



CALL FOR TENDERS

Development of Disability Federation of Ireland's Three-year Advocacy Strategy

09 December 2022

CONTEXT

Disability Federation of Ireland, DFI is seeking an external consultant to assist in the development of the organisation's three-year Advocacy Strategy. This will align with the organisation's current [Strategic Plan 2022-2025](#).

DFI is a federation of member organisations working with others to achieve a vision of Ireland where disabled people are participating fully in all aspects of society. Our mission is to work with disabled people to implement the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, UN CRPD and ensure their equal participation in society. We work at community, national, European and international level to represent the interests of disabled people and our member organisations.

DFI's strategic plan (2022) includes a commitment to develop an Advocacy Strategy for the organisation. This Advocacy Strategy is required to speak to the following strategic objectives:

- Advocacy and Policy - co-ordinate policy analysis and advocacy to progress UN CRPD implementation.
- Representation of the value of the Federation's Members.
- Support for self-advocacy by people with disabilities - people with disabilities actively participating and representing their issues, supported by peer advocacy networks.
- DFI member organisations feel actively engaged and an integral part of the federation.
- Communication - DFI is recognised as a valued source of information for all disability stakeholders, effectively informing and influencing key aspects of disability policy implementation.

- Reconfigure DFI structure, processes, and resources to effectively and efficiently deliver DFI's Strategic Plan.

WHAT IS EXPECTED?

The successful consultant will work in close cooperation with DFI's Director of Advocacy and Inclusion. They will be responsible for carrying out the following:

1. Reflect on DFI's advocacy approaches to date, to inform future development and direction in this area.
2. Undertake a landscape analysis to identify DFI's position to influence change within the wider system, to include consideration for developments in the political and disability movement.
3. Identify and define key advocacy goals and priorities for the DFI for the period of the current strategic plan and beyond.
4. Identify advocacy activities to progress priorities including consideration for campaigning.
5. Identify routes to progress advocacy priorities, including recognition of the role of key stakeholders across civil society, the media, statutory organisations, disabled persons/organisations and elected representatives.
6. Develop mechanisms for review of the impact of DFI's advocacy work and to assist in the monitoring of progress, including identification of metrics connected to relevant aspects of the strategic plan.
7. Develop a comprehensive and cohesive Advocacy Strategy report for presentation to Senior Management and DFI Board Members.

It's envisaged that the above will be achieved, in part, through consultation with DFI member organisations, DFI company members, DFI's board and engagement with DFI staff members.

EXPERTISE REQUIRED

We are looking for an individual expert or company with the following expertise to undertake this work:

- Experience of working with or within the community and voluntary sector in Ireland.
- An understanding of the socio-political landscape in which the DFI operates.
- Excellent communication skills and ability to synthesis complex information.
- Have a proven track record in strategic/advocacy planning and development.

Experience of working with federated organisations is also welcome.

TENDER REQUIREMENTS

Tenders for this work must include:

1. Name of applicant / organisation, address and contact details. Where there is more than one applicant, please assign one person/organisation as the principal contact.
2. Personnel involved – details of all personnel who will be involved, including a CV which outlines their qualifications/experience.
3. Description of proposed project approach, methodology, actions and timeframe (max. 1,500 words).
4. Examples of two relevant previous projects along with a separate referee for each, including contact details, for both projects.
5. Costs – detailed costs including any associated costs, VAT inclusive.
6. Notification of any potential conflicts of interest.
7. An up-to-date copy of the tenderer's Tax Clearance Certificate and relevant insurances.
8. Suggested timeframe for the completion of this work.
9. Signed Declaration of all the above.

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

The maximum budget for this Advocacy Strategy is a maximum of €15,000. This is inclusive of VAT and all associated expenses such as travel.

Administrative and project support can be provided by the DFI as required.

A payment schedule will be agreed with the successful tenderer prior to the commencement of the work.

TIMEFRAME

The development of the Advocacy Strategy is expected to take four months. This timeframe should include engagement/consultation with relevant stakeholders and production of the final document.

TENDER SUBMISSIONS

Tenders should be emailed to emberbegley@disability-federation.ie no later than the 5th of January at 5pm.

QUERIES

Any queries or questions in relation to this call for tenders can be made to DFI's Director of Advocacy and Inclusion at emberbegley@disability-federation.ie