

Q&A on Child Centred Policing Proposal

YEF encourages bidders to use their experience and expertise in proposing an approach to research which best achieves the aims of understanding child-centred policing from the perspectives of children, and what 'good' looks like in this context. We do not list specific target groups or specify research approaches as we are aware there are multiple ways to do this work. The questions below have been received from interested organisations and are shared to support those making applications.

Q: Please can you clarify what age range you are referring to when you refer to "Children" and does this solely include younger children or does this include young people?

A: YEF's target age range for this work is 10-17. However, if you think that including young people from an older age range would be beneficial to the research, we would be happy for you to add this to your proposal with a justification.

Q: What locations in England and Wales are you targeting? Can the work be based in one main area, or are you looking for children to be recruited from multiple areas?

A: We are open to applicants justifying their location and the range of views it will allow them to collect. We don't specify a set number of locations but do recognise there can be differences in policing in rural, sub-urban and urban areas which we'd be keen to see considered in any application.

Q: Is there a sampling mechanism already in place for this project?

A: No, this is for the applicant to propose and part of the assessment of bids will consider how you propose to select, recruit and support children for this study to meet the aims of the project.

Q: Is there a minimum or maximum number of children and young people that you would like us to engage with?

A: We're looking for research teams to suggest an appropriate number of children involved in the project given the project's aims of gathering specific and concrete examples of good practice in child-centred policing.

Q: Are you interested in speaking with children who have and have not been involved in the justice system?

A: We are interested to hear from children who have relevant experience of interacting with the police which enables them to contribute meaningfully to an understanding of child-centred policing. This could be in a range of contexts, including through the justice system, or for example, through experiences of stop and search.

Q: Would it be acceptable to only target justice involved children for this work, as they are likely to have had most contact with police?

A: Yes, we would be happy with this approach if the children are able to speak about interacting with the police in a range of settings.

Q: Will the project involve engagement with schools?

A: We do not stipulate that engagement with schools is required, but this could be something you decide would be valuable.

Q: For the research questions around context, it states 'which police officers are children engaging with?'. Does this mean specific rank, or are we wanting to understand if they are more likely to engage with an officer of the same age, gender, race etc?

A: We aim to understand more about the roles of officers, rather than the demographic details of a specific officer. We know that children don't usually have a choice in which officers they are involved with but understanding the roles of the police they are interacting with in school, on the street, as part of cases, etc is something we'd want this work to consider.

Q: What are YEF's views on using existing qualitative data rather than gathering new data from the same groups – to avoid duplication and risk re-traumatising?

A: If you have some existing data that you think could answer parts of the research questions, we would be open to this being used as long as this fully meets the needs of this tender. We would expect to see some new research and it would be good to see outlined in the application where new research would add value and help meet the research aims.

Q: Regarding the required outputs, are there expectations around the length of a final report?

A: For the final report there is some degree of flexibility, but we would anticipate this to be around 90–100 pages plus appendices. You can see examples of previous YEF reports on our website, for example [here](#).

Q: Are there any restrictions on the use of the data, e.g., can the academic aligned to the programme publish it in a journal?

A: YEF's rules for publications are outlined in our [publication policy](#). Academics can publish further work, but the first publication from the project must come from YEF and YEF need to review any potential publications after this.

Q: We are based outside of England and Wales, are we eligible?

A: No, YEF funding is restricted to England and Wales, as this research needs to focus on policing practice in these countries.

Q: How rigid is the word limit of 2,500 words?

A: Applicants are requested to stick to this limit out of fairness to all organisations applying. The word limit does not include:

- The budget.
- Other appendices, such as a timeline.

Q: Is there a required format and font size?

A: No, the applicant can use any format they prefer.