

# Making our Move and Walk Derbyshire Evaluation

## Invitation to Quote Expressions of Interest

We are seeking evaluation partner(s) to work with us to scope out and undertake a complex systems evaluation of:

**Making our Move**, our shared vision for Uniting the Movement in Derbyshire and Notts

and

**Walk Derbyshire**, a whole system approach to walking

Closing Date: Sunday 3 July 2022

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26.05.22

Active Partners Trust on behalf of Active Derbyshire and Active Notts is seeking to work with evaluation partner(s) to scope out and undertake a joint complex systems evaluation of both:

- Making our Move, our shared vision for Uniting the Movement in Notts and Derbyshire
- Walk Derbyshire, a whole system approach to walking.

The work and learning of Walk Derbyshire should inform the wider work of Making our Move and ideally, both components of the evaluation will align and be carried out by the same evaluation partner or consortium of partners.

## 1. Introduction to Active Partners Trust

1.1. Active Partners Trust is a single legal entity bringing together the active partnerships in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire through two brands - Active Derbyshire and Active Notts.

Active Derbyshire and Active Notts are committed to working with a wide range of partners to connect, collaborate, influence and help create a culture where everyone can be active.

1.2. Our values and behaviours define us as an organisation - they are who we are and what we stand for. We work hard to ensure that we all live our values day to day and they are embedded in all that we do.

- **Make a Difference.** We seek to positively make a difference through movement, physical activity and sport. We add value through insight and learning, influencing relationships, strengthening our networks and connections and embedding what works well.
- **Integrity.** We will act with integrity in all that we do, being open, honest and trusted. Encouraging this culture with others.
- **Collaborate.** We commit to collaborate, giving time and space to develop relationships, to listen, to reflect and to build shared purpose. We take collective responsibility and learn together to inform our work.
- **Inclusive.** We ensure we are inclusive in everything we do. We are open-minded and equitable, encouraging others to reflect on how they think and act. We are a committed ally to inclusion.
- **Passionate.** We believe in what we do. We are energetic, curious and aspire to think creatively. We are bold in our thinking, not afraid to try new things.

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## 2. Background and Introduction

2.1. Making our Move is our shared vision for [Uniting the Movement](#)\* in Notts and Derbyshire. Together, we will address inequality and empower everyone to be active in a way that works for them. Our shared vision was informed by hundreds of people and organisations in Derbyshire and Notts. It sets out an approach that will help us to focus our efforts and resources on where we can make the biggest difference; empower our communities; and shape action. More information can be found here <https://www.activederbyshire.org.uk/making-our-move>. This short film also outlines the need for this plan and our approach <https://youtu.be/GxFEof4NakE>.

*\* Uniting the Movement, launched by Sport England in January 2021, sets out a 10 year vision to transform lives and communities through sport and physical activity.*

2.2. One of the cross-cutting themes of Making our Move is 'Maximising the potential of Walking'.

We've seen that walking contributes to the vast majority of physical activity - on average, half our time spent being active is walking, whether that is on foot or in a wheelchair. Walking can be available and accessible to everyone, including wheelchair users and people with limited mobility. When accessibility and access is considered, it is an undaunting entry into physical activity and potentially easier for people who are inactive to engage in.

We all approach walking differently. Some of us are functional walkers - walking for work or travel, and some of us walk for pleasure. Given the enormous significance of walking, it's vital that our local environments enable and encourage walking so, across all of our shared aims, we need to incorporate a focus on walking.

2.3. With this in mind, Walk Derbyshire is a distinct countywide approach to increase new opportunities to walk locally every day. It aims to make every day walking the norm for all residents of Derbyshire. Walk Derbyshire will be delivered through a 'whole systems approach' and the objectives are to:

- Develop and facilitate a county wide network of stakeholders across the system with the joint vision of increasing everyday walking for all residents of Derbyshire, and the ability to effect systemic change.
- Develop and facilitate a network of walk champions and advocates within local communities across Derbyshire.

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- Develop and deliver 4 Active Neighbourhood Pilots which will deliver learning and insight into a systems approach to walking at neighbourhood scales within Derbyshire.
- Create and manage a marketing and communications plan which enables and empowers people to walk more on an everyday basis.

2.4. The initial funding proposal for Walk Derbyshire was agreed by Derbyshire County Council Cabinet members on the basis of:

- Walk Derbyshire being a 'needs led' area of work that will significantly increase the opportunities for residents of Derbyshire to walk more.
- Provide significant investment across the walking system that will create a sustainable approach to promoting walking. This will continue beyond the life of the project.
- The 4 Active Neighbourhood Pilots will inform future direction and priorities for further roll out.

2.5. The Active Neighbourhood Pilots will create better linked up and signed neighbourhoods to make it easier to walk for enjoyment or travel. They will do this by:

- Linking with a range of partners across the system to engage the community and develop a network of signed and safe walking routes activated by the public sector, voluntary and community sector and the private sector.
- Creating neighbourhood level stakeholder forums to develop a shared vision and action for adopting systems walking within the footprint of the pilot.

### 3. Evaluation Aims and Approach

3.1. We are looking for an evaluation to help the system understand what is working and what isn't working in regard to the overall vision and aims in the Making our Move plan. It's envisaged this will involve the creation of regular and iterative feedback mechanisms that allow learning to be regularly captured and shared in a way that will inform future action.

3.2. The Making our Move plan outlines a shared approach that will be required to create the change we want to see. We expect the aim of the evaluation to provide a deep understanding of our shared approaches and how this impacts on our vision and aims. Our shared approaches are:

- Growing our insight and understanding of people and communities by working closely with lived experience and listening carefully to resident voices

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- Supporting and developing people who can lead and influence others to move more.
- Working collaboratively across and between partners and sectors.
- Focusing on learning and adapting, understanding what works as well as what doesn't and applying it to our work on an ongoing basis.
- Advocating for and influencing policy and practice.
- Targeting and aligning investment to where it's most needed.

### 3.3. Making our Move

There are lots of component parts and areas of work within Making Our Move and it's envisaged that we will co-produce an evaluation approach and collectively decide where to focus across the 5 shared aims and cross-cutting themes in the plan.

Over the 5 year evaluation period, consideration will need to be given to key areas of work as they arise, for example the Together Fund, where there is significant funding to address physical activity inequalities. It's also anticipated the evaluation may focus on specific places/localities.

### 3.4. Walk Derbyshire

In addition to the above, which will incorporate walking, we would like a bespoke and in-depth evaluation of Walk Derbyshire throughout the first 3 years. This will include:

- An independent assessment of the collective impact made on the aims of Walk Derbyshire (stated above 2.3, 2.4)
- A deep dive evaluation of four active neighbourhood pilots.
- An independent assessment of the changes observed in the ways of working across system partners

3.5. Across both elements of the evaluations, where it exists, we will be looking for evidence of system change and the associated challenges and conditions and an independent assessment of the impact made by Active Partners Trust in the work.

3.6. We are flexible to the kind of evaluation partner(s) we engage but feel the following approach and requirements will be important for the success of this joint evaluation:

- A collaborative approach to co-produce an evaluation framework that recognises the multi-disciplinary and complex nature of this work. This may

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include identifying and working with other evaluation partners who provide expertise in different aspects of complex systems evaluation.

- An iterative approach that aids our insight and understanding, informs actions and decisions and contributes to shared learning as we go.
- Expertise and experience of complex systems evaluation to help clarify and agree the questions we want to ask and what we want to understand in evaluating Making our Move and Walk Derbyshire.
- Knowledge of Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire systems that support people to move, or a demonstration of how knowledge and connections will be built.
- Outputs and reports will need to be communicable to a wide ranging audience

#### 4. Management

4.1. The contract will be with Active Partners Trust.

4.2. The overall Making our Move evaluation will provide updates to different steering groups and forums as required, and be accountable to the Active Partners Trust Board.

4.3. The specific Walk Derbyshire component will report to the Walk Derbyshire steering group, who will provide oversight of the evaluation and responsibility for sign off evaluation scope and framework. Steering group members will be responsible for reviewing the content of any reports prior to publication. This work will also be accountable to the Active partners Trust Board.

#### 5. Budget and timescales

5.1. The evaluation of Making Our Move will not exceed £145,000 (including VAT And expenses) over a 5 year period lasting from the appointment of an evaluation partner until 31 March 2027.

5.2. The evaluation of the Walk Derbyshire programme shall not exceed £60,000 (including VAT and expenses) over a 3 year period lasting from the appointment of an evaluation partner until 31 March 2025.

#### 6. Tender process and submission

6.1. Active Partners Trust understands the complexity involved in evaluating a whole systems approach. Based on the above information we are seeking submissions from evaluation partners to work collaboratively to co-produce the evaluation scope during the initial phase of the funding.

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- 6.2. To achieve such an ambitious remit, it is essential that we capture and share learning in a way that helps shape the emerging programme.
- 6.3. Specifically, we want to attract an evaluator or evaluation team that has experience in the areas such as behaviour change theory, complex systems evaluation, ethnography and social return on investment. We would like to attract an evaluator that understands and is excited by this scope, who is focused on learning as well as evaluation and can work flexibly and iteratively.
- 6.4. We encourage collaborative submissions which can provide a multi-disciplinary approach and represent expertise from the above. However, we also recognise the value of developing this scope and focus as we go.

#### Response to this invitation to quote and further information:

Interested parties should provide a response to the following questions:

1. What expertise and experience do you have of complex systems evaluation? (500 words)
2. How might you approach undertaking a complex systems evaluation of Making our Move and Walk Derbyshire, thinking about our shared approach (stated above 3.2)? As part of this, please provide an indication of resource and capacity allocation (1000 words)
3. How have you worked collaboratively with other research partners and stakeholders to fulfil previous evaluations? (300 words)
4. Is your expression of interest part of a consortium bid? (Y/N).
5. Any other information in support of your expression of interest?

Expressions of interest will be assessed based on experience, approach, capacity and value for money.

Please submit your expression of interest to [info@activepartnerstrust.org.uk](mailto:info@activepartnerstrust.org.uk) by 11.59pm on **3 July 2022**.

Shortlisting will take place on 5 July and **first stage interviews** are planned for **12 and 14 July**.

If you'd like to discuss this opportunity or have an informal enquiry, please contact [craig.homer@activepartnerstrust.org.uk](mailto:craig.homer@activepartnerstrust.org.uk)

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