

Early Years Programme evaluation tender: clarification Q&A		
	Clarification question	Response
1	Do you have a theory of change for the programme, and if so, can this be shared during the tendering period	There is no Theory of Change for the programme or the evaluation
2	Please outline what existing outcomes and financial data is available for each project	When sending in progress reports (6months) applicants are asked to advise how they are meeting the outcomes they told us about at application. There is a grant award notice, and the breakdown of phased payments and we can give access to the budgets that were submitted.
3	Could you share a copy of the reporting / MI template that projects are required to submit	Reporting documents will be shared with the successful bidder.
4	Did you have any kind of standardised outcome framework for grantees?	No
5	What level of geographic information do you retain on the location of projects supported? For example, do you retain postcodes for specific centres that have been supported?	We have project postcodes in our Grant management system
6	Do you retain details of applications for support that were unsuccessful, could they be made available as part of the evaluation?	We retain unsuccessful applications but will not make them available
7	You mention wanting to measure the impact of the programme on reducing disadvantage – did you have a particular dimension of disadvantage in mind? Do you mean reducing the gap between lower income service families and higher income service families? Or is it about tackling the disadvantage identified for service children who experience frequent changes of school/settings?	It is about tackling disadvantage caused by being a military family. For example, effects of deployment, mobility, needing additional learning support, waiting lists etc

8	The original UK Armed Forces Families Strategy used data from the Armed Forces Continuous Attitudes Survey and the Families Continuous Attitudes Survey. Neither of these surveys are made available for research purposes via the UK Data Service. Are you aware of any other ways of accessing that data (underlying records rather than summary statistics)? Are you able facilitate access for the purposes of evaluation or alternatively commission bespoke analysis from MoD analysts?	It is up to individual bidders to assess available data requirements and how this data will be used in this research. The Trust will not be available to facilitate access to external data sources that are not publicly available, and will not commission separate analysis. Armed Forces Continuous Attitude Survey: 2025 - GOV.UK Tri-service families continuous attitude survey 2025 main report - GOV.UK
9	Is there an editable word version of the forms at the back of the tender document or would you like us to recreate the headings /structure in our response?	Recreating the headings and structure will be fine.
10	Have any other evaluations or learning reviews taken place over the course of the programme?	There have been no systematic evaluations of the programme, although periodic assessments and progress reports will be shared with the successful bidder.
11	In order to include a sufficiently detailed methodology within our application it would be helpful to know more about the fund. Specifically, it would be useful to know some examples of the kinds of projects that the fund is used for, the kinds of organisations which deliver these projects, what criteria you have for the funds and what outcome data is currently being collected.	Information on grants awarded and projects supported are available on the Trust's website: https://covenantfund.org.uk/armed-forces-families-fund-early-years-programme-projects-supported/