

## The future of the community business sector - is there a Power to Change post 2022?

Power to Change is seeking independent expert support in helping to shape the future direction of Power to Change post -2022.

## The deadline for submitting a proposal in response to our Invitation to Tender is 9am Friday 27 April 2018 (extended from 20 April 2018).

We believe the aims of this work will be best achieved by adopting a collaborative approach, and are encouraging interested bidders to develop consortium proposals that bring together the particular experiences, skills and expertise of different organisations to strengthen their bid. To support this, and in the interests of transparency, we will be maintaining and publishing the list of organisations and their area of expertise that have registered their interest in undertaking this work during the tender process, here on our website.

## Background to the work

The creation of Power to Change as an independent charitable trust in January 2015 with a £150 million endowment provided a unique opportunity to inject funding, support and momentum into the emerging community business movement in order to accelerate a promising solution to the regeneration needs of some of our poorest communities.

It was clear in the intentions of the Big Lottery Fund which provided the initial funding and the founding Board of Power to Change that the motivation behind creating a new organisation was to further this mission rather than sustain that organisation in perpetuity.

Power to Change estimates that it now has sufficient resources to continue its current operations for a further five years until 2022. Beyond that, this begs the question of what happens after 2022. Would community business be best served by our closure then, leaving others to continue our work, or by our continuation, either in our existing or in a different form.

We are, therefore, seeking independent, expert support to help us answer this question and to develop a recommendation to be presented to the Power to Change Board in early November 2018 as to the best way forward to ensure the sustained development of the community business sector in England. Specifically, we would like to understand:

- The changes that have taken place in the community business sector over the last three years and the role that Power to Change has played in this, whether positive or negative;
- The changes that are likely to take place in the community business sector between now and at least 2022;
- The future needs of the sector and the extent to which Power to Change is best placed to meet those needs, and in what form, or whether others should play a greater role;
- Any changes to the strategic direction and planned interventions of Power to Change over the next five years necessitated by the options identified for the organisation post-2022.

## Register your interest

If you are interested in being invited to bid for this work and would like to receive a copy of the Invitation to Tender (ITT) please send an email confirming:

- your organisation(s) name and contact details
- a short statement on the expertise, experience and skills you would bring to achieving this work.

Please email to <u>workwithus@powertochange.org.uk</u> and marked for the attention of Steve Gallagher, Procurement Manager, Your email should be headed "**Power to Change post-2022**".