

Community study (Consequences of drug use in Ireland)

Background

The National Advisory Committee on Drugs (NACD) was established in July 2000 to advise the Government in relation to the prevalence, prevention, treatment/ rehabilitation and consequences of problem drug use in Ireland, based on the analysis of research findings and information. The Committee is overseeing the delivery of a three-year work programme on the extent, nature, causes and effects of drug use in Ireland. The Committee comprises representatives nominated from relevant agencies and sectors, both statutory and non-statutory. The Committee reports to the Minister of State responsible for the National Drugs Strategy.

Commission

As part of its work in relation to the consequences of problem drug use in Ireland, the NACD wish to commission a study which will examine how communities' experiences of the drug situation have changed since 1996.

The Brief

The link between problem drug use, in particular heroin, and socio-economic disadvantage has been widely recognised and accepted as an underlying principle of Government policy since the publication of the First Ministerial Report in 1996. In carrying out this research, the contractor is expected to establish a study based on at least three communities who have experienced significant drug problems. We suggest a starting point of 1996 when the first Ministerial Report on Measures to Reduce the Demand for Drugs was published. A significant level of both statutory and non-statutory activity has taken place within communities worst affected by the heroin problem since 1996.

This Study of Communities' experiences will identify and explore factors which will address the following:

How have these communities experienced the drug problem/situation, in this context the contractor will be required to develop the indicators of a community drug problem based on the communities' experience of drug problems in their neighbourhood and the socio-economic and structural issues which are seen to facilitate these problems?

How has this experience changed since 1996?

Describe the various initiatives that were developed in the intervening years which are perceived by the communities to have influenced this change;

In this context, how did communities experience their involvement in the planning and implementation of these initiatives?

Assess how the community infrastructure that was in place in 1996 influenced or affected the community's experiences of the different initiatives and their outcomes; Examine the capacity of these initiatives for community participation and involvement;

What lessons can be learned to influence future development in similar communities?

Duration of project

We expect to receive a complete and final report 24 months from the award of the contract. Written reports are expected at 6 monthly intervals. These reports are to include technical (research progress) and financial details. The successful contractor will be expected to work closely with the NACD. During the first six months, monthly liaison meetings will be set up with a Research Advisory Group. Once the research is established and underway fewer meetings are expected.

Budget

The budget available for this study is in the region of €100,000 over the two years.

Requirements

Tenderers must submit a written proposal detailing the following:

Research methodology to be employed and justification of outputs;
Project management from conception to completion with clear milestones;
Personnel involved, their credentials, use of consultants and track record; and description of administrative and technical costs.

Evaluation

Evaluation of the submissions will be based on the following criteria:

Research methodology

Understanding of the project
Understanding of the work involved
Feasibility of the approach suggested

Project management

Ability to deliver key outputs on time
Clarity in description of milestones
Credibility of personnel and consultants involved
Track record

Value for money

Description of cost
Justification for proposed costs
Best use of resources

Closing Date: The closing date is Thursday 26 September 2002 @ 2pm.

The standard contract terms and conditions are available from the office. You will be required to sign an FOI declaration (see link below) and you must include an up to date tax clearance certificate with your submission.

 [link to Disclosure of Information under the Freedom of Information Act 1997 form](#)

Please submit **7 copies** of the tender to the address below:

Secretary
NACD
3rd Floor, Shelbourne House
Shelbourne Road
Ballsbridge
Dublin 4
Tel: (01) 667 0760 / 667 0765;
Fax: (01) 667 0828.
Email: info@nacd.ie;
Web: www.nacd.ie

NOTE: TENDER RETURNS SHOULD BE MARKED:

Ref: REF/Ten/Commstudy