

Exploring a Better Futures Fund Round 2 opportunity

What is the Better Futures Fund?

The [Better Futures Fund](#) (BFF) is a £500 million commitment from the UK Government to support improved outcomes for children, young people and families over the next 10 years, through the development of Social Outcomes Partnerships (SOPs).

By contributing up to 50% of the outcomes payments for selected SOPs, the fund is designed to help local areas:

- Strengthen effective services;
- Attract additional investment; and
- Create more place-based, sustainable funding models centred on meaningful, measurable outcomes.

How will the funding rounds work?

Round 1

[Round 1 launched in September 2026](#) and will commit up to £37 million of central funding to a small number of demonstrator, or “pathfinder”, projects with previous experience of delivering SOPs. These projects are also expected to support peer learning and share best practice with potential Round 2 projects.

Round 2

Round 2 is expected to launch in summer 2027, with multiple opportunities to deploy the remaining funding up to March 2036. The round is expected to be open to a wider range of services and organisations, with a particular focus on place-based opportunities. Round 2 may be relevant for partners looking to:

- Develop an existing support programme into a Social Outcomes Partnership;
- Bring commissioners, providers, VCSE organisations and other local partners together around a shared priority;
- Scale an effective service or strengthen its long-term financial sustainability; or
- Create a new outcomes-focused model for children, young people and families.

How can BOP support?

Bridges Outcomes Partnerships (BOP) is a not-for-profit organisation specialising in the design and delivery of Social Outcomes Partnerships. We have supported more than 100 outcomes-based partnerships and contracts globally and have extensive experience helping commissioners and VCSE delivery organisations to develop highly impactful, outcomes-focused services.



BOP can work collaboratively with local stakeholders to explore whether an existing service or local priority could be suitable for an outcomes partnership and align with the Better Futures Fund. This could include:

- Clarifying the local challenge, target population and desired outcomes;
- Bringing together commissioners, practitioners, delivery organisations and people with lived experience;
- Exploring the evidence base, delivery model, outcomes framework and funding requirements;
- Considering how additional outcomes funding could strengthen delivery, improve outcomes and support a sustainable long-term model; and
- Co-designing a robust Social Outcomes Partnership and preparing for a future BFF application.

💡 Potential priority areas could include school attendance, youth mental health, youth employment and family wellbeing, alongside other locally identified needs relevant to children, young people and families.

Next step

To speak to BOP about exploring an opportunity for Better Futures Fund Round 2, please complete one of the forms below:

[Commissioner Expression of Interest form](#)

[VCSE organisation Expression of Interest form](#)

Once we receive your response, a member of the BOP team will contact you to arrange an initial conversation about the local opportunity, potential partners and possible next steps.

