

# **POLICY RESEARCH: MAPPING BELFAST INTERFACE CONNECTION**

## **Invitation to tender for Belfast Conflict Resolution Consortium research project on the connection of interface communities to the city.**

### **1. Instructions for tendering**

This brief invites researchers to tender for a contract to carry out a research project for Belfast Conflict Resolution Consortium that will critically examine the connection of inner city interface communities to the city and analyse the implications for shared space in the city.

Contractors should submit their tenders by email or hard copy to the address below demonstrating how they would meet the requirements.

Belfast Conflict Resolution Consortium, c/o Falls Community Council, 275 – 277 Falls Road Belfast BT12 6FD Email: [Claire.hackett@bcrc.eu](mailto:Claire.hackett@bcrc.eu)

The submission deadline for this tender is Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November at 5.00pm.

Questions regarding particular aspects of the tender should be directed to: Claire Hackett Email: [Claire.hackett@bcrc.eu](mailto:Claire.hackett@bcrc.eu) Tel. 90202030

After the appointment of the successful contractor, the contract will start on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2010. The contract duration will cover the delivery of the research including analysis and reports.

BCRC reserves the right to clarify with any or all contractors any aspects arising from this Invitation to Tender after the tender submissions have been received.

### **2. Project purpose**

The purpose of this research is to analyse the relationship between inner city working-class areas and the rest of the Belfast and in particular the city centre. The research will map the changes in such areas over time in terms of connection to the city and city centre and defining characteristics. The research will consider the extent to which public policies over a number of decades have shaped interface communities. The research will investigate the spatial connections of interface areas to the city and city centre and assess how planning, development and policy decisions have contributed to connection or disconnection.

The objectives of the research are:

- To map the major changes in inner city working class communities over time in terms of population, housing, transport, roads and connection.
- To assess the impact of public policies on the connectivity and characteristics of interface communities.
- To make recommendations for public policies that would assist the integration of interface communities within the city.

### **3. Context**

The Belfast Conflict Resolution Consortium was set up in April 2007 to create a citywide approach to resolving conflict at interfaces. It is grounded in the experience of grassroots republican and loyalist practitioners who, for many years, have been working at the interfaces to prevent, control and manage violent outbreaks. BCRC aims to create networks to develop good practice and builds alliances around shared problems to develop a joint strategy to tackle social and economic issues for residents at interfaces.

With Falls Community Council as the lead partner BCRC has successfully applied for Peace 3 funding to deliver a peacebuilding programme until December 2011. The other partners are Epic, Charter and Intercomm. The partner organisations along with the constituent groups are represented in a steering group that provides strategic direction to BCRC.

The majority of interface areas in Belfast are working-class communities. BCRC works from the premise that although the communities have different political identities in relation to the conflict they share socio economic disadvantage and marginalisation. In lobbying for the regeneration of interface communities BCRC wants to bring a broader public policy focus to concepts such as integration and shared space.

### **4. Methodology**

The methodology for the research will be mostly desk research using maps, census data, planning polices etc. The research could include interviews with policy makers and policy analysers from different sectors.

Contractors are invited to propose other research methodologies that could contribute to the research project.

### **5. Timescale**

A presentation of emerging findings is to be made on or before Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2011

The research is to be completed by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2010.

Contractors are asked to submit a project schedule with key stages identified.

### **6. Budget**

The budget for this research is £7000.

A payment of £3500 will be paid at the first presentation of emerging findings and the remaining £3500 will be paid on completion and submission of the final report.

### **7. Data and output ownership**

Copyright for the research findings will rest with Belfast Conflict Resolution Consortium.

## 8. Project management

There will be a steering group for the project which will meet three times with the appointed researcher to provide context, make suggestions for avenues of enquiry and give feedback on emerging findings.

Day to day management will be provided through BCRC staff and in particular Joe Marley (manager) Claire Hackett (development worker) and Jessica Blomkvist (administrator).

## 9. Tender response/submission

The tender document should contain the following information:

- How the researcher would approach this job (all tasks including proposed timescale and methodology with justifications).
- Details on personnel working on the project with each team member's experience on CV and the time they would assign to each element of the work including their daily rate.
- Budget indicating the cost of each component of the project. Please state whether costs include VAT.
- Examples of similar or previous work.
- Submissions may propose any additional areas considered as important to the success of the project that we have not considered but in the researchers' experience would enhance the final product.

## 10. How the tender will be evaluated

Each submission will be scored by a panel and awarded a mark based on the following criteria:

	<i>Weighting</i>
<i>Financial</i>	
Contract price and value for money	25%
<i>Technical</i>	
Understanding of the requirements detailed in the specification	10%
Proposed methodology and approach to data gathering	30%
Previous relevant projects	15%
<i>Organisational</i>	
Professional competence and expertise of personnel working on the research project.	20%
Clarity of tender submission	5%

BCRC is not bound to select the lowest scoring submission.  
BCRC is not bound to select any submission.