

Project Controls Expo UK - 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Emirates Arsenal Stadium, London

## Youth Endowment Fund



Lynne Abrams & Andrew Ratcliffe

Deputy Director, Home Office & CEO, Impetus

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# About the Speaker

## Lynne Abrams

Deputy Director, Home Office Crime  
Directorate

Lynne Abrams joined the Home Office in July 2019 and is currently Head of the Serious Violence Priority Projects Unit. Prior to that role she was Head of the London Violence Reduction Unit. She previously worked in the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) in a number of policy and strategy roles, including as Head of Business, and Head of Services and Commissioning.

## Andrew Ratcliffe

Chief Executive Officer, Impetus

Andy joined Impetus as Chief Executive in 2016. His career has focused on two issues: tackling poverty and educational disadvantage; and making government work better. He previously worked as Deputy Chief Executive of the Africa Governance Initiative and Senior Policy Adviser for Education in the Prime Minister's Strategy Unit.

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# Youth Endowment Fund – Home Office development

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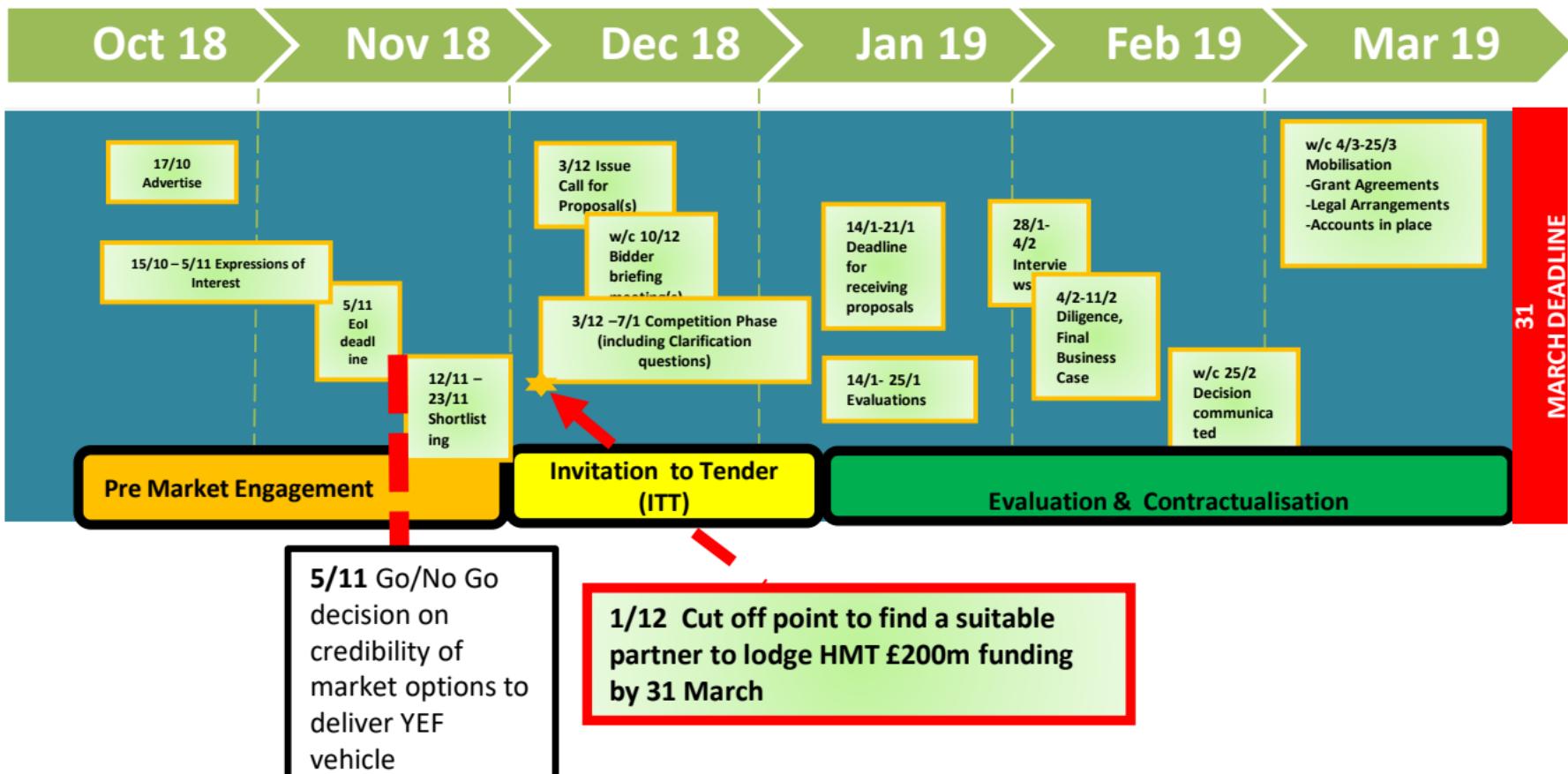
## Youth Endowment Fund – development

- October, the (then) Home Secretary announced the creation of a £200m Youth Endowment Fund (YEF), to operate over a 10-year period;
- On 24 March, the Home Secretary announced that the charity Impetus, working in partnership with the Early Intervention Foundation and Social Investment Business, had successfully bid to run the YEF.
- The YEF will focus on targeted early intervention with those children and young people most vulnerable to involvement in serious violence; primarily aged 10-14;
- Developing a strong evidence base the YEF aims to identify the most promising interventions and work with them to robustly test and evaluate them, applying the highest level of evaluation to each of the interventions it funds;
- Become a ‘Centre of Expertise’ to disseminate & promote new knowledge & practice to transform local & national responses;

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# Youth Endowment Fund timeline



## Youth Endowment Fund – lessons learned

- Regular communications to inform stakeholders across Whitehall to help garner timely support for example, weekly reporting
- Dedicated Board governance to facilitate cross-functional engagement and strong directive leadership
- Cross-government consultation to receive advice on best practice, maintain quality and give project assurance while ensuring that all requirements for the project are foreseen and planned for, for example a pre-mortem workshop with Cabinet Office to obtain experienced advice and identify key project risks to be mitigated;
- Independent review of all key documentation to ensure probity of all commercial activities throughout the project

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# Youth Endowment Fund – What we've done

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## Since April 2019, we've...

Set up our **governance** structures and committees

Appointed our Director and Independent Chair and hired a **team** to run the fund

Developed our **brand** and website

Launched our first **grant** rounds

Awarded our first grants and set up their **evaluations**

Met with over 100 **stakeholders** and spoken at conferences and events

Begun our **evidence** review

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# **Our first grant round**

**Open call, launched June 2019.**

**Applicants were required to:**

- o primarily target young people aged 10-14 years old
- o be operating in England and/or Wales
- o be working to prevent young people's involvement in serious crime
- o have a clear theory of change explaining how their intervention achieves this
- o be willing to be independently evaluated
- o be willing to share learning to benefit others in the sector
- o be planning to deliver their intervention for at least 12 months
- o have the capacity to absorb the funding quickly
- o have experience of working with young people

**In October, we committed £16.2m over the next two years to fund and evaluate 22 projects reaching over 30,000 children across England and Wales**

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# What makes the YEF project interesting

It's a **world first** – a decade long investment in learning what works to prevent children growing up into a life of crime

Combining **clarity of purpose with flexibility of execution** - Although the purpose and business case are very clear, there will inevitably be a need to learn and make changes over the life of the fund

Combining **short term urgency and long term strategy** – youth violence is one of the highest profile challenges facing the country and we want to move quickly to tackle it but prevention and evidence-generation are inherently long term

Combining **independence and partnership** – we need to act independently as a charity and to maintain credibility for the evidence we produce while working in partnership with government on our shared goal of reducing youth violence

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