

## **Call for Market Soundings for Phase 2 of 'Growing Up in Ireland' – the National Longitudinal Study of Children - 2014 to 2019.**

The Department of Children and Youth Affairs (DCYA) plan to procure data collection and research services for the conduct of the next phase of 'Growing Up in Ireland' the National Longitudinal Study of Children between 2014 and 2019.

The DCYA wish to conduct market soundings with service providers in order to get a clear understanding of available services and capabilities in this market.

### **Background and Context:**

Phase 1 of the 'Growing Up in Ireland', the National Longitudinal Study of Children commenced in 2006. The study monitors the development of a (nationally representative) sample of almost 20,000 children - an infant cohort of approximately 11,100 children (recruited at aged nine months) and a child cohort of 8,750 children (recruited at aged nine years). 'Growing Up in Ireland' is a child development study, with data collections spanning a number of domains; these include health and physical development, cognitive and educational outcomes, and social and emotional behaviour and development.

The first phase of the Study, which will conclude at the end of 2014, involved three waves of data collection of the infant cohort (at age 9 months, 3 years and 5 years) and two waves of data collection of the child cohort (at age 9 years and 13 years). The first phase of the Study also included instrumentation development, specified technical reports relating to the fieldwork and research reports based on the analysis of the data.

The next phase of 'Growing Up in Ireland' will involve the continuation of the study beyond 2014 probably to 2019. The DCYA is considering a number of options to address the requirements for this second phase of the study and will discuss such options at the market soundings meetings. The DCYA is particularly interested in gaining a clearer understanding of the market's capability and capacity to deliver the next phase of the study.

### **Market Sounding Exercise:**

Potential Services Providers are requested to register their interest by email with **Dr. Claire Finn to [Claire.Finn@dcya.gov.ie](mailto:Claire.Finn@dcya.gov.ie)**, by **17.00 on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2014**. Service providers may provide a 3-4 page outline of their service background, capabilities and capacity in respect of these services along with their registration if they wish. It is intended that the Market Soundings exercise will be carried out with all registered parties in the week commencing 28<sup>th</sup> July 2014. It is our intention to meet potential service providers in face-to-face meetings on Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> July 2014 in the Department of Children and Youth Affairs, 43-49 Mespil Road, Dublin 4 (or by conducting phone interviews on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> of July 2014).

### **Areas for possible discussion/presentation are:**

- **Service provider capacity and capabilities, including specialties, in this market**

The DCYA will issue a briefing note following the market soundings exercise, to all registered potential service providers to ensure transparency. This briefing note will also be included in the tender documentation for those who do not request a meeting at this stage.

The Department of Children and Youth Affairs intends to conduct the procurement process in accordance with the Open Procedure, as described in the Procurement Regulations 2006.