

<b>Foreshore Trust Large Grant Programme Commissioned Grant Funding Service Specification</b>
<b>1. Proposed intervention</b>
Supporting residents with Housing, Legal, Welfare, Debt Advice and Fuel Poverty issues
<b>2. Intervention Summary</b>
The programme recognises that many residents can be more effectively supported if multiple, and often related, needs are addressed holistically rather than as separate issues. The successful intervention will therefore offer residents of Hastings a comprehensive and open advice service from local offices, where support can be given for financial, employment, housing, general legal matters and fuel poverty, and referrals to energy efficiency organisations. Providers will need to be open to co-location opportunities. Given the scale of the need locally for this type of support, it is also important the service is complemented by funding for other bodies such as East Sussex County Council ('ESCC'), Clinical Commissioning Group ('CCG') and The Big Lottery.
<b>3. Links to proposed Foreshore Trust Large Programme themes</b>
Housing, debt and benefit advice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Source Foreshore Trust Business Plan 2019 – 2022 dated 10th December 18 – Item 13 <a href="https://hastings.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=172&amp;MIId=3098&amp;Ver=4">https://hastings.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=172&amp;MIId=3098&amp;Ver=4</a></li> </ul>
<b>4. Justification of need for the intervention</b>
This intervention addresses symptoms of deprivation experienced by residents of Hastings. It is to narrow the income gap and tackle the symptoms of poverty amongst all residents in the Borough. Whilst lots of local interventions may address specific problems, such as the implementations of Universal Credit (UC), support in the form of holistic advice is expensive but can often be the first step for people to address all their barriers and prevent the cycle of poverty.
<b>5. Proposed specification for housing, debt and benefit advice</b>
The successful intervention will deliver high quality and professional service in the following areas: Advice to address personal finance issues to include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal Debt</li> <li>• Benefits (in-work and welfare, including housing benefit)</li> <li>• Support with Universal Credit claims and signposting to council tax reduction claim process</li> <li>• Calculation of wage levels for those seeking employment</li> <li>• Money and budgeting advice and income maximisation</li> <li>• Advice on employment rights</li> <li>• Advice on accessing employment, training and further education</li> <li>• Management of personal finance and financial literacy training</li> <li>• IT skills and digital inclusion</li> <li>• Setting up bank accounts</li> </ul> General Housing advice to include

- Housing Disrepair
- Fuel Poverty and utility billing advice
- Referrals to energy efficiency agencies

Homeless Prevention – particularly early intervention / negotiation to include

- Mortgage/rent arrears
- Local Housing allowance and rent negotiations
- Landlord/tenant issues and mediation for tenant / landlord disputes
- Advice to improve access to suitable accommodation and supported accommodation
- Advice on how to deal with rent in advance and guarantor requirements in the private rented sector
- Tenancy sustainment and support

Contribute to the Foreshore Trust Large Grant Programme's 'Golden Thread' mental health and wellbeing agenda by collaborating with the other service providers funded from this programme including:

- Attendance at network meetings
- Sharing of good practice
- Referrals identifying gaps in service provision and defining a service specification for the 'Golden Thread'.

It is recognised that some of these services may already be partly funded by other organisations such as ESCC, CCG and other funding bodies. It is therefore for the applicant to propose what the programme will fund and how all the above services may be comprehensively delivered. To avoid duplication the application needs to clarify how this service both differs from and complements the services already funded from other bodies.

Applications will be accepted for separate proposals for each specialism or from consortiums for all advice services. However, for separate proposals, successful applicants will be expected to work together to provide an holistic service for clients.

## **6. Target beneficiaries of the intervention**

People in need of advice and support, particularly people

- Living in disadvantaged areas
- Experiencing exclusion
- Experiencing or at risk of worklessness and/or income and benefit deprivation
- At risk of homelessness.
- Supported with fuel poverty

## **7. Funding**

The Foreshore Trust Large Grant Programme is available for services starting from April 2021 and ending in March 2024. The total grant funding available from the Foreshore Trust Large Grant Programme will be approximately £161,000 per year.

The indicative amount available for the 2021-22 advice service is (TBC), and as part of the Foreshore Trust Charity's budget setting process the final programme amounts will be confirmed in March 2021 for financial year 2021-22 and again in March 2022 and 2023. An additional £20,000 will be made available in 2022-23 and 2023-24 (£40,000 in total) to fund Foreshore Trust Large Grant Programme projects to address the 'Golden Thread' mental health and wellbeing agenda between the successful Large Grants applicants at a later stage.

Applications will only be accepted from registered Charities.

### **8. Duration of intervention**

April 2021 to March 2024

### **9. Proposed delivery method**

It is expected that advice will be provided at accessible locations with some outreach provision particularly welcome. However, the services will need to be accessible to all residents in the Borough and for consortium applications the applicant will need to detail how they intend to reach all residents.

The successful proposal will also need to demonstrate how the delivery organisation will attract the target groups. This is likely to be achieved through a combination of publicity and outreach work, although innovative proposals to engage with 'hard to reach' groups and individuals are welcome. The proposal will also need to include demonstration of provision of translation and interpretation for advice services when required to ensure everyone can access the services provided

The successful delivery organisation will have knowledge of, and where appropriate, work with other local services to avoid duplication, ensure signposting and referral of beneficiaries needing support beyond the scope of the intervention.

### **10. Performance indicators**

Proposals should show quantify the indicators where possible. In addition, proposals should offer definitions of outcomes (i.e. defining the receipt of advice as opposed to an enquiry) plus define their measures (i.e. Number of people) and confirm the recording methods.

Example outcomes could include:

Provision of free and accessible advice service

Maximising the income of local residents

Reducing the number of homeless households

Referrals to energy efficiency agencies

Number of people with improved mental health

Measurement of outcomes could include not only the number of people advised, but should provide data on numbers advised within categories advised, numbers trained, number of referrals and to which agencies, etc.