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| **One Southwark Learning Partner, Tender Brief, 4 May 2022** | |
| **Programme Lead** | Will Cole, Programme Director, One Southwark (hosted by United St Saviour’s Charity) |
| **Context** | There are a number of Place-Based Giving schemes in London (and beyond) which aim to build stronger and fairer boroughs through collective action.  One Southwark is one of the more recent schemes to get off the ground and works differently to most of the others. Rather than just mobilise source funds and award grants to local groups, it is working directly with its target group and seeking to change systems, practice and behaviours for longer term change.  The context is that Southwark is a borough characterised by both wealth and poverty, and life chances are unequally spread. One of the groups most affected by the inequality is young people, with a shocking 40% growing up in poverty. Young people from poorer communities too often cannot access the opportunities that others take for granted. One Southwark has been set up to level the playing field by finding ways for Southwark’s resources and opportunities to be shared for the long term benefit of young people.  The scheme (or programme) is currently being hosted by United St Saviour’s charity <https://www.ustsc.org.uk/>. |
| **One Southwark** | One Southwark has the overarching aim of transforming lives and opportunities of under-represented young people through collective action. It is a new concept and model.  While hosted by United St Saviour’s charity, it has its own Director and a Coalition[[1]](#footnote-2) of community stakeholders (businesses, funders, statutory agencies, charities and residents) who believe that the status quo can be challenged and that Southwark can become a fairer place.  Initially One Southwark is working with a small cohort of young people and a small coalition of agencies to test and develop the proof of concept. A learning and influencing (L&I) element will be woven into the fabric of the programme, running alongside the delivery for at least the first two years.  The first cohort of young people has been selected and we are now looking to appoint a learning partner to work with the team, the young people and Coalition over the next two years.  The principles of the programme are that:   * **Collective action:** whether a local resident, a business, or a charity, everyone in Southwark can play their part by ‘giving’ money, in-kind support (e.g. time, skills, connections) and being advocates for change. * **People are different/the importance of being person-centred:** young people and their individual experiences are at the heart of the programme. One Southwark will respond to their specific needs and aspirations. * **The systems need to change.** The problem doesn’t sit with the young people themselves but with the systems and external factors surrounding them.   The programme will provide the cohort of young people with:   * **Financial Support** – Up to £3,000 to tackle the (often simple) things which hold them back * **Personalised Support** - Monthly one-to-one or group sessions focusing on their personal development and progression using experts and professionals * **Circle of Support** – Utilising the members of the Coalition who will leverage their contacts, networks and resources to provide opportunities. |
| **Learning Partner Scope and Purpose** | The learning and influencing (L&I) component of the programme is critical to ensure impact beyond the core group of young people and the Coalition. The research will:   1. Through the perspective of young people, better understand the barriers to progression and systemic changes needed 2. Explore the role and potential of community stakeholders (businesses, funders, residents with something to give, educational/other institutions) in reinforcing or overcoming these barriers. 3. Develop the proof of concept in order to shape, expand or replicate the programme. The concept being based on the principles of: collective action, system/behaviour change, and a person-centred approach. |
| **Main research questions** (to be fine-tuned once consultants appointed): | * What are the barriers to progress for young people (through the experience of the cohort)? * What inputs are required to overcome barriers and to create opportunities for progress? * What inputs and assets can be harnessed within the borough? * How does the model need to develop to maximise its potential? (In terms of the coalition and partnership/the support model/the grants, etc) * Who does the programme need to engage (who needs to be around the table) to maximise the potential of the model? * What and who needs to change what they do? How would this change enable young people to progress? * What is the practicality and feasibility of the model (based on the principles in 3 above)? |
| **Outputs:** | Outputs and activities to include:  Process outputs:  Research and design principles co-created with young people and the Coalition  Interim reflections and iterations fed into, and informing the programme  Presentations/workshops/design sessions  Product outputs  Proof of concept prototype  Report (and potentially event) on findings, conclusions and recommendations |
| **Timeframes:** | Send out brief 5th May  Consultants to submit expressions of interest 26 May, 2022 by 5pm  Shortlisted agencies contacted by 6th June  Interviews of shortlisted agencies at UStSC offices 13th June between 10 and 2pm  Start date (ideally) beginning of July, completion date June 2024 |
| **Budget:** | The budget for this work is in the region of £40,000 |
| **Methodology:** | Initial methodology is attached in Appendix 1, but we would expect this to be modified following discussions with the learning partner. |
| **Additional information** | The One Southwark/UStSC team will do the following:   * Facilitate access to, and support engagement with, the young people, Coalition members, and other relevant stakeholders * Provide office, meeting and workshop space * Support work-planning and interface of learning partners with the wider programme |
| **Submission details:** | If you are interested in tendering for the Learning Partner programme, please submit your expression of interest outlining:   * Your previous relevant experience, particularly in terms of proof of concept and system change. * Your skills, particularly in relation to qualitative research, co-creation and creative research methodologies * How you would approach the learning programme (your methodology - we are happy for you to propose a different approach to what we have laid out). * Who would lead the project and the composition of your team * Your costs (with breakdown) |
| **Contact details** | Alison Benzimra: ABenzimra@ustsc.org.uk |

Appendix 1

**One Southwark Learning and Influencing Draft Methodology**

**Methodology**

The L&I component will be woven into the very fabric of the programme, running alongside the delivery for at least the first two years. It will be informed by the young participants and the first cohort will co-design the methodology at the onset.

**Phase 1.** Gaining insight into the perspectives of young people will be the primary focus for the first 6-9 months. This insight will inform phase 2. At the start, the young cohort and researchers will co-create and plan the research, aligning it with the core support schedule. The team will consist of contracted researchers and trained (paid) peer researchers. They will conduct one-to-one interviews, focus groups and peer-to-peer reflection. Alternative qualitative methodologies such as video diaries may be deployed to enhance understanding of how young people experience barriers or navigate the system.

Regular research updates will be reported to the Coalition’s learning group. Young people will present their findings to key stakeholders and their peers at various points. The perspectives of the young cohort will be systematically integrated across the full 4 years (and beyond).

**Phase 2.** Informed by the Phase 1 findings, this phase will concentrate on exploring the role and potential of community stakeholders in overcoming the barriers to progression. The interview/focus group/workshop guidelines will be informed by the systemic issues identified by the young cohort.

**Phase 3.** This will be an iterative process whereby the development of the proof of concept is shaped and informed by the programme results and the research findings. At the end of year two the aim is to have a defined model which can be replicated for the remainder of the programme and potentially beyond (in other localities, for example).

1. **Current Coalition members:** United St Saviour’s Charity, Peabody Foundation, London Borough of Southwark, Good People, Community Southwark, Team London Bridge, Alan & Babette Sainsbury Charitable Fund, Norton Rose Fulbright, Womble Bond Dickinson and Merchant Taylors. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)