



External Evaluator: Choir with No Name Coventry

March 2024

The Choir with No Name Coventry is generously funded by Global Make Some Noise

Invitation to Tender

The Choir with No Name Coventry External Evaluation

Introduction

The Choir with No Name runs choirs and builds joyful singing communities with homeless and marginalised people, around the UK. Currently, there are six choirs: in Birmingham, Liverpool, London, Coventry, Brighton (run in partnership with BHT Sussex) and Cardiff (run in partnership with The Wallich).

How it works...

We were founded on the premise that singing makes you feel good; it distracts you from all the nonsense in life and helps you to build confidence, skills and genuine, long-lasting friendships. Our choir members are people who have experienced homelessness, or who are simply going through a tough time in their lives. We aim to help members to build their confidence and skills, and make genuine lifelong friendships, so that they are in a better position to tackle the other challenges in their lives and move away from homelessness in the long-term.

What we do...

What we do is simple: our choirs meet once a week for a cuppa and a catch up, we then sing our hearts out for an hour and half and sit down together afterwards for a hot meal cooked by volunteers. We perform regularly at a whole load of different places, including local homeless hostels, community festivals and world class venues such as the Royal Festival Hall and Brighton Dome. Our choirs are a supportive, safe space for people going through a tough time to be among friends, where they can experience the joy of singing together, have fun, build confidence and skills, and feel more able to tackle life's other challenges, such as securing housing or finding work.

Commissioning Organisation: The Choir with No Name

Project Duration: The Coventry choir began in April 2022 and is ongoing

Contract Term: May – August 2024

Contract Value: £2,000

Location: Coventry

Contract Type: Self-employed contractor, engaged on a 'contract for services' basis

Evaluation Overview

The Choir with No Name is looking to work with an External Evaluator to provide an in-depth analysis of our Choir with No Name Coventry project.

We want the evaluation to:

- Understand the experience of participating in a Choir with No Name project without ‘traditional’ volunteers, co-created and with a mixed community model.
- Compare the Coventry project to one of our other choirs, potentially Birmingham or Liverpool.
- Evidence the direct and indirect benefits of participating in the Choir with No Name.
- Inform future project development within the Choir with No Name, including the replicability of the Coventry Choir in other cities.
- Strengthen our chances of securing future funding, as well as attracting new partners.

About The Choir with No Name in Coventry

The Choir with No Name Coventry began in April 2022 following an initial project in partnership with Cardboard Citizens and Coventry City of Culture. It is funded throughout 2024/25 by Global Make Some Noise. It is the Choir with No Name’s first co-produced choir without ‘traditional’ volunteers and with a mixed community approach. We intend to use our experiences in Coventry to inform the development of new choirs in Sheffield and another location in the West Midlands.

Envisaged outcomes from the project would be that people impacted by homelessness in Coventry would:

- Improve overall wellbeing.
- Increase connectivity and reduced feelings of isolation.
- Develop musical and life skills.
- Make and sustain positive changes.

Our current Theory of Change is available, although it should be noted that this is in development and this evaluation will inform this development.

The essential outputs will be;

As a minimum, we expect the External Evaluator to meet the following deliverables:

- To establish a robust evaluation framework by the end of May 2024.
- To undertake and complete overall evaluation and project reports available by the end of August 2024.

We expect the Evaluator to share findings with the CEO and Head of Programmes and to keep them abreast of any developments.

For each evaluation we would expect as a minimum:

- Analysis of project outcomes data.
- The use of other relevant creative approaches to gathering feedback with choir members
- The delivery of focus groups and one-to-one interviews with the following groups:
 - Choir members
 - Choir director
 - Choir facilitator

Submission Outline

Email us a submission of no more than 2 sides of A4 (excluding any examples of past work) to kate@choirwithnoname.org

Tell us about:

- Your interest in this particular piece of work.
- Your track record.
- How you propose to meet this brief.
- Your proposed processes and methodology for information gathering and analysis.
- Who you would involve and how you would ensure high stakeholder engagement.
- Any other relevant information.

Please also enclose examples of past work as well as the names of two referees. These should be current or recent clients for whom similar evaluations were carried out.

Key Dates

Deadline for submissions	Monday 15 th April 2024 – 5.00pm
Interviews for shortlisted candidates	Friday 19 th April 2024

Contact Details

If you would like additional information or have any questions, please contact Kate Wareham, CEO via email: kate@choirwithnoname.org

Data Protection

Please note that you will be expected to work within the Choir with No Name's Policies, including our Data Protection Policy and Confidentiality Policy. Any data you collect as part of this evaluation work will be owned by the Choir with No Name.

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