



Economic and Social Value of the UK Fire and Rescue Services

The National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) is carrying out research across a number of subjects related to the UK Fire and Rescue Service (FRS). One of our projects concerns the Economic and Social Value of the UK FRS. We have engaged Nottingham Trent University to create a tool for FRSs to generate a value estimation of their activities – this includes ‘response’ activities, like traditional firefighting, but also ‘prevent and protect’ activities such as fitting smoke alarms, or running safety campaigns. The intention is that work will be aligned to and build on the work of the Home Office “Cost of fire” report, which considers the cost of injury, or damage to property, but not the contribution the UK FRS makes to society at large.

One of the required elements of the project is for an academic evaluation of the project, to provide assurance to the NFCC Programme Board that the methods being considered are suitable.

We are therefore seeking bids from suitably qualified and experienced organisations and individuals to provide this review and assurance role, for a likely start in August 2021.

This bid will include a professional CV, or description of the relevant expertise within the team, covering letter and proposed cost for the work. This should be emailed to:-

communityriskprogramme@nationalfirechiefs.org.uk

The assurance process will consist of a review of existing project work, discussion with the NTU team and a report for the Project Executive. The assurance report will include:-

- The suitability of data sources used in the project, and suitability of analysis techniques.
- Suitability of the various methods for their outcomes.

Your findings and recommendations will then be made to the Project Board, in the form of a presentation. A more detailed requirements document can be found below.

We envisage the process as being in the role of a “critical friend”, where the methods, data and approach are quality assured, rather than a wholesale investigation into the work. Your bid should state the expertise within the department, the timescale for completion, the overall cost of the evaluation and an overview of how you intend to proceed. You will have access to the lead NTU academics, the data sources being used and the draft analysis tool.

More details on the role and structure of the NFCC can be found here:-

<https://www.nationalfirechiefs.org.uk/About>

And more information on the Programme can be found here:-

<https://www.nationalfirechiefs.org.uk/CRP>



SPECIFICATION FOR THE SUPPLY OF ACADEMIC EVALUATION FOR THE ECONOMIC & SOCIAL VALUE OF THE UKFRS PROJECT

1. Introduction	<p>The NFCC has committed to producing a range of national products to enable fire and rescue services to assess, plan and mitigate community risk which is delivered through the Community Risk Programme. The programme has created the Economic & Social Value of the UKFRS project to provide a national set of tools for FRSs to use to determine the economic and social value of its prevention, protection, and response activities.</p> <p>This enables FRSs to understand where its activities will deliver the greatest value and benefit and provides a nationally endorsed NFCC product that can be used when engaging stakeholders and informing national processes such as inspection programmes or comprehensive spending reviews.</p>
2. Background	<p>The ESVoUKFRS Project was commissioned to deliver a methodology that could be used in the CRP toolkit which would enable services to understand the economic and social value of FRS activities. More importantly, it would incorporate prevention, protection, and response activities to ensure the wide range of work undertaken by the UKFRS was considered. The Project will deliver an evidence base which can be used to inform funding and investment decisions at not just an individual Service level but also a national level too. Underpinning the evidence base will be a robust set of metrics and methodologies to understand the value of the UKFRS that will support stakeholder engagement and processes undertaken with FRSs and the NFCC.</p> <p>The Project has been working with Home Office Economists to prevent the duplication of work, taking into account the work of the Home Office in producing the Economic & Social Cost of Fire Report. In addition to this, the Project has commissioned subject matter experts to develop possible approaches to examine the costs and benefits of the UKFRS based on social value or social impact of its activities.</p> <p>The project has completed phase 1, and Phase 2 is underway. This specification is for academic evaluation of the project to date, to consider the suitability of methods, data sources and analysis.</p>



3. Scope of the work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To produce a report, evaluating the phase 2 progress. This should include evaluations of :- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The suitability of data sources used in the project. ○ Suitability of analysis techniques. ○ Suitability of the various methods for their outcomes. ○ Review of Focus Groups and their analysis. ○ Review of and Comment on Stage-gate report. • To make recommendations for any changes to improve the project outcomes. • The report should be written from a supportive perspective, to provide assurance that the project methodology is sound. Only in extreme circumstances, would it be likely that major changes are recommended. <p>The report will be used by the NFCC ESV Project Executive board to ensure that the project is on track, and the methodology is suitable.</p>
4. Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide reassurance that the methods and data used by the NTU team is appropriate. • To provide advice, guidance, and peer support to NTU for the production of the final project. • To provide a report for consumption by the Project Board
5. Detailed requirements	<p>The contractor must provide a demonstration of evidence of a departmental experience of:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Econometric analysis. • SROI techniques. • Researching the public sector. • Fire and Rescue Services. • Quantitative and Data analytical techniques. • Focus groups and qualitative analytical techniques. <p>The contractor will be expected to meet with the NTU academics, read and assess any documentation related to the project, read and assess the relevant literature related to the methodology and produce a report outlining their findings.</p> <p>The evaluation process should take no longer than 4 weeks.</p> <p>The contractor will be required to meet with the NFCC Project staff to discuss their proposed timeline of assessment and evaluation, and to present their findings to the board.</p>



6. Deliverables	<p>1. Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviews current methodology. • Reviews relevant literature. • Makes recommendations for completion of the project. <p>2. Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describes evaluation process & findings.
7. Deliverables Acceptance Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive report, covering all required elements, approved by NFCC Project Team. • Presentation is professional, covers all required elements and is approved by NFCC Project Team.
8. Intellectual Property rights (IPR) and Disclosure	<p>NFCC will retain ownership of any Intellectual property rights relating to methodology and any other output of the project</p>
9. Contract Management	<p>The appointed contractor will report to the project board and the management of the contract will be conducted by the project manager. Regular updates will be required by the contractor at the project board. The Board meets monthly at mutually convenient locations and as required by the Project Manager.</p> <p>Any changes on the supplier's management of the project must be communicated in writing to the project manager to be included in the ACCRID log.</p> <p>Payment will be made following successful completion of the required deliverables.</p>
10. Contract Termination	<p>The contract will terminate once products are delivered following user acceptance on agreement with project executive.</p> <p>The contract may be terminated by any of the parties at any time on mutual agreement provided that a month's notice is given in advance to the date of termination.</p>