

NATIONAL DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT RESEARCH FUND

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

Targeted Grant Round

2014-15

Request for Grant Application

Determining the cost of alcohol to law enforcement – Targeted Grant Round

1 Introduction

The National Drug Law Enforcement Research Fund (NDLERF) promotes quality evidence-based practice in drug law enforcement to prevent and reduce the harmful effects of licit and illicit drug use and alcohol in Australian society. A key aim of NDLERF is to promote collaboration between the Law Enforcement Sector and Researchers.

This research is being requested by the NDLERF in conjunction with the Victorian Police (VICPOL) through a targeted grant round in order to improve understanding of the range of alcohol related activities involved in the management of alcohol, and their related costs.

2 The Opportunity

This is an opportunity for experienced researchers to design and implement a methodology to identify the range of activities law enforcement have in place to manage alcohol and its related harms within Victoria, and further to provide cost estimations for each of these activities, separately and in total.

This research also provides an opportunity to undertake cost-benefit analysis of these activities and provide recommendations based on these.

The findings of this research will contribute to future planning, monitoring, and evaluation of alcohol management strategies VICPOL, as well as inform future policy and practices discussions nationwide.

About this Invitation

3 Details

Invitation details	
Title	Determining the cost of alcohol to law enforcement
Reference number	NDLERF 2014/15-02

4 Organisation Details

Organisation details	
Issuing Organisation name	Australian Institute of Criminology
Issuing Organisation address	NDLERF Secretariat, 74 Leichhardt Street Griffith, ACT, 2603

5 Responsible Officer

Organisation's Responsible Officer	
Name	Katalina Bradley
Position title	NDLERF Secretariat
Business unit	Australian Institute of Criminology
Email address	ndlerf@aic.gov.au
Telephone number	(02) 6260 9216

6 Closing Time

Closing time	
Closing time and date	An electronic copy of the final submission should be lodged to the email address above and should be received no later than <u>5pm on 16 June 2015.</u>

7 Indicative Timetable

This timetable is an indication of the timing of the invitation process and may be changed by the organisation in accordance with Part B – Conditions of Participation.

Indicative timetable	
Invitation issued	16 May 2015
Closing Time	5pm 16 June 2015
Intended completion of evaluation of offers	23 June 2015
Intended formal notification of successful Offerer(s)	24 June 2015
Intended execution of contract(s)	End June 2015
Intended contract commencement date	End June/ Early July 2015
Intended contract completion date	End May 2016

8 Grant Application Evaluation Criteria

In evaluating offers, NDLERF will consider:

- specific evaluation criteria identified in the list below including the mandatory requirement
- the overall value for money proposition presented in the offer; and
- the weighting assigned to the criteria in the table below.

Mandatory criterion	Complies
Compliance with conditions of contract	Yes / No

The following Technical and Operational, and Commercial/legal evaluation criteria apply to this evaluation. Value for money will be assessed based on a combination of the offerer's total (technical and operational) score, price and risk.

Number	Evaluation criteria
1.1	<p>Capability – knowledge and experience relevant to this evaluation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ successful completion of similar or relevant large scale research projects; ◆ knowledge and experience of alcohol research preferably within the context of law enforcement; ◆ experience of undertaking economic analysis; ◆ data collection and analysis; and ◆ public policy development and implementation. <p>Weighting: 40%</p>
1.3	<p>Methodology and project management approach:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ capacity of the methodology proposed to meet the project specification requirements within the required timeframe. <p>Weighting: 35%</p>
1.2	<p>Resources, staff and experience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ staff and resources allocated to this evaluation and their experience; ◆ organisational infrastructure and support; and ◆ provision of two referees <p>Weighting: 25%</p>
The following criteria are assessed but not weighted and scored	
2.1	Financial viability
2.2	Risk and insurance provision
2.3	Conflict of interest
2.4	Budget/costings

9 Purpose of Research

The project responds to a recognised lack of research relating to the resourcing and cost of policing alcohol-related matters. It will provide data that will improve the evidence-base relating to the cost of alcohol and, more specifically, the cost to law enforcement. This research will therefore provide a much needed evidence-base that will be of value to any economic or resourcing estimation, cost-effectiveness or cost-benefit analysis or evaluation relating to the cost of policing alcohol. This project will improve VICPOL understanding of the extent of activities relating to the policing of alcohol and, by extension, will provide data on the resourcing and cost of such activities, which will be of significant value to any estimation of the cost of alcohol to society, government or law enforcement, regardless of jurisdiction.

The project will deliver:

- The identification of the activities that are directly and indirectly related to the policing of alcohol;
- An estimated cost of alcohol-related policing activities and, as a subset of these, what is the cost of policing activities directly attributable to alcohol; and
- A standardised set of indicators can be used to estimate the cost of policing alcohol for other police jurisdictions.

10 Scope of Research

Research into the range and cost of police efforts to manage alcohol is the focus of this invitation for grant applications. Researchers are also encouraged to conduct a cost-benefit analysis of these various activities and provide recommendations for improving cost effectiveness based on this.

The successful team will be required to collect and analyse qualitative and quantitative data using a range of information systems and will be expected to collaborate with the VICPOL amongst other relevant identified stakeholders.

It is planned that this research will consist of four key components; a literature review; identification of key activities surrounding law enforcement's management of alcohol related crime; development of a costings model for each of the activities; and development of recommendations for improving cost effectiveness. These may be achieved through a range of methodological approaches, but will likely include analysis of police crime statistics and consultations with relevant police personnel including representatives from:

- policing divisions;
- road policing;
- the Razon taskforce;
- the Family Violence Unit; and
- liquor licensing and divisional licensing units.

11 Research Outputs and Reporting Requirements

The successful offerers will also be required to analyse their findings and regularly report on that analysis with recommendations for action where appropriate. The evaluation has a total timeframe of up to months – from end of May 2015 to July 2016.

The following products are required:

- A literature review which sets out current knowledge and theories on policing alcohol (specifically in a Victorian context). This should include:
 - i. a review of trends as well as the current challenges of policing alcohol;
 - ii. identified contemporary practices and policies as well as internal and external influences on these; and
 - iii. any evidence on the effectiveness of these practices and policies.
- A cost assessment of these practices and policies.
- A cost benefit analysis comparing effectiveness of policies and practices against their associated costs.
- Evidence based recommendations to improve cost effectiveness of practices and policies.
- interim reports provided at project milestones estimated to be:
 - iv. December 2015 - interim progress report
 - v. End of May 2016 - submission of the draft report & short summary paper (approximately 4,000 words)
 - vi. End June 2016 – acceptance of the final report & short paper for publication
 - vii. July 2016 – project completion

Please note that the shorter summary report will be published under the Australian Institute of Criminology's Trends and Issues series which is subject to peer review prior to final endorsement.

12 NDLERF Arrangements to Support the Project

NDLERF will convene a Project Reference Group (PRG) comprising representatives from the NDLERF Board including the NDLERF Research Officer (a Senior Research Analyst within the AIC) and other sector representatives as appropriate. The Group will include those with policing and alcohol policy, program, and contract management knowledge and responsibilities.

The PRG will be the point of reference for, and monitoring of, the research project and will meet at intervals that coincide with the evaluation milestones and the appointed research team's reporting schedule. The PRG will also be the forum to address and resolve any research issues arising.

VICPOL will ensure access to relevant data and personnel for consultations as required by the proposed methodology can occur in efficient and effective ways that minimise disruptions. Offerers should note that normal security requirements for entering police settings apply and the selected evaluators and any sub-contractors may be required to demonstrate satisfactory police and background checks prior to any police site visits.

Offerers should also note that the selected researchers will be responsible for obtaining the required ethical clearances from their relevant ethical committee for approval of their proposed approach. Ethical clearances must be in place prior to the contract being executed, therefore, it may be prudent to organise ethical clearance as soon as possible.

The PRG will:

- facilitate access to all sites covered by this research;
- streamline access to data and other information required for the research (where applicable);
- assist evaluators to make contact with key informants for this research; and
- be the forum for trouble-shooting any issues arising.

13 Project Management

The NDLERF Board of Management (which includes representatives from VICPOL) will provide overall project management for this research, with direct project management being provided by the NDLERF Secretariat and Research Officer from the Australian Institute of Criminology.