Social Worker register, it can be difficult as we need to be careful how we use the details of people included in the register. The more we can do in the collaborative space, the better. Social Work England are happy to discuss any concerns bidders have around reaching certain groups. We would be happier for the overall sample to be lower, if bidders can make sure the sample is representative of all groups. We would also be keen for bidders to explain how they reach out to these groups.**

**Q) Could Social Work England please explain in more detail, around the proposed Student Social Worker register. How close are you to committing to this happening?**

**A) By Social Work England’s 3-year point, we will have considered student registration. We are currently assessing the landscape and appetite of students to be on the register, and are continually advancing conversations around this.**

**Q) When Social Work England talk around a representative sample - do you have a profile of Student Social Workers we can work towards, particularly in terms of protected characteristics?**

**A) Social Work England would like to see a due consideration of the fact that some groups may be harder to reach than others. Bidders should explain the measures they would put in place, to reflect these voices in research.**

**Q) In some sections of the invitation to tender, Social Work England include a word limit and also state that appendices are not applicable. Where we are asking for CV’s, I assume we can attach CV’s as appendices?**

**A) Yes, CV’s can be attached by bidders as appendices.**

**Q) I have a query around preferred methodology - If I were to say that Social Work England were ideally requiring a survey approach amongst students, would that be correct please?**

**A) Social Work England are open to suggestions, around what bidders feel is the most effective way of achieving our objectives with the research. We would welcome creative ideas of reflecting the variety of audiences we want to see in the research, in other formats than a survey. Please explain to us, whatever methodology you feel would be most suitable.**