



Specification Time to Shine Storytelling project

1. Background and Context

Time to Shine is a Lottery Community funded programme managed by Leeds Older People's Forum to tackle loneliness and social isolation. The programme is funded for six years, until March 2021 through the Big Lottery's Ageing Better programme. Ageing Better is one of the Lottery Community Fund's 'strategic investments', it differs from other programmes in many ways including the level of monitoring and evaluation required and the emphasis on learning at all levels.

The Time to Shine programme aims to ensure that loneliness isn't an inevitable part of ageing and that through a test and learn approach we aim to develop the local evidence base of the models which work in tackling and preventing loneliness and social isolation in older people.

Time To Shine is delivered in partnership with third sector organisations across Leeds. Since it began in 2015 Time To Shine has worked with twenty-three Delivery Partners who work either in a place-based setting or work to target a community of interest and they have delivered - or are delivering 92 projects. The main role of a Delivery Partner is to identify socially isolated older people and develop work which goes on to improve their physical and mental health and reduce their feelings of isolation.

Need

Loneliness and Social Isolation are not new concepts. The statistics about the damage it can do to one's health and wellbeing are well known. Over the past 50 years the number of people reporting that they are very lonely or isolated has stayed at between 10-15% of the older population.

Currently there is research into the triggers that can cause an older person to become socially isolated but until Ageing Better began there was little validated evidence that helps us to understand what interventions can prevent or alleviate that isolation. Since 2015 14 programs across England have worked to develop this evidence and to learn from it.

Time to Shine Programme outcomes

All projects funded through Time to Shine must contribute to our programme outcomes:

1. Each year beneficiaries report that they are less isolated as a result of a project intervention

2. Project beneficiaries feel confident and able to participate in their communities by 2021
3. Older People have been actively involved in managing, designing, delivering and evaluating the project. This provides quality evidence and influences system change
4. Our wider partnership will expand each year and will work better together to coordinate services and support for isolated older people

Delivery Partner Projects

We have commissioned projects through two commissioning rounds; one in early 2015 and the second in October-December 2017. You can see the varied projects that have been delivered through that commissioning here: <https://timetoshineleeds.org/projects>

Storytelling Project

Summary of our requirements:

What?

Since 2015 we have gathered evidence of what we have learned and the impact of the work that has been funded has been provided through a broad range of methods - statistical information, case studies, films, photographs etc.

We are looking for now is a partner who can help us to capture what has been learned through storytelling in a way that is creative and engaging. Someone who can develop the story of our project in a way that can be used to communicate to our wide range of stakeholders. Someone who is passionate about co-production - creating something *with* older people - it is *their* story

The Time to Shine team has the knowledge to provide the background, context and results of our monitoring and evaluation gathered over the last 4 years.

Now is the right time for us to share and interpret our experiences.

Why?

- To compliment our work through through the power of story, adding to the evidence base of the Time to Shine programme.
- To emotionalize the learning that we have gathered, giving colour and depth to what might otherwise seem like bland information allowing people to connect with our message in a deeper and more meaningful way.
- To capture the diverse range of projects delivered across Leeds by Time to Shine's Delivery Partners to improve the lives of socially isolated older people.
- To simplify the complex issue of loneliness and social isolation and tell the simple truths.
- To communicate varied points of view through personal stories
- To create a bridge between the older people who have been involved in the projects and the funders, commissioners and policy makers of the city

How?

1. By creating stories that capture the journey travelled, through engagement with projects
2. By using a variation of media - e.g written stories, photographs, film, audio, poetry, song, drama
3. By building relationships with a selection of our delivery partners
4. By capturing the diversity of our work eg LGBT+. BAME, Men, mental health, dementia, care homes etc
5. By creating work that is shareable via our website, social media and other publicity
6. By demonstrating the legacy of Time to Shine

Who?

We are inviting individuals / agencies to quote and we would like to work with someone who is intuitive, easy to communicate with and who shares our ambition to make Leeds the best city to grow old in.

When?

We are expecting the development of this storytelling project to be completed by December 2019, with work beginning in January 2020 and for all work to be completed no later than December 2020

Bidders to submit a four page (maximum) outline of what you plan to deliver, detailing your experience in delivering similar work and indicative timescales with budget by Friday 15th November 2019.

Bidders will be selected for interview with a panel from the Time to Shine team. Interviews will take place on 27th November 2019.

Maximum amount available **£20,000**

Proposed plans to be sent to Linda Glew at linda@opforum.org.uk