

Voluntary Sector in Great Britain Invited to Bid for DWP Fund

Thursday, 19 July 2012

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) is expected to launch a new £14 million Innovation Fund to finance interventions to help parents in England, Scotland and Wales work together in the best interest of their children.

Strong and stable families, according to the DWP, are essential to a strong and stable society. When families separate they should be offered the help and support required to enable them to work together in the best interest of their children.

The new Innovation Fund will address these issues through its two key objectives which are to:

- Increase the number of children benefiting from child maintenance arrangements by reducing conflict and improving collaboration between separated and separating parents.

- Test a wide range of interventions to understand what is effective in encouraging collaboration and reducing conflict amongst separating and separated parents.

Voluntary sector organisations, along with public and private sector organisations, are invited to bid for the Innovation Fund. Organisations can either bid on their own or as part of a partnership with others. Bids based on a particular locality can be anywhere in Great Britain.

It is expected that there will be two bidding rounds.

Information about the first round is expected to be released during the week beginning 16 July 2012. Organisations will then have an opportunity to learn more about how they can bid for funding for up to a two-year contract for a total of £1.5 million at one of three bidding events that will be held across Great Britain: London (24 July), Cardiff (25 July) and Edinburgh (27 July).

Organisations interested in attending one of these events should register their interest by e-mailing their name, contact information and event location preference to: separated.familiesprocurement@dwp.gsi.gov.uk.

Contracts for round one will go live early in 2013. The second bidding round will begin early in 2013 with contracts going live in autumn 2013.

Further details can be found on the DWP website: [Click Here](#)