

Pride Action North
**Supporting LGBTQIA+ young people 11-25 to thrive in and out of education: Interim
Evaluation Tender Brief**

Budget: Proposals in the region of £4-5k inc. VAT

Delivery Period: November 2024 – March 2025

Deadline to submit EOI: 15/11/2024

Context:

Pride Action North are coming towards the end of the first year of a three-year project to support LGBTQIA+ young people (ages 11-25) across Northumberland and Tyne and Wear.

This project, funded by The National Lottery Community Fund, aims to foster acceptance and inclusivity, improve mental health and well-being, and address unique challenges faced by LGBTQIA+ young people in education and community settings. The project's first year has included setting up structured support networks, collaborations, and preliminary activities, and has been met with high engagement.

The evaluation will provide an independent assessment of Year 1 achievements against initial project goals, highlighting impacts, areas for improvement, and insights for sustainability and potential scaling. It will also inform strategies for strengthening project delivery in Years 2 and 3.

About The National Lottery Community Fund

This project is funded by The National Lottery Community Fund (NLCF) who are a UK-based funding organisation that distributes public money thanks to National Lottery players to support projects that make a positive impact on communities. It funds projects that address social issues, improve community well-being, and create opportunities for people to thrive.

Find out more about the funds 2023-2030 strategy [here](#).

What are we looking for in a Consultant?

We are seeking someone to lead this external evaluation who can demonstrate an understanding of, and experience of working with communities.

Skills which we will be looking for are:

- Experience of community research and external evaluation
- Excellent communication skills
- Excellent report writing skills
- Data collection
- Ability to identify common themes and trends
- Interactive and engaging
- Understanding of the local context in which we work
- Wider understanding of the voluntary sector funding landscape.



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Outputs

The consultant would be expected to:

1. Analyse Year 1 Outcomes and Activities:
 - Determine how effectively the project has improved mental health, reduced social isolation, and strengthened social support networks for LGBTQIA+ young people.
 - Evaluate the success of the training and upskilling for educational and youth sector professionals to support LGBTQIA+ young people in education and community settings.
 - Review the setup and effectiveness of newly established support groups and pride clubs within educational settings.
2. Examine Stakeholder and Participant Engagement:
 - Gather feedback from young people, their families, and professionals on their experience with the project and its perceived value.
 - Assess the impact of training provided to schools and its effectiveness in fostering inclusive environments.
3. Analyse Partnerships and Collaborations:
 - Evaluate the effectiveness of the partnerships with local councils, LGBTQIA+ organisations, family hubs, and educational institutions in delivering cohesive support and resources.
 - Identify any gaps or additional needs in the existing partnerships that could enhance service delivery.
4. Review Monitoring, Data Collection, and Evaluation Processes:
 - Assess the effectiveness of the data collection methods and determine how well they capture project outcomes and indicators such as well-being, inclusion, and mental health.
 - Provide recommendations for strengthening these processes to better support reporting and outcomes analysis.

Key Questions:

1. To what extent has the project improved mental health and well-being among LGBTQIA+ young people?
2. How well has the project reduced isolation and increased a sense of belonging among participants?
3. What impact has the project had on inclusivity and understanding within educational and community settings?
4. How effective are the collaborations and partnerships, and where could they be enhanced?
5. What recommendations can be made to enhance the data collection and impact tracking processes?



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Methodology

- The external evaluator should propose a mixed-methods approach, which could include:
- Interviews and Focus Groups with project participants, parents, educational professionals, and partners.
Surveys to gather quantitative data on mental health and well-being, social inclusion, and service engagement.
- Document Review of project reports, referral records, and partnership agreements.
- Case Studies to provide qualitative insights into individual experiences and impact.

Deliverables

1. Detailed report summarising findings, by 31/03/2025 providing comprehensive insights, data analysis, and recommendations.
2. Presentation of findings to the Pride Action North board at their virtual meeting in March 2025.

The consultant will be expected to:

- Work with Pride Action North, the funder and stakeholders
- Undertake desk research, and interviews, to identify and articulate the successes, challenges, failures and opportunities of the project as a result of this funding
- Identify key measurements and articulate impact
- Articulate the successes, lessons learnt and opportunities for wider delivery of specialist LGBTQIA+ programmes in North East England (and any other identified deliverables internal or external) and how it helps funders achieve their stated objectives
- Scope out potential new opportunities for Pride Action North and its partners to raise further capital to meet the needs of LGBTQIA+ young people in Northumberland and Tyne and Wear
- Creation of a report of a suggested 12-16 pages (including cover excluding appendices)

Timetable

- **EOI deadline:** 15/11/2024
- **Sifting and interviews:** 18/11/2024-20/11/2024
- **Appointment of consultant:** 25/11/2024
- **Evaluation period:** November 2024 – March 2025



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Next Steps

The budget for this piece of work are accepted in the region of £4-5k inc. VAT. **Please note:** We recognise the limitations this budget might have on the level of output under each area.

Interested parties should email daren@prideactionnorth.org.uk with:

- A CV including examples of similar work undertaken
- A covering letter/email which outlines your skills, experience and motivation for this piece of work, what your delivery plan and methodology may look like. We wouldn't expect this to be more than 2 sides of A4 and we accept proposals in any format you wish to use.
- Your total costings including any phases and staff contributions to the brief.

Please also contact Darren with any questions about any elements of this brief.



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