

FTC Improvement Fund – On-going Q&A/Comment List



No.	Date Received	Question	Answer
1	02.10.19	If an NHS organisation has a good idea – will FTC help match-make with a VCSE organisation?	Yes, please email our FTC generic email account on hlp.londonftci@nhs.net with your trust/location details and key focus areas you are interested in. Your contact details will then be provided to interested voluntary sector organisations.
2	02.10.19	Why haven't we implemented NICE guidance on A&E plus Primary Care Testing?	This is out of scope of this fund and is a CCG responsibility to commission. We are however looking at working with the HIV clinical forum to raise this issue again through the London Vision work which is ongoing.
3	02.10.19	Our patient group are defined by destitute people who are lost to follow-up because they can't afford to travel-how do we address this?	We will consider proposals to address this issue under the fund along with all other proposals.
4	02.10.19	Could you clarify the difference between the stigma workstream and the improvement fund workstream?	The stigma workstream is currently in its design phase, being worked on by the Stigma Subgroup (SSG). The SSG is made up of representatives from all key stakeholder groups. The stigma workstream proposal will be shared with wider stakeholders as a draft for input and comment when ready.
5	02.10.19	Should we consider bundling Hep C and HIV?	Yes, if an idea can be easily scaled to include Hep C you may incorporate into your bid, but it is not mandatory.
6	02.10.19	Do ideas for the improvement fund have to be 'innovative' or 'new' ideas or would projects just have to impact on the UNAIDS targets?	No, but if a project has a current funding source which may be defunded if we support an expansion then no net benefit would be achieved through funding. Bids will be assessed on the potential impact which they could have on the stated target areas.
7	02.10.19	Do voluntary sector organisations have to partner with other voluntary sector organisations?	No, voluntary sector organisations can make individual bids, however, we encourage submissions which take a collaborative approach as well.

8	02.10.19	Can we expand upon an already existing service?	Yes, however we will be examining each bid to ensure there is no risk of the improvement fund providing funding which substitutes any original funding arrangements. We also will be looking at whether this proposed bid or service should already be funded by any of the relevant statutory bodies.
9	14.11.19	Can there be two leads (co-leads) for a collaborative project of 6 organisations?	Yes, although we would need to contract with a single organisation who would be the contractual lead. The project can choose operational leads from different organisations.
10	14.11.19	Can an organisation make two applications with different organisations if they are both collaborations addressing different strands?	Yes, each bid would be assessed in accordance with the scoring matrix.
11	14.11.19	We are looking at developing a training program for HCP in general practice in collaboration with some HIV HCP specialist and we wondered if that would fit into the bid under the living well strand or should we leave this for the stigma stand which comes out soon?	It would depend on the main outcome of the training. If its primary focus relates to NHS related stigma then it is likely to be out of scope for the Living well with HIV strand of work. Feel free to follow up if we have not understood correctly.
12	21.11.19	Could you please confirm if the application question response word limits are inclusive or exclusive of images?	The reasonable use of images to illustrate applications are exclusive of the word limits.
13	25.11.19	Can I please confirm that completed applications are emailed to this address?	Yes, please email completed applications to hlp.londonftci@nhs.net .
14	25.11.19	Is it also permitted to add attachments?	No, you may include links but only if relevant and the conclusions and reasoning are summarised in the application.
15	27.11.19	As a newly formed CIC who have been providing services in the last three years (as a project under a charity) Can we apply as an independent entity?	Yes.

16	27.11.19	If we are a small charity will there be a funding cap on the amount, we're allowed to apply for based on our annual income?	There will be a due diligence process but no technical limit on the bid other than what is stated in the information pack.
17	27.11.19	Can two small charities apply for core funding (staff costs) if the overall outcomes of having that post was to further improve the lives of women living with HIV?	Yes.
18	27.11.19	Is there a reason why a larger organization would be seen as the lead organization, or is it based on other factors?	No, any organisation may lead a bid.
19	27.11.19	If a strand of work that is being applied for has received part funding (minimal amount) would that automatically disqualify the whole application?	It depends on the likelihood of that amount being defunded by the original commissioner. It would not automatically disqualify a bid.
20	27.11.19	Will these questions be answered directly to me or will it go on the website?	They will go directly on the website.
21	28.11.19	Do you wish detailed budgets with the application or are you happy to accept just a thumb nail version?	Thumbnail version is acceptable.