

Contract summary

Industry

Other Services – Support to victims of county lines exploitation

Location of contract

England and Wales.

Value of contract

£850,000

Published date

5 March 2021

Opening date

5 March 2021

Closing date

7 April 2021

Contract start dates

01 June 2021

Contract end date

31 March 2022

County Lines – Specialist Victim Support

Description

The Home Office is seeking to award grant funding of up to £850,000 to non-statutory sector organisations that are charities and non-profit making organisations in England and Wales to provide support to under 25s and their families who are criminally exploited through county lines.

The county lines model relies heavily on the exploitation of young and vulnerable people and is associated with a high risk of serious violence particularly for those

who are forced to transport drugs and cash at street level.¹ Intervening with and supporting those who are criminally exploited is a key part of disrupting and breaking the county lines business model.

We are seeking to fund a specialist service that must involve an element of one-to-one casework (which complements the work of existing statutory agencies) as well as a 'rescue' service, which will have the capacity to support the safe return home of under 25s arrested/identified outside of their home area in connection with county lines.

Through this project we are also seeking to increase awareness of the specific needs of women and girls exploited through county lines and to encourage referrals of women and girls into the service. The support offered needs to be focused in three geographical locations – London, West Midlands and Merseyside. These are the three areas from where the largest number of county lines originate, and in which increased operational activity is being funded by the Home Office to target high harm county lines.

We encourage bids from organisations who already have links with law enforcement partners, safeguarding agencies and Violence Reduction Units in these locations and who, in addition, have appropriate experience and understanding of county lines (and the associated violence, exploitation and risks) and working with vulnerable cohorts. Bidders will need to demonstrate that they can engage with this vulnerable (and often hard to reach) cohort and work in partnership with agencies to pursue positive outcomes for victims.

Consortia bids are welcomed.

Outcomes

Successful proposals must deliver the provision of specialist support to victims of county lines exploitation in the three largest exporting police force areas - London, the West Midlands and Merseyside. The objectives of the fund are to:

- provision of specialist one-to-one support to help under 25's who are criminally exploited through county lines to safely reduce and exit their involvement, working collaboratively with existing statutory agencies, local structures and families to support positive outcomes for this cohort.

¹ <https://nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/who-we-are/publications/257-county-lines-drug-supply-vulnerability-and-harm-2018/file>

- Provision of a rescue service, which will operate in England and Wales, to support the safe return home, at a critical teachable moment, of under 25's from London, the West Midlands and Merseyside who are identified outside of their home force areas in connection with county lines.
- to increase awareness of the specific needs of women and girls exploited through county lines, encourage referrals of women and girls into the project and ensure that their specific needs are identified and met.
- to have appropriate safeguarding measures in place for those clients supported by the service.

The successful organisation/s will work to pursue a range of outcomes for victims through the delivery of support, including:

- helping victims to safely reduce and exit their county lines involvement
- reducing the risk of criminal exploitation and violence from county lines
- reducing offending and missing episodes linked to county lines exploitation
- increasing victim engagement with statutory agencies, education and employment
- increasing resilience of victims through improved emotional and mental well-being
- improved relationships between victims and their parents/carers

The funding will cover a 10-month period from 1 June 2021 to 31 March 2022, and bidders must be able to demonstrate that they can spend their entire potential award by 31 March 2022.

Bidders should note that a Home Office condition of any grant funding will be that recipients are not permitted to charge, apply fees to or require payment for any activity provided in connection with this funded programme or otherwise use the grant to undertake or engage in activities that result in commercial gain or profit.

NOTICE TO SUPPLIERS

In December 2016, the Cabinet Office launched its minimum standards for government grants: These include the requirement that competition should be the default option when considering award of grant funding.

To comply, the Home Office manages its competitions using their Jaggaer eSourcing portal.

How to register

In order to bid for funding, bidders will first need to register on the Home Office (HO) Jaggaer portal via the following link:

<https://homeoffice.app.jaggaer.com/web/login.html>

Bidders should be approved for usage within 24 hours of registering on the system.

After clicking on the eSourcing portal link, it should take you to the home page. On the left-hand side of this page, just below the login boxes, there is an option to register.

To register as a supplier, you will need to provide information which will include:

- the full legal name of your organisation
- your DUNS number – a unique nine-digit number provided to organisations free of charge by Dun & Bradstreet
- profile information describing your organisation and the size of your business

Once registered as a supplier on the portal please send a notification e-mail to countylinessupport@homeoffice.gov.uk to request access to the associated documents for the 'County Lines – Specialist Victim Support' Fund.

If you have any difficulties registering on the system, then you should contact the Supplier eSourcing Helpdesk: **customersupport@jaggaer.com**

The HO Jaggaer eSourcing portal is independent of other eSourcing portals. Therefore, if you have registered on the Crown Commercial Service Jaggaer eSourcing portal, you will also need to register on the HO Jaggaer eSourcing portal.

Please note that bids will only be accepted via the HO eSourcing portal. Any bids received outside of this system will not be considered.

Please note that registering for access to the eSourcing portal will not make you a Home Office supplier. To be considered for the award of funding you must first respond to an opportunity.

Further information about procurement at the Home Office can be found on the gov.uk website.

About the buyer

Address

The Home Office
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF
England

Email: countylinessupport@homeoffice.gov.uk

Other information

This competition will be managed electronically via the Home OfficeSourcing Suite.

How to apply

Once successfully registered on the system you should email countylinessupport@homeoffice.gov.uk. You will then be given access to the event on the eSourcing portal, where you will find all the documentation needed. Applications for the fund will be submitted via the eSourcing portal.

PLEASE NOTE: *The Jaggaer event for the County Lines – Specialist Victim Support is expected to be available week commencing 8th March 2021*