Call for competitive tenders
Provision of external expert services to support the work of ESN's Integrated Care and Support Working Group

**Budget**: €4,000 (including VAT)
**Deadline for submissions**: 27 August 2018
**Selection criteria**: Best price-quality ratio

Contact:
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About the European Social Network

The European Social Network (ESN) is the independent network for public social services in Europe bringing together people who plan, manage, deliver and regulate social services in public authorities.

Our members are mainly associations of local and regional directors of social services, social services in regions, counties and municipalities, funding and regulatory agencies, universities, research and development and improvement bodies.

ESN’s 2018-2021 Working Group on Integrated Support and Care

ESN is launching a working group which will run between 2018-2021 to examine integrated care and support across the life-cycle, focussing on a particular target group each year. The working group will act as a vehicle for mutual learning between social services across Europe on the implementation of effective approaches to integrated care and support, culminating in a collection of practice examples.

The aim of the 2018 strand of the working group is for participants from social services and beyond (health, education, housing, police, justice) to engage in mutual learning and an exchange of practices on integrated support for children and families across Europe, with a focus on child protection. For example, the coordination of social, education, health and other services to prevent children from being taken into care or integrated plans for children who are already in care.

The project will include the distribution of a questionnaire to ESN’s members where they can describe their experience and practical examples of integrated care and support for children. The participants will then meet on 29-30 November 2018 to share their practices and discuss effective approaches to integrated support and care. The result of the activity will be the publication of a number of best practice examples.

The working group will consist of ESN members, mostly directors of social services at local level. There could also be representatives from other sectors (health, education, justice etc). The total number of participants will be about 20 people.

Scope of work

In 2018 the working group will discuss the opportunities and challenges of integrated support and care in child protection on the basis of the experience and practice examples provided by the participants.

The participants will provide this information before the meeting by answering ESN’s questionnaire. The questionnaire asks interested participants to provide the following:

a.) Description of how integrated support and care for children is provided in their own context (such as the policy background)

b.) Detailed description of a practice example on integrated support and care for children.

ESN will coordinate with the participants to complete a template form for their practice, which will enable analysis between the different practices. The fields within the template include how the practice was managed between different stakeholders, the outcomes for different groups, how it was evaluated, and more.
These practice templates (10-20 in number) will be provided to the external expert by 28 September at the very latest. The external expert will then analyse both the contextual information and the practice templates during October.

The analysis of the practice templates will be presented by the expert at the working group meeting, highlighting common themes, trends, and how it relates to wider knowledge on integrated support and care for children.

**Deliverables**

1. Provide a written analysis of the practice examples by 31 December 2018 including a detailed analysis of the practice templates based on the answers to the different criteria including practice description, policy, evaluation and sustainability.

2. Provide general guidance on the key issues to explore during the working group meeting

3. Presentation at ESN’s 2018 working group meeting on Integrated Care and Support which takes place on 29-30 November 2018.

The presentation should be shared with ESN by 16 November and cover the following aspects:

- Refer to wider research to briefly summarise how social services are developing more integrated approaches for child protection across Europe, describing some of the empirical evidence which demonstrates the benefits of more integrated support, and some of the challenges of implementing it.

- Present analysis of the information the participants have provided on the contextual background of their integrated support and care approaches for child protection.

- Present initial analysis of the different practices on integrated support and care provided by the participants.

All deliverables should be submitted in English.

**Duration**

The deliverables should be carried out and completed between September and December 2018. We expect that the total amount of days devoted to the above tasks will be approximately six to eight days. The expert will be providing support to ESN’s Policy Department and working with a Policy Officer in the implementation of this project.

The external expert is only expected to contribute to the 2018 strand of the working group. However the continuation of the external expert’s services for the following meetings and strands of the integrated care and support working group is a possibility if the experts who apply have expertise in more than one population group.
Required expertise

The external expert must be able to demonstrate the following in their application:

- Conducted research on how social services are coordinating and integrating with other sectors in the field of child protection or children's services.
- Knowledge about social services in Europe, specifically the work social services carry out with children and families
- Ability to analyse questionnaires, data and practices from public authorities across Europe.

Remuneration

Experts should provide a quote for the work described above. The maximum remuneration will be 4,000€. Payment will be authorised after the delivery and approval of the relevant deliverables.

Applying

Applicants should provide the following information:

1) CV
2) Cover letter describing how you meet the required expertise
3) Relevant samples of work
4) Quote

This should be sent by Monday 27 August 2018 to ESN Policy and Communications Officer, William Hayward, William.Hayward@esn-eu.org