

Consultation Response Form

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Note: Please answer each question below. Please aim to use no more than 500 words. Short responses are welcomed. The text box will expand as you type, however should you prefer a handwritten response, please add sheets to your submitted return to:

EandIFutureFundingConsultation@gov.wales
YmgynghoriadDyfodolCyllidCydAChyn@llyw.cymru

Question 1:

Do you consider that Section 3 of this document summarises the main issues that should be considered in relation to this funding programme? Please outline any issues which you feel are missing or need further attention?

Yes, though links with Community Safety alongside community cohesion should be considered. Especially in regards to community cohesion, engagement, intersectionality and socio-economic.

Question 2:

Do you support the proposal for a longer, 5-year programme? If not, please briefly outline your reasons.

Yes, providing there is flexibility in the system either through an Anchor organisation consortia approach or through Alliance commissioning to enable small local projects to respond to specific needs identified by communities themselves. There should also be some flexibility to respond to the needs identified through Public Service Boards (Wellbeing plans), Regional Partnership Boards (Population Needs Assessment) and Community Safety Partnerships (Strategic Assessments) at a local and regional level.

Question 3:

Would you support Welsh Government providing core funding for some strategic equality organisations? If not, please briefly outline your reasons.

Yes, but core alongside delivery. In many statutory bodies the maximum allowed for core costs is 10% from funding. It is best practice to fund some core and for the providers to be able to evidence how this has been used, including if management time how that has been delivered and by which level within the organisation.

Question 4:

Do you support the continuation of existing services for particular groups? Are there other services which you think should be provided in future? If not, please briefly outline your reasons.

Providing there is evidence against KPI's and outcomes and that delivery is linked to evidence-based best practice in the areas. There is no value in decommissioning services like Hate Crime Reporting and Support Centre providing there is a demonstratable need, that there is good governance and regular reporting. The implications of TUPE may need to be considered as part of the procurement process.

Question 5:

What should be the balance between procured services, core funding and grant-funded projects? How would you split the budget (currently £1.6million) between these areas?

Maximum of 10% for core funding - £160,000.

Depends on commissioning model(s) used as to how to split the remainder. If an Alliance then a mixture of procured and grant-funded (direct or indirect) could be done from within the Alliance from within the budget. If consortia or Anchor organisations then a different approach may be needed.

Decisions on funding should be based on the evidence of need, where prevention can be delivered as well as support when things are in crisis or before crisis is reached.

Question 6:

Do you agree that this funding should align with the objectives set out in the Welsh Government's Strategic Equality Action Plan 2020-2024?

Yes, alongside the range of action plans outlined in the consultation paper. Flexibility should be built in to the commissioning and procurement processes for the years post 2024 when new plans should come into force. This could easily be done through Anchor organisation (consortia) or Alliance commissioning.

Question 7:

Do you think that some of the funding should be set aside to support wider equality action and collaborative working between equality organisations?

Yes, to focus on intersectionality and socio-economic inequalities. Commissioning in consortia or Alliance should reduce the risk of providers working in silos. The Safer Communities Network can also support bringing everyone together around the elements of safer communities in its widest reach and dissemination. Any such support would involve the wider WLGA team, as well as WCVA and other key bodies.

Question 8:

Do you agree that this funding should align with our specific equality plans such as the Gender Equality, Race Equality and LGBT+ Action Plans?

Yes, but needs to be aware of the intersectionality and socio-economic especially with the possibility of multiple characteristics being involved for some individual citizens and some local, regional or national communities. There should not be any silos but services and support that is connected to citizens, ensure better community cohesion, challenge stereotypes, biases, misunderstanding and hatred, and develop communities that are inclusive and safe for all.

Question 9:

We would like to know your views on the effects that these proposals would have on the Welsh language, specifically on opportunities for people to use Welsh and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than English. What effects do you think there would be? How could positive effects be increased, or negative effects be mitigated?

No response

Question 10:

Please also explain how you believe the proposed policy approach could be formulated or changed so as to have positive effects or increased positive effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language, and no adverse effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.

No response

Question 11:

We have asked a number of specific questions. If you have any related issues which we have not specifically addressed, please use this space to report them:

Equalities and Inclusion with community cohesion are two parts that contribute to developing safer communities and ensuring people feel safe and if they don't that they are aware of and able to access assistance to improve their own situation or that of their wider community. It is therefore important, in our opinion, to incorporate and include Community Safety Partnerships in the consideration of the wider remit for this area of work. The newly formed Safer Communities Network independently or through the WLGA can assist in building these links and ensuring information is shared in a clear manner, reduce duplication and enable complimentary services to be designed and developed.

Responses to consultations are likely to be made public, on the internet or in a report. If you would prefer your response to remain anonymous, please indicate here: