

## Building Better Opportunities

### Project outline

For use in England only



<b>Project title</b>	Project 1 of 4 Early Intervention for families at risk of becoming troubled families - Bradford and Leeds
<b>Project reference number</b>	Lee/2/1
<b>LEP area</b>	Leeds City Region
<b>ESF Thematic Objective</b>	9: Promoting social inclusion and combating poverty
<b>ESF Investment Priority</b>	1.4: Active inclusion
<b>Funding available</b>	£3,501,200
<b>Project start period</b>	July 2016 to November 2016
<b>Latest date for completion</b>	December 2019
<b>Date open for applications</b>	8 October 2015
<b>Deadline for stage one applications</b>	12 noon on 30 November 2015

## Important information about this project outline

This project outline represents just one strand of the overall funding that is available through Building Better Opportunities. As this is a joint programme with the European Social Fund, we will only consider applications that clearly meet a project outline and meet the requirements set out in our **programme guide**.

As you read this project outline, please note the following:

- This project outline is subject to any changes made by the European Commission or the Managing Authority to the rules governing ESF in England. The Big Lottery Fund will upload any updates to <https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/esf>. It is your responsibility to review the page regularly to keep abreast of any changes that may have an impact on your application.
- You must apply for the full amount of **funding available** shown, which we will award to just one applicant or partnership to deliver the project described in this outline.
- The project must be delivered in the **LEP area(s)** shown and within any specific **project location** we've identified within this outline.
- You must plan to **start** and **complete** your project by the dates indicated. By 'complete' we mean that you must have spent and claimed all of the grant and closed your project.
- Your proposed project must align with the **project description** we've provided within this outline and include any specific activities listed.
- You must submit your stage one application by the **deadline** we've given above.
- Your proposed project should include appropriate links to potential employers and self-employment opportunities. The specific interventions must enable a comprehensive assessment of an individual's needs that are tailored to help them move towards work and out of poverty.
- You must demonstrate that the activities you are proposing will be additional to any national and statutory provision. This could include, for example, wrap around support that works with people to overcome the barriers that prevent them engaging effectively with statutory provision, or more in-depth and intensive support to the most disadvantaged people, which they can access alongside the statutory provision they are entitled to.
- Activities must be locally accessible and be led by skilled front line staff.
- The people who will benefit from the project must come from the eligible participant groups we've identified in our programme guide, with a specific focus on those unemployed or economically inactive, furthest from the labour market, and most at risk of social exclusion. We may also specify particular **project participants** within this outline that must benefit from some or all of the activities you'll deliver.
- You must be confident that you'll be able to deliver the **project outputs and results**, taking into account the value, length and nature of the project we've described. We will monitor the delivery of the project to ensure these outputs and results will be met over its lifetime.
- You should have experience of delivering similar services and of identifying and working with people who face significant challenges to engaging with the labour market. You must demonstrate an understanding of the needs of local people, and show how you will work with existing local providers of related services and engage those most in need in the local area.
- Organisations can be involved in more than one application, either as a lead or a partner. However, lead partners might set their own requirements on partners' involvement in other applications so please check local requirements with the lead partner.
- Subject to satisfactory performance, there may be the potential to extend the project duration and/or increase the funding available for this project once activities have commenced.

If you think your organisation, or a partnership led by your organisation, would be able to deliver the project we've described then you can request a stage one application form on our website [www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/esf](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/esf).

## Project background

The UK Government's strategy for Social Justice aims to give individuals and families facing multiple disadvantages the support and tools they need to turn their lives around. The strategy focuses on how to tackle the root causes of problems, to promote real and sustained changes in people's lives. In April 2012, the Government launched the Troubled Families Programme, a £448 million scheme to incentivise local authorities and their partners to turn around the lives of 120,000 troubled families by May 2015. This programme worked with families where children were not attending school, young people were committing crime, families were involved in anti-social behaviour and adults were out of work. In June 2013 the Government announced plans to expand the Troubled Families Programme for a further five years from 2015 to reach an additional 400,000 families across England. £200 million has been committed to fund the first year.

The Troubled Families Programme has shown that intensive intervention to support and challenge troubled families is effective in turning round their lives - a family getting intensive support and challenge is twice as likely to stop anti-social behaviour as one not getting the intervention<sup>1</sup>.

Leeds City Region has a strong focus on increasing economic activity and workforce skills by promoting access to employment, social inclusion and skills for growth. The Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) strategy contributes to social inclusion by supporting activities that will extend employment opportunities to disadvantaged people in the labour market, building on existing mainstream provision.

There are some specific significant pockets of deprivation across Leeds City Region. Local research shows that these levels of deprivation equal or exceed those in the most challenged wards in the country. The research identifies a number of wards as performing badly against all seven indices of multiple deprivation - employment, income, child poverty, health, education, older people's poverty and crime.

Data from the Local Authorities within Leeds City Region has identified that there are many families who meet some of the Troubled Families national criteria but who at this stage are not eligible for the Troubled Families Programme. However, families with issues such as intergenerational unemployment, a history of offending, involvement with anti-social behaviour and poor school attendance are at risk, as these problems cause chaotic lifestyles and without additional support could easily move people into the group eligible for the Troubled Families Programme. Government data collected in October and November 2011 estimated that £9 billion is spent annually on Troubled Families - an average of £75,000 per family each year. Of this, an estimated £8 billion is spent reacting to the problems these families have and cause, with just £1 billion being spent on helping families to solve and prevent problems in the longer term.

This project has been developed with input from key organisations in the Leeds City Region who are working with the target group both through Sounding Groups (held on 4 December 2013, 22 October 2014, 28 January 2015 and 18 March 2015) and through the submission of written research and evidence locally and nationally. The outcomes and learning from earlier programmes in the City and wider region, for example Think Family, ESF Families Programme, Troubled Families and Expanded Troubled Families Programmes have also helped to shape this project.

The target number of families to be supported in Bradford and Leeds in phase two of the Troubled Families Programme is 12,940 over the next five years. These will target individuals in families who are: involved in youth crime or anti-social behaviour; have children who are excluded from school or regularly truanting; have an adult on out-of-work benefits and cost the public sector large sums in responding to their problems. Of those who are already receiving Troubled Families support, there are a total of 6,243 individuals in 1,755 families; 2,301 of which are adults and 322 young people aged 16-17, with the rest under 16. Of the 1,755 families 312 met the Crime/Anti Social behaviour criteria, 926 met poor education, 1,355 met children needing help, 1,141 met worklessness and 507 met the domestic violence criteria. Of the 6,112 who were pupils in

<sup>1</sup> *Monitoring and evaluation of family intervention services and projects between February 2007 and March 2011*, National Centre for Social Research on behalf of the Department for Education 2011.

Bradford Schools 274 were at risk of being NEET.

This is not dissimilar for Leeds, with 42 per cent of families on the Troubled Families programme committing crime, 52 per cent of young people in education struggling academically or with attendance, 60 per cent workless and 63 per cent subject to domestic violence. Leeds receives 14,000 domestic violence notifications each year, of which a third involve children. Additionally, there are 6,000 open child in need cases in Leeds, all of which could potentially become part of the Troubled Families Programme.

There are four projects being delivered in the Leeds City Region area through Building Better Opportunities in tranche two:

- Project One - Early Intervention for families at risk of becoming troubled families - Bradford and Leeds
- Project Two - Early Intervention for families at risk of becoming troubled families - Calderdale, Kirklees and Wakefield
- Project Three - Early Intervention for families at risk of becoming troubled families - York, Craven, Selby and Harrogate
- Project Four - Marginalised and Vulnerable New Migrants

Applicants should ensure they are fully aware of the other projects we will be funding in the Leeds City Region area, even if they only plan to submit an application for this project.

## Project aim

This project aims to build on lessons learnt from the Think Family, ESF Families with Multiple Needs, Troubled Families and Expanded Troubled Families programmes. It aims to work with families before they start to cause anti-social behaviour problems, risk criminal records, come to the attention of police or have their children excluded from school, all of which may result in major barriers to gaining and sustaining employment. The project will therefore need to focus on three main areas for those families at risk of becoming a troubled family:

- **prevention:** to prevent or minimise the risk of problems arising;
- **early intervention:** targeting resources on individuals or groups at high risk, or showing early signs of a problem, to try to stop it occurring;
- **early remedial treatment:** intervening once there is a problem, to stop it getting worse and redress the situation.

## Project description

The specific activities to be delivered through this project should be determined by applicants and clearly articulated in their stage one application form, but possible activities could include:

- building resilience (mindfulness, confidence building, assertiveness, building social networks);
- skills building (through a family learning model where an outreach team helps families to access learning that supports parents and children - covering subjects like Maths and English and life skills such as healthy eating - whilst providing childcare);
- general employability support for individuals to bring them closer to the labour market including other skills training, work experience and volunteering opportunities;
- support to improve financial capability (the knowledge, skills, confidence and motivation to be able to manage money well) including where required referring people on to the statutory service provided by DWP on the financial and digital skills needed for Universal Credit;

- support to find and keep employment, where appropriate complementing support offered by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) Troubled Families Employment Advisers;
- identifying families who hit particular triggers, by working with a range of providers in particular Local Authorities who work with Multi Agency Support Teams who are supporting families.

By providing intensive support to stabilise participants' sometimes chaotic lives, sustainable work should become an option, enabling people to progress over time.

The programme should be client focused and flexible to individual needs and differences in need across each local area. It may best be supported by a Key Worker model, developing active links between people working on the mainstream programmes and this project.

Applicants are encouraged to consider a wide range of innovative delivery models.

### Project location

The project should be delivered across the Local Authority districts of Bradford and Leeds of the Leeds City Region LEP area.

### Project participants

All participants must be unemployed or economically inactive as defined in our programme guide.

The project will have a specific focus on people who are most at risk of social exclusion. This includes, but is not limited to:

- families at risk of experiencing at least one of the following six problems:
  - parents and children involved in crime or anti-social behaviour;
  - children who have not been attending school regularly;
  - children who need help to achieve their academic potential;
  - adults out of work and young people at risk of worklessness;
  - families affected by domestic violence and abuse;
  - parents and children with health problems;
- families using food banks and falling behind on rent arrears as this may indicate escalating financial problems, can also be targeted.

Whilst we can support activities for young people between the ages of 15 and 18, there is a new statutory requirement for this age group to remain in education, employment or training. We can only pay for activities working with young people who are aged 16-29 and who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) and young people aged 15-18 who are NEET or at risk of becoming NEET. Young people below the age of 15 are ineligible participants. Unless the project is specifically aimed at young people, those aged 29 and above remain eligible participants.

This project can support individuals within families that are younger than fifteen, but only those who are fifteen and above and meet the eligibility criteria set out in our Programme guide can be counted as participants.

### Project outputs and results

The project must deliver the following outputs and results within its lifetime:

- At least 865 people are engaged in activities to improve their work readiness, including at least:
  - 432 men;

- 433 women;
- 432 people who are unemployed;
- 433 people who are economically inactive;
- 176 people with disabilities;
- 117 people from ethnic minorities.

NB each person can be counted against more than one category.

- At least 17 per cent of the people enrolled on the project move into education or training on leaving.
- At least 14 per cent of people move into employment, including self-employment, on leaving. Of these, 50 per cent must have been unemployed when joining the project and 50 per cent must have been economically inactive.
- At least 27 per cent of people who were economically inactive when joining the project move into job-search on leaving.
- In addition, you must ensure that anyone who needs access to childcare in order to participate in the project receives childcare support. This will be checked through a survey run by the Managing Authority.

These are the **minimum** targets we expect your project to deliver within its lifetime. Tell us if you will be able to support more people through the project, as this could have a bigger impact. Our assessment of your stage one application will take into account the different types of change that participants of the project will experience. If you are successful at stage one, we will ask you to develop a set of project outcomes that you will deliver alongside the outputs outlined above.