

**Information Note**

**Establishment of JARC and Y-JARC in the Dublin North Inner City**

**Introduction:**

**The Probation Service** is the lead agency in the assessment and management of offenders in the community.

We provide services to both adult and young offenders, in the community and in detention/custody. Our services are organised nationally and delivered locally with the provision of probation supervision, community service, community return and anti-offending behaviour programmes.

Further details are available on [www.probation.ie](http://www.probation.ie)

The Probation Service are seeking a community-based partner to work in conjunction with the Probation Service and other stakeholders to deliver Y-JARC and JARC to clients referred through existing pathways.

**Context:**

The Joint Agency Response to Crime programme (JARC) was established in 2014 as a multi-agency response to offender management between An Garda Síochána, the Probation Service and Irish Prison Service. The programme places the offender at the centre of enhanced levels of inter-agency cooperation and coordination. It mainly targets prolific offenders. The strategic objectives of the programme are to:

* Develop and further strengthen a multi-agency approach to the management of crime
* Prioritise offenders in order to develop programmes which will address their behaviour
* Reduce crime and increase public safety in local communities.

This is achieved by:

* Ensuring enhanced co-ordination to reduce crime and manage recidivism
* Considering emerging trends in criminal activity
* Identifying and developing potential areas for collaborative working to address and manage recidivist behaviour

In 2017, the youth version of the Joint Agency Response to Crime (Y-JARC) was established which seeks to intensively manage the most prolific young offenders.

The aims of Y-JARC are to:

* Develop and further strengthen a multi-agency approach to the management of crime;
* Prioritise offenders in order to develop initiatives which will address their behaviour;
* Reduce crime and increase public safety in local communities.

There are currently eight adult programmes in place. A youth version of JARC is currently in operation in two locations.

The Probation Service and An Garda Síochána were tasked by the Department of Justice with developing targeted proposals to address offending by young people in the Dublin North Inner City (NIC). A Youth-Joint Agency Response to Crime (Y-JARC) to support those aged 12-18 years is being developed in addition to a Joint Agency Response to Crime (JARC) to support those aged 18-24 years in the NIC.

The central premise of the model is that improved communication and collaboration between respective agencies will help young people who have offended desist from further offending behaviour and will reduce offending behaviour in the area identified.

**Requirements:**

As part of JARC and Y-JARC model roll-out in the NIC funding has been provided for two project workers, one part time co-ordinator and one full time family therapist. These posts will be divided across both the adult and youth JARC. However it is envisaged that the posts will be co-located in the premises of the preferred partner. Line management responsibility for the posts will also rest with the partner. There will be a Funding Agreement which will outline the roles and responsibilities of each individual employment position for JARC and Y-JARC.

It is anticipated that the following client numbers will be seen by the respective groups;

* **Y-JARC:** It is anticipated there will be6-10 clients (rolling/participating in the programme) at any time.
* **JARC:** 10 to 12 persons will be included in the initiative at any one time. This excludes numbers ‘paused’ while not under any form of statutory supervision order.

It is expected that clients will be seen in the community and within the preferred partner’s premises, in addition to JARC and Y-JARC meetings being held on site.

**Eligibility Criteria**

Organisations submitting expressions of interest must fulfil the following eligibility criteria:

* They must be a company limited by guarantee with charitable status and meet all appropriate statutory and legal requirements.
* Be a well-established community based organisation, based within the Dublin North Inner City and have strong working relationships with other local and statutory agencies.
* Have strong links with the community, being an established and trusted organisation that has a proven track record of working effectively within and for the community.
* Be in a position to host staff in a premises centrally located within the Dublin North Inner City.
* Have facilities or the capacity to facilitate clients from the age of 12-24 on site.
* Have a restorative justice focus and ethos throughout its’ service.
* Have the appropriate governance structures to ensure safe and effective delivery of the programmes outlined.
* They must provide evidence of public liability insurance or ability to access public liability insurance.
* They must provide evidence of recent audited annual accounts.
* Provide declarations that it is compliant with best practice Garda Vetting, Data Protection and Child Protection Procedures.

**Expression of Interest and Application Form:**

Accordingly, interested community based organisations are invited to submit expressions of interest to **communityprojects@probation.ie**

Expressions of interest must be accompanied by a completed application form. Please address any enquiries about the completion of the application form to [communityprojects@probation.ie](mailto:communityprojects@probation.ie).

**The final date for receipt of Expressions of Interest and completed application form by email to** [**communityprojects@probation.ie**](mailto:communityprojects@probation.ie)**is 5.00 p.m. on Monday 15th January 2024.**

**Applications received after the closing date and time will not be accepted.**

**Application Process and Assessment:**

1. **Selection process.**

An Application Form must be completed and submitted before the published closing date. All forms will be screened to determine their completeness and the eligibility of the applicant organisation.

It will be in the organisation’s interest to provide a detailed and accurate account of qualifications/experience in their application form.

Eligible applications for funding will be assessed by an Evaluation Team and sanctioned by the Department of Justice. Applications will be considered in line with the following criteria and marking scheme set out below:

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| Demonstrate proven track record and expertise working with children and young adults, including links with local community and statutory agencies. | 35 marks |
| Organisational capacity, governance structure, and facilities to support the delivery of JARC and Y-JARC. | 25 marks |
| Quality of proposal, which recognises the needs of clients, and which demonstrates how the programme to reduce offending behaviour in the identified area will be supported. | 20 marks |
| Cost | 20 marks |
| **Total** | **100 marks** |

Following assessments all applicants will then be notified of the final decision.

1. **Completing the Application Form**

Applications must be made on the official application form and all sections of the form must be fully completed.

It is therefore in each organisations interest to ensure that the information supplied in all sections is correct. If it is necessary to continue on a separate sheet, please set out the information in the same manner as the application form.

The acceptance of an application form does not imply that the Probation Service is satisfied that such an organisation fulfils the requirements of the selection process and does not carry a guarantee that such application will receive further consideration. It is important to note that the onus is on the organisation to ensure that the eligibility requirements for the competition are met before applying.

1. **Confidentiality**

Applications will be treated in strict confidence.

**Payment of grants:**

Successful applicants will be contacted and requested to sign a Funding Agreement for 2024.

Grant payments will be made quarterly in advance.

Funding requirements include:

* The submission to the Probation Service of quarterly financial accounts, monthly statistical returns and annual audited accounts.
* Compliance by the organisation with the terms of Department of Expenditure and Reform Circular 13/2014.
* Confirmation of Tax Clearance from the Revenue Commissioners.
* Any other reporting or monitoring requirements as determined by the Probation Service.
* Applicants MUST ring-fence funding paid in advance for the purposes outlined in the grant application, or the grant aid will be forfeit and must be repaid.

Any queries can be submitted to [communityprojects@probation.ie](mailto:communityprojects@probation.ie)