

**INVITATION TO TENDER**

**Turnaround Youth – Phase II**

**About IPRT and our Work**

The **Irish Penal Reform Trust** (IPRT) is Ireland's leading non-governmental organisation campaigning for the rights of people in the penal system and the progressive reform of Irish penal policy. Established in 1994, IPRT has a well-established role as an independent voice in public debate on the Irish penal system. IPRT is committed to reducing imprisonment, respecting the rights of everyone in the penal system, and progressive reform of the penal system based on evidence-led policies.

**Context**

IPRT’s Turnaround Youth project advocates for the differential treatment of young people aged 18-25, and in particular those aged 18-21, within the criminal justice system. Young adults are disproportionately represented in the criminal justice system. While 9% of the general population is aged 18 to <25, this age group makes up around a quarter of the daily prison population in Ireland, and just under one-third of committals. *(Figures based on Census 2011 and Irish Prison Service Annual Report 2011.)* This group, which is at the highest risk of reoffending, is also the group with the greatest capacity for change.

Phase I of the project included a broad review of research evidence; development of an issues paper informed by the evidence and youth consultations; direct advocacy; and a campaign website. Phase II builds upon this work, with particular emphasis on responses to young adults with mental health issues in the criminal justice system.

**Invitation to Tender**

Young adults with mental health issues are over-represented in detention and in prison. IPRT has secured funding from The Ireland Funds to commission high quality empirical research identifying more effective responses to young people aged 18-21 with mental health issues at key points of intervention throughout the criminal justice system. IPRT invites tenders to deliver a research paper which examines current mental health provision for young people in contact with the criminal justice system, describes international best practice, and formulates evidence-based policy recommendations. Project objectives include increased diversion to appropriate mental health services; a measurable reduction in young adults held in pre-trial detention; a reduction in reoffending by young adults; and better life outcomes for disadvantaged youths – and their communities.

**Requirements**

* Primary or Postgraduate degree in a relevant discipline;
* Demonstrated knowledge of the Irish Criminal Justice System and/or mental health issues;
* Experience in a range of research methods, incl. interviews and desk-based research;
* Ability to liaise with key stakeholders involved in the Irish Criminal Justice system;
* Experience in producing high quality research to publication standard;
* Exceptional attention to detail and ability to adhere to strict budgetary and deadline requirements;
* Maintenance of detailed, accurate and fully evidenced time-keeping records.

**Time Frame:**

The issues paper for submission to policy makers should ideally be complete by May/June 2015 (although this is open to negotiation).

**Tax/ VAT**

A valid Tax Clearance Certificate will be required from the successful tender.

**Tender Process:**

Tendering individuals or organisations must submit a tender document. Each tender should include:

* A profile or CV of the individual making the proposal;
* Details of previous relevant work in this area;
* The methodology you propose to adopt to achieve the key deliverables;
* Costing and timeline with respect to each element of the proposed work expressed as a daily rate within the overall budget for research of €5,000 incl. VAT if applicable.

**Assessment of Tender:**

Each tender received will be assessed on the basis of:

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| **CRITERIA** | **SCORE** |
| Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of the brief; | 30 |
| Track record in relevant work;  | 30 |
| Approach/methodology  | 20 |
| Value for Money | 10 |
| Ability to deliver in timeframe | 10 |
| **Total**  | **100** |

**To note:**

* Additional information may be sought at the assessment phase.
* Before final decision, a number of the most competitive tenders may be invited for further discussions on their proposals for the purpose of elaboration, clarification and/or aiding mutual understanding.
* IPRT shall not be liable for any costs and/or expenses incurred in respect of the preparation or the submission of any tender documents or associated material.

**Lowest tender is not a guarantee of success.**

**Tenders should be submitted by e-mail to** **director@iprt.ie** **by**

**Noon on Friday 27 February 2015**