Invitation to Tender - Provision of Evaluation for Climate Minds NI

1. Background

Climate Minds NI (CMNI) is a new, three-year project to be delivered by Live Here Love Here and Inspire Wellbeing. Thanks to National Lottery players, Climate Minds NI project has received £1,462,419.00, a long-term commitment from The National Lottery Community Fund to support communities across the UK to act on climate change and involve more people in positive environmental action

Live Here Love Here (LHLH) is a registered charity and one of Northern Ireland's largest environmental NGOs. LHLH brings decades of expertise in climate action, behaviour change, and community mobilisation. LHLH will act as the lead organisation, holding the grant and distributing funds to partners.

Inspire Wellbeing is Northern Ireland's largest mental health and wellbeing charity, a registered charity and company limited by guarantee. As a strategic partner, Inspire Wellbeing will ensure that mental health and inclusion expertise underpin every aspect of delivery and that their service users are central to benefiting from the partnership.

CMNI aims to support mental wellbeing in our communities and empower climate action by fostering emotional resilience, community connection, and nature-based activities. This project gives under-represented groups a say in what climate action means for them.

Participants will be recruited through Inspire Wellbeing's services and both organisations' wider community connections and volunteer networks.

Alongside this, we will develop a dedicated area on the existing myEARTH platform into a collaborative hub for the partnership, where participants can access eco-psychological resources, track their own climate-positive behaviours, and connect with others. New digital features will support helping people measure their environmental impact, access guided self-help tools, and reflect on the wellbeing benefits of their actions.

Over the three years, the project will:

- Establish **16 climate action groups of up to 20 participants per group**, that will be facilitated by Live Here Love Here and Inspire Wellbeing staff. Groups will build peer support, confidence, and skills to continue climate-positive activities beyond the project. Further details are provided in Annex 1.
- Deliver a **co-designed campaign** addressing climate anxiety and mental health.

- Develop a dedicated area on the **existing myEARTH platform**, providing project information, guided self-help resources, climate learning and opportunities for environmental action. Participants will also be able to track climate-positive behaviours and reflect on their wellbeing.

Delivery will be phased across three project years: four Climate Action Groups will be recruited and delivered between January and June 2027 in Year 1, followed by six groups in Year 2 and six in Year 3. A symposium will take place at the end of Year 2, with a final symposium at the end of Year 3.

The project's intended outcomes are:

- Greater participation of under-represented groups in climate action in Northern Ireland.
- Measurable improvements in climate positive behaviours and individual wellbeing.
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- Sustainable, community-led climate action groups that continue beyond the partnership.

2. Tender Specification

Climate Minds NI will take a learning-led approach to evaluation, focusing on measuring outcomes and understanding how and why change happens. The evaluation will combine quantitative data (e.g., participation figures, behaviour tracking, digital metrics) with qualitative insights (e.g., lived experience stories, focus groups, reflective practice) to capture both breadth and depth.

Live Here Love Here is seeking to appoint an **experienced evaluator to design and deliver the evaluation, collect and analyse evidence, and communicate findings in formats suitable** for project partners, participants, delivery partners, the funder and the public.

Key evaluation questions

Bidders should explain how they will design and deliver an evaluation that addresses the following key questions:

- How do co-designed workshops and group activities influence participants' environmental behaviours and mental wellbeing?
- What barriers prevent under-represented groups from engaging in climate action, and which forms of support are most effective in overcoming them?
- How effective is myEARTH in helping participants track behaviour change and sustain climate-positive action over time?
- How effective is the CMNI communications campaign in supporting the project's goals?
- How does the partnership between Live Here Love Here and Inspire Wellbeing strengthen the project's delivery and outcomes compared with either organisation working alone?

Wellbeing and supplementary measures

The successful evaluator must use the **Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale (WEMWBS)** as the primary wellbeing outcome measure. This recognised, validated scale will provide a consistent basis for assessing changes in participants' mental wellbeing across the project.

WEMWBS aligns with the project's intended wellbeing outcomes, including hope, confidence, coping and positive relationships. Climate Action Group participants must be assessed before participation (baseline), at the midpoint (workshop 4 of 8) and at the end of participation (workshop 8). Later follow-up should take place where feasible, for example during symposiums.

Proposals should explain how WEMWBS will be administered, scored, analysed and interpreted consistently, in accordance with applicable licensing requirements and official guidance.

The evaluator will also recommend and develop supplementary tools or questions to capture project-specific outcomes not fully covered by WEMWBS. These should address climate confidence, climate-related emotions, community connection and belonging, and climate-positive behaviour. They should complement WEMWBS, align with the climate action evaluation below, avoid duplication and minimise participant burden.

Climate action and behaviour change

The evaluator must assess whether CMNI increases participation of under-represented groups in climate action and supports measurable changes in individual and collective climate-positive behaviour, including whether these changes are sustained.

The evaluator should use the **Individual, Social and Material (ISM) framework** to understand what enables or prevents participation and behaviour change across three connected areas:

- Individual: climate understanding, emotions, confidence, practical skills and habits.
- Social: trust, belonging, peer support and participants' involvement in group decisions and activities.
- Material: practical conditions such as transport, accessible venues, equipment, time, funding and access to technology.

The evaluation must identify who the project reaches, whether participants are new to climate action, and how they help shape their group's goals, decisions and activities. It should explore which barriers are reduced, what support makes a difference and what participants need to continue taking action.

The evaluator will agree a common set of indicators across all Climate Action Groups, supplemented by measures tailored to each group's chosen project. Climate action and participation data should be collected at baseline, workshop 4 and workshop 8, with learning captured throughout delivery. Where project-specific actions are agreed after baseline, the evaluator should establish a starting point before those actions begin. Later follow-up, where feasible, should assess whether behaviours and group activities continue.

Evidence should combine accessible participant surveys and conversations with facilitator reflections, participation records, myEARTH engagement data and records of

actions taken. The evaluation must distinguish changes in knowledge, confidence and engagement from evidence of actual behaviour change.

Environmental outcomes and carbon estimates should be included where feasible, using credible methods and clearly stated assumptions and limitations.

Accessibility and flexibility

Participants will include people experiencing mental ill health, intellectual disabilities and addictions. The evaluator must therefore take a flexible, accessible approach tailored to individual communication and support needs.

Methods should include digital and paper-based surveys, supported completion and interviews, as appropriate, while maintaining the integrity of validated measures. Proposals should explain how limitations affecting participation, completion or data comparability will be addressed and reported.

Expected methodology

We expect the evaluation methodology to include:

- Participant surveys at baseline, workshop 4 and workshop 8, with later follow-up where feasible, using WEMWBS, ISM framework and supplementary measures as outlined above.
- Digital tracking through myEARTH, alongside non-digital options where needed, to capture ongoing engagement, reported behaviour change and, where feasible, estimated carbon impacts.
- Focus groups and interviews with participants across the Climate Action Groups.
- A selection of case studies reflecting a range of participant experiences and outcomes, capturing stories of change from all participants.
- Collection and analysis of participation data, including numbers engaged, demographic reach, continued involvement and group sustainability.
- Reflective learning workshops with partners and communities to review findings, improve delivery and inform future activity.

Project Objectives

We expect change to occur across three primary areas:

<u>Participant level:</u>

- Increased awareness of the link between climate action and mental health.
- Improved mental wellbeing, assessed using WEMWBS.
- Improved confidence and skills to take positive action.
- Reduced individual feelings of climate anxiety through supported, collective action.

- Measurable positive behaviour change, assessed using the ISM framework and supplementary measures (e.g., sustainable food choices, reduced waste, increased time in green spaces).

Community level:

- Creation of sustainable community groups focused on climate and wellbeing.
- Greater social connection and reduced isolation among under-represented groups.
- Contributing towards local council community action plans, influencing which actions are prioritised, strengthening trust and empowerment.

System level:

- New models of cross-sector collaboration between climate and mental health organisations.
- Evidence of the benefits of inclusive, lived experience approaches to climate action.
- Shared learning that can influence policy, funding, and practice across the UK.

Additional considerations

The project places mental wellbeing at the heart of climate action. The evaluation should explore how combining environmental and wellbeing activities supports inclusive participation and sustained outcomes, and how community-led co-design contributes to ownership and resilience.

Bidders should explain how they will assess the project's contribution to observed changes, recognise other influences and report the limitations of the evidence. We welcome innovative, proportionate approaches to achieving these goals. For example, we are interested in approaches which might apply Social Return on Investment (SROI) to all or some of the project's impact across participant, community and system level.

Project deliverables

The successful bidder will be required to:

- Develop and deliver an evaluation methodology tailored to CMNI's design and intended outcomes over the three-year project.
- Work closely with Live Here Love Here and Inspire Wellbeing to design the evaluation process and agree responsibilities for data collection, participant support and reporting.
- Develop an evaluation timetable aligned with four groups in Year 1, six in Year 2 and six in Year 3. Ensure baseline tools and arrangements are ready before

participants begin, with subsequent assessments and reporting aligned to group delivery and the two symposiums.

- Use the WEMWBS as the primary wellbeing outcome measure, alongside the ISM framework and supplementary measures of climate confidence, climate-related emotions, community connection and climate-positive behaviour.
- Collect participant data before participation, at the midpoint (workshop 4), and at the end of participation (workshop 8), with later follow-up where feasible.
- Provide flexible, accessible data collection methods tailored to participants' needs, while ensuring WEMWBS is used in accordance with applicable licensing requirements and official guidance.
- Through specifically designed surveys, measure baseline and post-project evaluation data which captures changes for both (1) primary workshop participants and (2) secondary project participants (who access CMNI resources through the myEARTH platform), in particular:

(I) wellbeing
(II) attitudes to climate action
(III) behaviour relating to climate and environmental issues

- Ensure the evaluation incorporates use of the myEARTH platform to measure ongoing engagements, choices made and where feasible, carbon impacts.
- Assess the effectiveness of the communications campaign in supporting the projects aim.
- Conduct focus groups and interviews with participants across the Climate Action Groups and develop a selection of case studies reflecting a range of experiences and outcomes.
- Collect, analyse and present participation data in formats agreed with Live Here Love Here and Inspire, including numbers engaged, demographic reach, continued involvement, group priorities and evidence of group sustainability.
- Consider if Social Return on Investment methodology to express the impact of the project (or components of it).
- Produce reports with clear findings on the project's effectiveness, limitations of the evidence, and recommendations for delivery and future initiatives.
- Participate in reflective learning workshops and the Year 2 symposium and final Year 3 symposium with partners and communities to ensure findings inform ongoing delivery and future activity.

Working with Live Here Love Here and Inspire Wellbeing

The Live Here Love Here CMNI Project Manager will be the evaluator's main point of contact and will coordinate input from LHLH and Inspire Wellbeing

The evaluator will work with the Project Manager, Inspire Wellbeing CMNI Co-ordinator and Facilitators to agree practical, accessible data collection arrangements and review these throughout delivery.

The methodology and all reports will be subject to approval through the Joint Project Management Team and Joint Steering Group, consisting of staff from Live Here Love Here and Inspire Wellbeing.

Available budget

This is a maximum budget of **£30,000, over the three-year cycle of the project** available for this work.

Bidders should provide a work plan and itemised cost breakdown showing how evaluation activities, reporting and attendance at the two symposiums will be delivered across the three project years. Costs should clearly identify VAT and any travel, licensing or other expenses.

3. Evaluation of a tender submission

A tender evaluation panel will consider submitted bids against the following criteria, as outlined in the supplier questionnaire

1	Financial capability	In/out
2	Evaluation design and delivery plan	30%
3	Environmental practices	10%
4	Previous evaluation experience	30%
5	Pricing schedules and value for money	30%

Please note we are not obliged to accept the lowest quote. Pricing schedules will be assessed based on value for money.

Bidders will be shortlisted based on information supplied in their written submission.

Tender responses must be received by **5pm on 30th November 2026**.

Shortlisted bidders will be invited to present their submissions and answer clarification question in person. Interviews are expected to take place on **7th December 2026**.

4. Instructions and submitting a tender

Your submission must address the requirements detailed in **Section 2: Tender Specification** and demonstrate how your proposal meets the scoring criteria in Section 3. Missing or incomplete information may result in your tender being rejected at our discretion.

All submissions must:

- Remain valid for at least 90 days after the submission deadline.
- Be written in English.
- Quote prices in pounds sterling, exclusive of VAT, and include all fees and expenses.

Questions and clarification

Questions and requests for clarification must be submitted by midday on **24th November 2026**.

Questions and responses will be circulated to all registered tenderers. To receive these updates, please register your interest by emailing Fern.Keeney@liveherelovehere.org.

Bidders are responsible for providing a correct email address and checking their emails regularly during the tender period.

Submitting your proposal

Tender responses must be received by **5pm on 30th November 2026**. Late submissions will not be considered.

Please complete the supplier questionnaire and include all required supporting documentation. Send your completed submission to both:

Fern.Keeney@liveherelovehere.org

Steve.McCready@keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org

Receipt of your submission will be confirmed by email. Please follow up if you do not receive confirmation.

Annex 1: CMNI Additional Information

Climate Minds NI will establish 16 Climate Action Groups across Northern Ireland's 11 council areas, with at least one group in each area. Each group will accommodate up to 20 participants. Linking groups with council areas will help connect their activities to local environmental priorities, encourage council support and strengthen the project's legacy.

Each group will take part in eight workshops, beginning with accessible climate awareness training. This will help participants explore environmental issues and make informed choices about their group project and subsequent activities.

The programme will respond to participants' interests, lived experiences and support needs. Participants will choose the environmental wellbeing themes most relevant to them and work with facilitators to agree shared goals and deliver a climate action project. This approach places community voices at the centre of the programme, with participants shaping both the learning and the action they take.

Most participants are expected to use myEARTH to access details of their chosen project, explore supporting resources and sign up for environmental activities. Support and non-digital alternatives will be available where needed to ensure everyone can participate.

Delivery will be phased across the three project years:

- Year 1: Recruit participants and deliver the first four Climate Action Groups between January and June 2027.
- Year 2: Recruit participants and deliver six Climate Action Groups, and host a symposium to share learning and experiences.
- Year 3: Recruit participants and deliver the remaining six Climate Action Groups, and host a final symposium to share findings, celebrate achievements and support the project's legacy.

Evaluation will be embedded throughout the programme, with assessments before participation, at midpoint (workshop 4) and at the final workshop (workshop 8). Later follow-up will take place where feasible, for example during symposiums. The evaluator will work with delivery staff to ensure data collection is accessible, proportionate, and responsive to participants' needs.