**Ending Gang Violence and Exploitation**

**Background**

The Home Office is seeking to award grant funding to the successful organisation, with the appropriate experience and expertise in tackling serious violence, gangs, county lines and vulnerability related issues, to undertake local and strategic reviews, and provide operational follow up support.

As part of this work, via the Ending Gang Violence & Exploitation (EGVE) programme, the serious violence unit has match-funded 38 local reviews and five strategic reviews, carried out by an independent team of experts since 2016/17. As a result of these reviews, local areas and partners have reported an improved understanding of emerging threats and issues, including local drug markets and how they drive violence. In addition to this, because of EGVE funded support, local areas and partners have promoted collaboration, which in turn has developed a local response to safeguarding and vulnerability issues. We intend to continue providing this service, and the support to local areas using the local and strategic reviews.

**The Purpose of the Funding**

Through collaboration with the relevant local area partners, the selected organisation will gather information to build a qualitative picture of the key issues and drivers around gangs, county lines, youth violence and vulnerability in their area. This will inform a report which provides the local authority, police and their partners with insights and recommendations in respect of the emerging and identified risk of violence, as well as how best to respond to the linked exploitation and safeguarding issues. These reports will also help areas build their resilience and strengthen their response to serious violence.

The reports need to enable local partnerships to identify and overcome potential barriers and provide effective interventions for people caught up in serious violence. This can have a positive impact on:

* Identification of individuals who are at risk of being exploited, or exploitation.
* Ability to intervene at an earlier stage to prevent individuals at risk of involvement in serious violence and county lines activity and the associated violence in the first place.
* Appropriate sharing of information on county lines and serious violence and those at risk of involvement, to enable both swifter enforcement and safeguarding activities to take place.
* Preventing and reducing serious violence e.g. county lines gang’s violence, knife crime, gun crime.
* Reducing criminal activity e.g. CSE, acquisitive crime, drug supply/taking/dealing, anti-social behaviour.

The selected organisation will also manage and co-ordinate the monthly EGVE Teleconference with local practitioners such as local authorities and police, who lead on interventions related to gangs, county lines and wider vulnerabilities.

The aim of the monthly EGVE Teleconference is for local areas to share best practice and to update on their activities and emerging threats within the area.

**The Funding**

The Authority is seeking to award grant funding for the provision of the Local Area Serious Violence support of up to £220k per annum over a grant period of one (1) year (August 2021-March 2022).

The Home Office invites bids from non-statutory sector organisations that are charities and non-profit making organisations in England and Wales.

All bids must be for the 9-month period stated above, and bidders must be able to demonstrate that they can spend their entire potential award by 31 March 2022.

Bids should be submitted in pounds sterling and be inclusive of expenses and VAT.

**Key deliverables**

As well as contributing to the delivery of the Home Office goals of cutting crime and the harm it causes, and protecting vulnerable people and communities, this grant is being provided to support the Home Office’s strategic plan to significantly reduce serious violence. To do this, the successful bidder will be required to:

* Maintain a network of appropriate experts.
* Match-funded local reviews to areas experiencing gang related exploitation issues and or/any local area experiencing a newly emerged critical threat. To follow up return visits to each area to understand progress.
* Match-funded regional strategic reviews to identify a common framework that the police, PCC and partners across a region can sign up to in order to effectively respond to this issue.
* Operation and support days tailored to each locality.
* Coordination of monthly telecons with local single points of contact to share information on national and local initiatives.
* Contribute to the EGVE Forum by sharing best practice and expertise and linking into our online knowledge hub.
* On-line training offer to practitioners for all local areas offering licenses.

**Eligibility**

1. The Home Office invites bids from non-statutory sector organisations that are charities and non-profit making organisations in England and Wales.
2. Bidders must demonstrate suitable evidence to endorse the local area support they are proposing to deliver.
3. Successful bidders must be transparent in relation to grant use, as this is part of the government’s agenda concerning using public funds. All grant funding will be registered on the Government Grant Information System.
4. Bid submission outputs must contribute to the achievement of the overall outcomes of the funding, clearly demonstrating how they will meet the key deliverables.
5. The decision of the assessment panel is final.

**Indicative Timetable**

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| Indicative Timetable | Provisional Dates |
| Advert placed on Contract Finder | 16 June 2021 |
| Open for Applications | 16 June 2021 |
| Clarification period opens | 16 June 2021 |
| Clarifications period closes | 05 July 2021 |
| Final response to Clarifications issued | 07 July 2021 |
| Deadline for receipt of completed applications | 4pm on 12 July 2021 |
| Evaluations & Recommendation | 14-16 July 2021 |
| Notification of decision | w/c 19 July 2021 |
| Grant Agreement and Supporting Documents sent out to successful applicant(s) for signature | w/c 19 July 2021 |