



INVITATION TO TENDER

ONGOING EVALUATION OF LADIES GAELIC FOOTBALL & CAMOGIE GOVERNMENT GRANT SUPPORT SCHEME

Section A: Introduction

The Ladies Gaelic Football and Camogie Government Grant Support Scheme was launched in January 2017. The purpose of the Scheme is to provide funding to support an enhanced playing and training environment for intercounty camogie players and ladies footballers. The Support Scheme, led by the Government and distributed through Sport Ireland, is an indicator of the recognition that exists at national level for the contribution of these athletes to their sport and their commitment to play the game at the highest level possible.

The Support has three primary objectives; namely to assist with:

- **Injury Prevention and Medical Cover:** pre-rehabilitation activity such as movement screening and mobility training and/or the presence of appropriate medical cover at games and training
- **Maximising Player and Team Performance:** enhanced and consistent access and delivery of activities, such as strength and conditioning programmes, specialised coaching, performance analysis, performance nutrition advice and psychological preparation
- **Access to Training Facilities:** access to specialist training facilities, such as all weather, indoor and floodlit facilities, and gym use.

A Scheme Implementation Group, comprised of an independent chairperson, scheme administrator and two representatives each from the *Ladies Gaelic Football Association*, the *Camogie Association* and the *Women's Gaelic Players Association*, oversee the implementation of the Support Scheme. This is replicated at county level where administrators (county boards), management and players must work collaboratively to plan and report on agreed initiatives that are eligible for submission for funding under the Scheme.

The Scheme Implementation Group reports to a higher-level Steering Group that includes representation from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport and Sport Ireland.

Section B: Remit of Tender

The current tender is to conduct an ongoing independent and objective evaluation of the Government Grant Support Scheme. The main objectives of the evaluation are:

- A. To build on the objective evaluation carried out in 2017 and 2018 and examine the effectiveness of the Scheme in contributing to an enhanced playing and training environment for inter county ladies footballers and Camogie players
- B. To assess the progress of the key features and strengths of the grant and monitor the actions undertaken to address the weaknesses of the Scheme
- C. To support the Scheme Implementation Group to determine future priorities for the continued strategic development of the Scheme

The evaluation should contribute to the 2-year evaluation already undertaken and include:

- An objective examination of the ongoing impact the government grant scheme has on county players' and county teams' development across the Schemes three primary areas (Injury Prevention and Medical Cover, Maximising Player and Team Performance, Access to Training Facilities)
- An objective examination of the perception of inter-county players, managers and county executives on how the Scheme continues to impact on their playing and training environment
- A means of tracking outcomes associated with the key methods in the grant scheme (Area 1, 2 3)
- An overview of service providers in the scheme which will include an estimation of economic impact
- A review of service providers with a view to developing best practice recommendations
- A review of player promotional activities associated with the Scheme
- An evaluation of the national health screening programme
- An ongoing objective examination of assessing the range of relationships amongst stakeholders/participants engaged in the development and implementation of the Scheme
- An ongoing objective examination of the deployment of resources used to implement the Scheme
- Provision of objective recommendations for future priorities for the strategic development of the Scheme.

Note: These tasks represent the nature of activities to be undertaken as part of the service, but that it is not an exhaustive list of requirements.

Section C. Submission of Tenders

Tenderers may be individuals, organisations or consortiums.

The proposed methodology proposed by tenderers must take account of a participatory process.

The tender submission must detail:

- The approach to meeting the requirements listed in Section B above, detailing effective data capture processes, analysis and methodologies.

- Outline proposed timelines – the Scheme Implementation Group’s preferred option is to commence immediately after the award of the contract;
- Provide details of qualification and relevant experience, of the designated lead contact, details of team members where relevant and contingency details should circumstances require a change in personnel

The tender submission must demonstrate:

- Technical and professional ability to meet the tender requirements, including at least two examples of relevant work completed within the last 3 years;
- Quality assurance standards including procedures for maintaining data protection and security of information;
- An understanding of the amateur sports’ context in which Camogie and Ladies Football operates
- Capacity to complete work in the time frame detailed below.

Timeframe and Budget

The timeframe for submission of the final report of the project is September 2019, commencing in March 2019 on award of contract. The project will involve the submission of an interim report on the third year of the Scheme in May 2019. This contract may be subject to extension based on funding outcomes.

The maximum budget for the work is €15,000 (incl. VAT).

This is inclusive of all expenses, travel, subsistence and administration. Any quotations exceeding this amount will not be evaluated.

Section D: Award Criteria

1. Compliance with tender requirements outlined in Section B & C above
2. Relevant qualifications of person(s) working on the project e.g. social research, participatory research
3. Experience of persons conducting evaluation in sports or relevant fields e.g. education, social services, health
4. Demonstrated merit/quality of proposed approach and methodology
5. Total Cost¹

The Tender Evaluation Panel may shortlist or meet tenderers at their discretion. The costs of attending such a meeting will be borne by the tenderer.

The Tender Evaluation Panel is not obliged to accept the cheapest quotation. All tenderers will be advised in writing of the final decision. All proposals will remain strictly confidential.

¹ The lowest priced valid quote as assessed by the Tender Evaluation Panel, will receive the maximum score achievable under this criterion (30 points). The scores of the other valid quotes will be calculated by using the following formula: Number of points = the quoted price of the lowest valid submission divided by the quoted price of other submissions, multiplied by the maximum score achievable.

Conflict of Interest

The tenderer should declare if any personnel are proposed to work on this evaluation, if awarded, may have a conflict of interest and provide details of same. Should there be any conflict of interests identified by the tenderer or their personnel all details must be provided to the Tender Evaluation Panel at the time of application. In the event of any such conflict or potential conflict, the Tender Evaluation Panel may at its absolute discretion decide on the appropriate course of action and the decision of the Tender Evaluation Panel will be final and binding in this regard. A conflict of interest may include any factor, whether arising through personal interest, current or prospective contractual obligations or any other activity or association, which could prejudice the tenderer or its agents in the delivery, of the services required under the contract.

Section E: Intellectual and Property Rights

The Camogie Association, Ladies Gaelic Football Association and the Women's Gaelic Players Association will jointly and severally own the data and outcomes resulting from the evaluation.

Section F: Management of Project

The project will be managed by the Scheme Implementation Group, with oversight from the higher-level Steering Group. The researcher will work closely with the Scheme Administrator and will report to the Group overall.

Section G: Deadline for Submission

All applications must be received by 5pm on **26th Feb 2019** by emailing your completed proposal to intercountyfunding@gmail.com. Applications will not be accepted or considered after this date and time. Interviews will take place on the 7th March 2019.

Section H: Further Information

A copy of the previous scheme evaluation is available on request from intercountyfunding@gmail.com