* **How many programmes run across the 13 LAs?**

This evaluation will be focused on our new strategic funding framework and activity during it. During this funding framework we will fund projects based on grant size. There will be three main programmes by grant sixe. Find out more here:

<https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/funding/national-lottery-grant-heritage>

* **Could you please provide examples of the types of programmes you would like evaluated**

We want project activity evaluated from across the three main open programmes. These programmes vary by grant size. Find out more about what we will fund here:

<https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/funding/check-what-we-fund>

* **Would you consider a themed approach - i.e. a measurement framework that addresses themes, or are you looking for a bespoke framework for each programme?**

Yes we would consider a themed approach. We are not looking for a bespoke framework for each programme.

* **Would you consider a sample approach - i.e. evaluate a proportion, or are you looking to evaluate each programme?**

We are open to a sample approach as it would be unfeasible to evaluate all projects funded within the three programmes.

* **How to they envisage collecting data on the control group?**

Data collection from the Local Authorities selected as a control group would be through official sources and also in collaboration with Business Delivery teams for that LA working within the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

* **How essential is the use of a control, as we foresee some risks associated with this?**

We would prefer the use of control groups as the key purpose of this evaluation is to demonstrate the added value of the National Lottery Heritage Fund’s activities in priority areas above and beyond non-priority areas.

* **Is funding secured for the next 6 years for the chosen programmes?**

Yes funding is secured for the next 6 years across all programmes.

* **Do you have exiting automated feedback platforms?**

We conduct an output survey with a sample of projects upon completion. This data can be provided to the successful bidder.

* **Does the National Lottery Heritage Fund have a preferred definition or operational understanding of social benefit?**

We do not have a preferred definition of social benefit and are open to suggestions. We associate social benefit with improvements for people and communities, such as greater inclusion and wellbeing.

* **What is the range of the total value (£) of funding offered by the NLHF in those areas it has funded the most, and those it has funded the least?**

The table below shows our funding from 1994-2017. Surrey Heath was the least funded per capita £1 compared to the City of London £2,303 which was the highest funded per capita.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Local authority** | **Number of projects funded** | **Total Grant awarded** | **per cap** | **Average Grant awarded**  |
| Surrey Heath |  9  | £83,348 | £1 | £9,261 |
| City of London |  66  | £21,650,275 | £2,303 | £328,034 |

* **Does the NLHF have access to a standard audit of heritage assets in those LA areas?**

We have access to data from the Heritage Index which we can share. Find out more here:

<https://www.thersa.org/action-and-research/rsa-projects/public-services-and-communities-folder/heritage-and-place>

* **Are there any LA areas with heritage assets that have not received any NLHF funding that could form a control?**

All LA areas have received some form of funding during the last 25 years. The focus of this evaluation is on activity from 2019-2024.

* **When was the theory of change developed and is it possible to share its core components at this stage in the process?**

The theory of change was developed internally through a workshop organised by the Evaluation team in collaboration with our Business delivery team. We will share the core components with the successful bidder.

* **Can the NLHF share how they are operationalizing the concept of ‘thriving’ people and places?**

By ‘thriving’ we mean high levels of inclusion and wellbeing, improvements in health and economic performance, as well as other potential indicators. See for example:

<https://www.thrivingplacesindex.org/>

* **Does the NLHF require funded projects to undertake their own evaluations?**

Yes all funded projects are required to submit an evaluation report on completion of their project.

* **Will annual monitoring and achievement reports be available to the evaluation from all the funded projects?**

Yes all relevant self-evaluation reports, completion reports and monitoring information can be shared with the successful bidder.

* **Where are your business delivery teams located?  How many people will be expected to participate in the workshops?**

We expect between 10-15 peoples to participate in the workshops. The relevant Business Delivery teams are located in Cardiff (Wales); Edinburgh (Scotland); London, Manchester, Leeds, Cambridge, Birmingham, Nottingham (England).

* **Has work been done on selecting the control boroughs?**

We have some ideas on the potential control local authorities, but remain open to suggestions.

* **What data does NLHF already hold on the areas it has selected for strategic investment?**

We have grant data and access to data from the Heritage Index. We would expect the successful bidder to access other local data.

* **Does this work interrelate with any other NLHF briefs or research projects (especially given that this is under a strategic priority to demonstrate value)?**

Yes this relates to our Great Place programme evaluation which is currently ongoing. These reports will be shared with the successful bidder.

* **Will there be a requirement for Welsh language capacity?**

This would be useful but not a requirement.

* **Will there be project-specific primary evaluation research funded as part of the strategic investment grants?**

Yes all projects we fund are expected to allocate a proportion of their grant to evaluation.

* **Paragraph 1.6 makes reference to a ‘range of established indicators’ – does this list already exist, or will it be created as part of this project.  if it does already exist, could a copy be made available to tenderers?**

Some of these indicators can be found in the Heritage Index and others will need to be created.

* **Paragraph 2.2 – mentions ‘participant and control populations’ and also talks about ‘demographic analysis of beneficiaries’ and ‘the Fund’s current beneficiaries’.  In all aspects, could you confirm whether participants/beneficiaries in this instance are the communities of place themselves (i.e. the local people/residents in each of the 13 areas) or whether the beneficiaries are the actual and potential grantees – i.e. the heritage groups and organisations – in these areas.**

Beneficiaries would include actual and potential grantees. We expect an analysis of how these groups have an impact on the wider communities of place themselves.