

Power to Change Capability Strengthening Support: Open Framework Opportunity PTC/CSSOF/2022

The opportunity

[Power to Change](#) is looking to build a trusted pool of suitably qualified and experienced providers for the provision of capability strengthening support to community businesses in England through to 2025.

The services under the Open Framework cover Power to Change's capability strengthening support requirements but will remain flexible to capture emerging requirements throughout its lifetime.

Currently, the majority of capability support that will be delivered in 2022 will be through the Powering Up programme. Powering Up is a programme for community businesses that need support shifting from an emergency mindset as a result of Covid-19 to investing in future planning. It aims to support community businesses in the key areas of digital growth, climate action and sustainability, and financial resilience, with a cross cutting theme of diversity, equity and inclusion.

In addition to the requirements of Powering Up, it is anticipated that, as new programmes of work develop, the framework will be used to ensure Power to Change is able to access suitable providers that meet the identified needs of the programmes and the community businesses they will serve.

The Open Framework has been set up to be used for the provision of the support. The anticipated categories of services have been split into Lots, detailed below (see [service categories](#)) and in the Invitation to Tender documentation. Interested providers can apply to deliver services from more than one Lot.

The Open Framework is a multi-stage process; the first stage for providers interested in delivering work through this Open Framework is to register and submit an application questionnaire (see [further information](#) below). The application questionnaire will require providers to submit details relating to their organisation which will be assessed by Power to Change and successful providers will be admitted onto the Open Framework. The Open Framework will always be open meaning that providers can apply at any time and providers who have previously been unsuccessful may re-apply once they have taken corrective action.

Being accepted onto the Open Framework is no guarantee of work, but will allow providers to view, tender and deliver for call-off contracts. Call-off services may be awarded via direct award or mini-competition, depending on the value and volume required (stage two). **Call-off contracts may be available at any point during the life of the Open Framework and will only be available for those providers on the Open Framework.**

The first call-off opportunity under the Open Framework is in relation to our Powering Up and Leading the Way Programmes and is being published at the same time as the Open Framework invitation - **Document 4 Call-off Opportunity: Powering Up & Leading the Way Programmes (PTC/CSSOF/2022/01)**.

We actively encourage applications from a wide variety of providers, especially those who can demonstrate alignment with our [values](#) and can demonstrate social impact within their business aims and objectives.

We welcome applications to join this Open Framework from both national providers and local and regional providers that focus their services in particular geographies. We will particularly welcome applications from organisations that focus their support on communities that experience racial inequity, younger people and those working in areas of highest economic deprivation (IMD 1-3). To qualify to join, support providers must demonstrate they have the requisite competencies and experience and can meet our due diligence requirements (as set out in the application documentation).

Timelines

Total estimated budget:	2022: up to £690,000 2023-25: up to £2,000,000
Open Framework published:	May 2022
Open Framework closure:	31 December 2025
Delivery:	June 2022 – December 2025
First Call-off published:	May 2022 - Powering Up and Leading the Way Programmes (PTC/CSSOF/2022/01)

Service categories

The Open Framework has been developed by Power to Change to help meet the challenges of providing technical and professional development and wellbeing capability support to community businesses in England over the next three years. It is an opportunity for providers to work with Power to Change to develop and provide these services for the benefit of the community business sector.

This will primarily be through the Powering Up programme, but we anticipate further needs will also arise via the following workstreams:

- Leading the Way programme
- Placed Based Programme
- Alternative Ownership
- Climate Action Fund
- Community Tech

(This is not an exhaustive list. We operate as a responsive funder and new opportunities could arise over the lifetime of the framework).

Capability strengthening support will need to be tailored to the individual needs of a community business and we anticipate the majority of support will be delivered via one to one provision (either in person or

remotely). However, the Open Framework will also cover for opportunities to deliver capability strengthening support via group sessions (via workshop, training sessions, assignments etc).

The anticipated support service categories are detailed below (via Lots). This is not a comprehensive list and the Open Framework will be flexible to capture emerging requirements throughout its lifetime as and when identified by Power to Change.

Technical		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate action/ sustainability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversity, equity, and inclusion
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic and Business Planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial - Management and Control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial – sources and access to funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human Resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operations – Business and IT infrastructure and Systems; Building & Facilities; Legal and Governance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service Engagement and Delivery
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications, Public relations and Marketing 	
Professional development and wellbeing		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coaching 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mentoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Health and well being

Further information

If you are interested in applying to join the Open Framework and would like to register your interest and receive the application documentation and further details of the first call-off opportunity, please email procurement@powertochange.org.uk with the subject header: **Capabilities Strengthening Support Providers Open Framework**