



Evaluation of the Survivors of Childhood Abuse Support Fund

Evaluation Specification

We invite tenders for an evaluation of the impact of SOCAS Fund. The evaluation will assess the difference the programme is making and give us learning for the future. We anticipate that the evaluation will involve an analysis of self-evaluation reports and data produced by grant-holders and some primary qualitative research with stakeholders, beneficiaries and grant-holders. The findings will inform the future development of the SOCAS fund, support the development of the SOCAS charities and the wider third sector.

The output will be a final report completed by end of May 2023.

We anticipate the tender value to be up to £30,000, to include all fees, taxes including VAT, expenses, costs and incidentals, however we welcome all well costed, fully itemised, innovative proposals.

Tenders must be received by 13.00 Monday 28 November 2022.

Fiona Dunlop and Jane Whitworth
Fund Managers
Inspiring Scotland

November 2022

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1.0 Introduction and Background

Survivors of childhood abuse experience inequalities and disadvantages as a result of abuse. Scotland is one of the few countries in the world to have actively taken steps to acknowledge and address the devastating effects of childhood abuse. The Scottish Government launched the Survivors of Childhood Abuse Support Fund (SOCAS) in April 2020, with a £10m fund over four years, providing annual funding to 29 charities to March 2024.

The fund aims to support the recovery and resilience of adult survivors of childhood abuse, enabling them to enjoy the highest attainable standard of living, health and wellbeing, and family life. The fund seeks to ensure survivors of abuse are treated with dignity and respect and are empowered and enabled to access the right support, and that they have access to resources and services which are trauma informed. A key purpose of the fund is to enhance the capacity and capability of third sector and community-based organisations who provide dedicated support.

The SOCAS fund aims to increase access to services, improve quality and encourage collaboration and partnership working amongst third sector providers, and to build greater integration with statutory services.

Inspiring Scotland provides fund management support to the Scottish Government and works with the funded organisations to help them achieve their own and Fund objectives.

An Advisory Group provides oversight of SOCAS funded activities by offering expert advice and guidance on the strategic direction of survivors support.

1.1 Evaluation Purpose

Inspiring Scotland is seeking to commission an evaluation of the SOCAS Fund.

The purpose of the evaluation is to:

- learn and understand progress to date
- understand to what extent the current fund has made a difference to survivors
- to identify any gaps in the provision of services available to survivors

The audience for the evaluation is the Scottish Government, SOCAS charities and the wider third sector. The evaluation findings will inform the future development of the SOCAS fund, support the development of the SOCAS charities and the wider third sector.

2.0 Evaluation Objectives

The SOCAS Fund has five key objectives which are listed below. The evaluation should assess progress against these and also identify any areas for future development.

1. Improved wellbeing and resilience for survivors
 - Assess to what extent the SOCAS fund has contributed to improved outcomes for adult survivors of childhood abuse.
 - Determine to what extent the SOCAS fund has contributed to reducing health inequalities for survivors.

2. Survivors have access to quality services across Scotland
 - Determine if/how the SOCAS funded charities are actively improving access to support and services for survivors from diverse populations.

3. Survivors have access to timely, appropriate services, ideally within 4-6 weeks from first contact
 - Determine to what extent access to timely services has been achieved
 - Assess the factors which may be impacting access to services

4. Organisations demonstrate continual improvement based on feedback and learning
 - Determine to what extent the SOCAS fund has improved the capacity of the 29 funded charities
 - Assess if the SOCAS fund has contributed to improved learning and development of those staff and volunteers working with the 29 charities.
 - Assess if the SOCAS fund has enabled the charities to deliver a trauma informed service and identify where there are best practice models of delivery within the portfolio.

5. Greater collaboration between partners
 - Assess the extent of collaboration between portfolio partners
 - Assess the extent of collaboration between SOCAS partners and statutory services

In addition:

- assess where any gaps in provision may remain and what might enable these to be achieved.

- whether any unplanned or unexpected benefits emerged during the course of the fund
- assess the impact of COVID on the ability of SOCAS charities to maintain a meaningful service and consider the creative and innovative measures which allowed services and support to continue and which may be adopted as services return to “normal”.

3.0 Methodology

3.1 Approach

We welcome innovative approaches to this evaluation and encourage imaginative project designs to address the brief. You are encouraged to submit proposals which offer ‘added value’ to the core research outline.

As guidance, we anticipate that the evaluation will include the following elements:

- literature review and horizon scan for best practice in survivors support in other jurisdictions.
- contextual analysis of the reporting data between the SOCAS charities and Inspiring Scotland to understand (where possible):
 - number of people supported by SOCAS funded charities and the impact of the SOCAS funding on waiting lists and waiting times.
 - the types and variety services being delivered.
 - the challenges and current limitations of service delivery.
- research with Survivors through surveys and focus groups to gather:
 - their view on the impact of the SOCAS fund.
 - views on what services are most beneficial / least beneficial for them.
 - what barriers exist which prevent or delay access to support, including how accessible services are to diverse groups and those who are socially and economically disadvantaged
 - determine what gaps there are in services, from a survivor viewpoint.
- semi-structured interviews with relevant professional staff / volunteers working with SOCAS funded charities to assess the effectiveness of the funding to improve learning, training and development for those working with adult survivors of childhood abuse.
- an analysis of how well SOCAS charities are supporting those from diverse groups and those who are socially and economically disadvantaged.

3.2 Points to note:

- This research project requires a team with a sound knowledge of the third sector, strong qualitative research experience and good analysis skills.
- It is essential that all research is conducted in a trauma-informed manner, as outlined in the trauma-informed practice toolkit which has been developed as part of the National Trauma Training Programme to support all sectors of the workforce in planning and developing trauma informed services:
<https://www.gov.scot/publications/trauma-informed-practice-toolkit-scotland/pages/4/>
- As part of your proposal, we will be looking for a clear demonstration of how you will ensure that there is appropriate support and safeguarding measures in place for survivors participating in this research.
- Equalities issues should be integrated into the aims of the research where appropriate. See the Scottish Government website for more information:
www.scotland.gov.uk/mainstreamingequality
- The contractor will be responsible for ensuring compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (2016) must agree to abide by appropriate professional guidelines, for example, the SRA Ethical Guidelines or Market Research Society's Code of Practice. Furthermore, the tender must address any project specific ethical considerations.

4.0 Outputs and Deliverables

The evaluation should produce a draft report by end April 2023 and a final report by end May 2023. The report should include a summary highlighting the key findings. Reports will be shared with a range of audiences and should be written in plain English.

Alongside this, the commissioned evaluation team may identify other, more creative, outputs for specific audiences. Suggestions can be included in the proposal or discussed with the commissioning team as the evaluation progresses.

5.0 Timelines and Budget

The proposed timeline for the evaluation is between January and March 2023. The findings will be shared and used in May 2023.

We anticipate the tender value to be up to £30,000, to include all fees, taxes including VAT, expenses, costs and incidentals, however we welcome all well costed, fully itemised, innovative proposals.

To be successful, your bid must demonstrate that you can undertake the work in this timeframe.

Activity	Suggested Date
Deadline for proposals	13.00 - Monday 28 November 2022
Interviews	Week beginning 5 December 2022
Sign off on provider	Week beginning 5 December 2022
Inception meeting	Week beginning 12 December 2022
Sign off on evaluation plan	Week beginning 12 December 2022
Data collection	January, February and March 2023
Draft final report	Week beginning 17 April 2023
Final report	Week beginning 22 May 2023

6.0 Submitting a Tender

The deadline for proposals is 13.00 Monday 28 November 2022.

Please submit your proposal **electronically** to Fiona Dunlop, SOCAS Fund Manager via fionadunlop@inspiringscotland.org.uk

Proposals for this tender should include the following information:

- Proposed evaluation methods and approach including your rationale and highlighting any limitations and assumptions.
- Project management approach.
- Work plan/timetable.
- Team member(s) roles and responsibilities, including C.V.s for everyone who will be involved with the evaluation.
- Examples of other relevant projects you have conducted, please include sample reports where these are available.
- A breakdown of the total cost of the work (inclusive of VAT where it applies).
- Ethical and data protection considerations.
- How you will ensure your evaluation is trauma informed.
- A risk register with clear mitigation measures.
- The names of two referees who can comment on previous work.

7.0 Criteria for Evaluation

Proposals will be assessed for both quality and value for money using the following criteria:

- **costs** – total cost of the work (exclusive of VAT but inclusive of all other overheads.)
- **quality of proposed approach** including methodology, creativity and project management.
- **understanding of, and sensitivity to, trauma-informed practice**
- **experience of project team**, experience of conducting relevant research and nature and levels of staff supervision.
- **quality control mechanisms and risk assessment** – approach to ensuring quality of the evaluation.
- **timescale** – A key consideration will be the ability of the consultant to deliver the report to the required timescale.

8.0 Contact Details

The principal point of contact will be Fiona Dunlop, SOCAS Fund Manager, Inspiring Scotland. Fiona will organise regular meetings to discuss progress, provide assistance and facilitate engagement with relevant stakeholders as required. She will be supported by her colleague, Jane Whitworth, Fund Manager, Inspiring Scotland and Scottish Government Senior Policy Manager, Mark Fergusson.

Access to all necessary SOCAS charities will be arranged through Inspiring Scotland.
Tenderers should not approach any organisation until the contract is agreed.

Appendix 1: SOCAS Portfolio Charities

ORGANISATION	PROJECT OVERVIEW
Aberdeen Cyrenians/Penumbra	Support the recovery, resilience and well-being of survivors of childhood abuse by providing person centred help to individuals with complex needs who find it difficult to access statutory services.
Argyll and Bute Rape Crisis Centre	ABRC provide specialist support and advocacy services to adult survivors of childhood abuse.
Break the Silence	Provide a range of holistic support options which empower survivors to take control of their recovery journey, offering choice and control.
Carr Gomm	Leading Scottish social care and community development charity. They work in partnership with NHS Lothian at The Rivers Centre to offer person-centred support for the treatment and sustained recovery of survivors of abuse through social integration, addressing the need for both psychological support and social support.
First Tier	First Tier provides trauma informed support to survivors of sexual abuse, childhood abuse and complex trauma who are experiencing struggles with their mental health and/or have learning support needs.
Glasgow Council on Alcohol	GCA's Building Positive Pathways Service offers survivors one to one support, mentoring, structured group work programmes and drop-in activities. This helps reduce social isolation, enhances confidence and self-esteem, focus, structure and daily routine, whilst promoting positive physical and mental wellbeing. Participants benefit from activities and programmes based at GCA premises and in outreach settings.
Hear Me/Voluntary Action Angus	SOCAS funding allows Hear Me to provide specialised, confidential counselling for adults in Angus and the surrounding area, who have experienced, or been affected by the trauma of childhood sexual abuse.
Health in Mind	Health in Mind offer a telephone and video counselling service for adults who experienced abuse in childhood. The service is available for anyone aged 16 or over living in Scotland, who has experienced abuse in their childhood and: is from a minority ethnic community or has a disability - this can be a mental health condition or lives in a rural and remote area of Scotland.

Kibble Education and Care Centre	Kibble supports at risk young people (13+) many of whom have experienced significant trauma in their lives and offers dedicated care and support to help them move forward. SOCAS fund provides additional therapeutic support, enabling survivors to build resilience, confidence and improve their long-term outcomes.
Kingdom Abuse Survivor Project	KASP recruits and trains befrienders to work with survivors of childhood sexual abuse and offer them a befriending service.
Link Living	Run the Better than Well service which works with adults affected by trauma in childhood and helps people to recognise, understand and manage the symptoms of trauma and to identify personal outcomes which improve their overall health and wellbeing.
Mind Mosaic	Mind Mosaic provides specialist adult survivor counselling and psychotherapy, including face to face therapy and psycho educational groups to adults 16+.
Moira Anderson Foundation	SOCAS funding enables Moira Anderson Foundation to offer trauma informed support to survivors, many of whom have suffered complex trauma. They offer one to one support, therapy sessions and also a Key Link (KL) project. The KL project is for survivors identified as needing additional support, this is carried out in collaboration with partnering organisations.
Moving on Ayrshire	Offers survivors of sexual abuse and rape free one to one person-centred counselling in a safe environment.
Orkney Blide Trust	Orkney Blide provides support to anyone over the age of 16 who experiences severe and enduring mental illness or other mental health difficulties such as depression, anxiety and low mood. The Therapeutic Blide project involves therapeutic activities such as yoga, mindfulness and counselling as well as creative arts such as painting, photography, weaving and audio visual work and opportunities to learn to cook.
Penumbra	Provides a service to survivors over sixteen in Dundee and the surrounding area who self-harm. Support is available on a 1:1 and group basis for those who wish support with self-harm issues linked to childhood abuse.
RASASH	RASASH provide face-to-face emotional therapeutic support to survivors of sexual violence age 13+ in the

	rural Highlands. Support Workers travel to meet with survivors to reduce barriers that might stop people from being able to otherwise access our service.
Safe Space	A specialist trauma counselling and group work service for survivors of childhood sexual abuse. This includes one to one counselling for adults both at Safe Space premises and an outreach service in outlying GP services in rural areas.
SAY Women/The Village Storytelling Centre	Say Women support young women aged 16 to 25 who are homeless or at risk of, and who have experienced childhood abuse.
Shetland Rape Crisis	With SOCAS funding, Shetland Rape Crisis provide free and confidential information, advocacy and support to all non-abusive adult survivors of sexual abuse in Shetland.
Speak Out Scotland	Providing complex trauma therapy and ongoing support service to male survivors of childhood sexual abuse.
Stop It Now Scotland	Provide support services to individuals and their families with problematic sexual thoughts and those who may be at risk of sexual offending.
Survivors Unite	Delivers support service to survivors of childhood abuse in the Scottish Borders. This includes a weekly support group, peer to peer support and one to one abuse-focused and strengths based support.
Talk Now	Talk Now is a counselling service offering a diverse range of therapies and individualised support for those who suffered trauma in childhood. They offer one to one trauma counselling and group work.
The BodyMind Studio	Support the recovery and resilience of survivors of abuse through trauma-informed yoga practice and arts activities.
Thriving Survivors	Thriving Survivors is a lived experience organisation that supports survivors through a four stage recovery process. Services include mentoring, counselling and post traumatic growth programmes as well as training and development programmes. They also provide a number of peer groups that offer survivors support instantly.
Wellbeing Scotland	Wellbeing Scotland provide support to survivors of childhood abuse by offering a range of holistic services including counselling, advocacy, informal support, EMDR, groups, art therapy and therapeutic play.

We Are With You	Offer substance misuse and trauma support simultaneously, supporting the recovery and resilience of survivors of childhood abuse.
Western Isles Rape Crisis Centre	Offers a confidential, trauma informed service regardless of gender, disability or remote island location. There are workshops aimed at adult survivors of child sexual abuse and support activities are based on a holistic approach which moves with the needs and wishes of the survivors themselves.

INSPIRING SCOTLAND

**Suite 2
14 New Mart Road
Edinburgh EH14 1RL**

 **0131 442 8760**

 **www.inspiringscotland.org.uk**

 **enquiries@inspiringscotland.org.uk**

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