



Invitation to Quote

External Evaluation of the Smiles for Miles Base Project (2024-2027)

1. Introduction

The Children, Young People and Families' Consortium (CYPF Consortium) is seeking an external evaluator for the Smiles for Miles Base Project, a National Lottery-funded initiative being delivered in Rotherham from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2027. The evaluation will start during the first year of the project and help shape future delivery and funding decisions in year 2, year 3 and beyond.

We are looking to engage an experienced evaluator who can effectively capture the project's impact, particularly focusing on its joint-consortia approach to improving outcomes for children, young people, and their families.

2. Project Overview

The Smiles for Miles (SFM) Project strapline is “The sky’s the limit for children and young people with the right basket of support and provision.”

The SFM Project is a joint-consortia project which aims to offer increased youth provision for 1500 children and young people in Rotherham, delivering 2500 activities and support interventions over a three-year period. This 3-year project, which started 1st April 2024 and is due to end on 31st March 2027 follows the success of a 2-year funded project of the same name which between 2021-2023 delivered 2799 activities, attracting over 20,000 attendances from 2497 young people across Rotherham.

Delivered in partnership with children and young people, the project is all about co-production, pooling information, skills, strengths and expertise to support them to reach their goals, as defined by them and lead the direction of the project based on their articulation of need and what works for them.

Priorities for the project are around early intervention, improving spaces and places that matter to communities, bringing people together and building strong relationships in and across communities.

10 Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations who are members of the well-established Children, Young People and Families Consortium (Est.2003) are delivering the project, with the CYPF Consortium as the lead organisation responsible for monitoring delivery, outcomes and expenditure.

3. Project Delivery and Expected Outcomes

Three 'main bases' and two 'satellite bases' will offer extended youth work provision and outreach / detached provision. Young people will have access to a trusted adult via these bases who will support them to navigate support and access opportunities available from the 'basket of support and provision' provided by the remaining 5 delivery partners.

The 'basket of support and provision' will bring different young people together to spend time together doing activities they enjoy as well as accessing services which complement their articulation of activity which they need and would like to receive, such as;

- Self-help / wellness support
- Mental health and wellbeing support
- Personal development and confidence building sessions
- Outdoor activities / experience
- Creative and arts based activities

A flexible element to the project budget is also embedded to meet unanticipated service need and respond to the voice and influence of young people regarding activities and support that they need or would like to "have a go at".

This way of delivering youth provision will equip children and young people with the necessary tools in environments which they are familiar with and comfortable in, in order to;

- Increase health and wellbeing
- Increase economic achievement
- Improve personal enjoyment and development
- improve community and societal contribution
- Increase safety and support

A project of this scale spanning 3 years will give us the necessary time to work with wider partners to demonstrate the impact of Smiles for Miles and further develop partnerships, alliances and networks to continue to work collaboratively and promote genuine leadership.

We will have developed systems and practice than can be replicated in other areas and evidence of impact to substantiate and sustain the model, with the voices of children and young people, further strengthening the approach.

By adopting a collaborative approach to delivery, we will also enable the building of networks and relationships between groups of young people and organisations which will increase their life chances and provide organisations with the opportunity to work alongside each other in order to share and develop their skills, practice and understanding. Thus, enhancing their services and support, and the way these are accessed by children and young people.

4. Project Delivery Partners

Three bases and two satellite bases will deliver extended youth work provision including outreach and detached work across north, south and central Rotherham.

Base Delivery Partners	Location	Provision
JADE Youth and Community	Dinnington	Youth club sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Open access ○ LGBTQ+ ○ Themed activities ○ Outdoor activities Outreach / detached youth work Advice Drop ins 1:1 support (Trusted Adults) Holiday lunch clubs / activities
Clifton Learning Partnership	Eastwood	
Swinton Lock Activity Centre	Swinton	
Rotherham United Community Trust	Parkgate Astro / New York Stadium	
Hopian (Formerly Rotherham Rise)	Town Centre	

The bases will connect young people to a ‘basket of support and provision’ delivered in partnership with the bases.

Basket Delivery Partners	Activities
YWCA Yorkshire	Workshops / self-help programmes around wellness strategies and tools, understanding healthy relationships, personal support for young parents
Rotherham and Barnsley Mind	Groups workshops around themes suggested by young such as body image, healthy relationships or coping strategies. 1:1 mental health support. Mental health sessions in community settings (for example regular mental health support at a local boxing gym)
Rush House	Building confidence, self-esteem and resilience. AQA qualifications delivered as part of the course. Support accessing opportunities.
Endeavour	Outdoor Experience Days / Taster Workshops
ROAR	Arts based workshops and creative projects.

The evaluation should also seek, where possible, to assess how the Children, Young People and Families Consortium (www.cypfconsortium.org.uk) as a wider network of VCS organisations (from which the SFM delivery partnership was formed) has and is able to support the effective delivery and coordination of joined-up services which improve outcomes for children, young people and their families.

6. Proposal Requirements

Interested evaluators should submit a proposal that includes:

- An evaluation plan covering the intended approach to the work, a detailed delivery plan and key milestones.
- Areas the evaluation will cover, including methodologies to be applied.
- A detailed budget, including fees and expenses.
- Examples of similar work completed, including references.
- CVs of staff who will work on the evaluation, including relevant skills, experience and qualifications.

All intellectual property rights related to the evaluation shall belong to the Children, Young People and Families' Consortium.

7. Specific Evaluation Deliverables

The interim and final evaluation report should assess the following areas:

- **Project Performance:** How well the project met its objectives, lessons learned, challenges, successes, and good practices.
 - **Collaborative Working:** How effectively partners worked together, including the strengths and challenges of the consortia approach.
 - **Beneficiary Impact:** The benefits for young people, their involvement in the project, and the overall outcomes achieved.
 - **Progress against Deliverables:** Measurable outcomes compared to project targets.
 - **Sustainability and Future Planning:** Insights into how this collaborative model compares to traditional project funding methods, and whether the project has delivered better outcomes by offering young people access to support from multiple partners.
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8. Budget

The budget for this evaluation is up to £10,000, inclusive of all travel, expenses and VAT (if applicable). Payment will be split as follows:

- 50% upon receipt of the interim report.
 - 50% upon completion of the final report.
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9. Timeline of Deliverables

- **Interim Report:** Submitted by 30th April 2026, detailing project progress, challenges, successes, and recommendations for the final year.
- **Draft Final Report:** Submitted by 15th April 2027.
- **Final Report:** Completed and submitted by 14th May 2027.

Upon completion of the work, the evaluator will also be expected to attend a meeting with the Project Co-ordinator and present the findings to an in-person Smiles for Miles Base Project meeting in May 2027 in Rotherham.

10. Submission Timeline

- **Deadline for Proposals:** By 17th December 2024.
- **Outcome of Decision:** 8th January 2025.
- **Preliminary Meeting with Project Leads:** By 22nd January 2025
- **Signing of Service Level Agreement:** By 31st January 2025
- **Commencement of Work:** The appointed evaluator will begin work on 1st February 2025, allowing two months to familiarise with project delivery partners and two full years' evaluation from April 2025 – March 2027.

Proposals should be submitted to:

Ashley Leggott, Strategic Co-ordinator, Children, Young People and Families Consortium via Ashley.leggott@cypfconsortium.org.uk

For additional information or questions, please contact Ashley Leggott at the above email address, or by telephone on 07731021393.
