

**Request for Proposal: Occupational Therapy in 2021/2 and beyond: responding to the impact of COVID19**

*Funded through the Elizabeth Casson Trust Innovation Award  
(Issued 21 May 2021)*

1. Introduction and Purpose

The U.K. has been managing the COVID-19 pandemic for almost 18 months and during this time health and social care services have been stretched to new limits. However, as the number of new cases trends down, different needs are becoming evident. Some individuals are experiencing long-COVID requiring rehabilitation and vocational rehabilitation; other non-COVID-19 services are experiencing overwhelming demand created by the redirection of resources and the pausing of services during the early response in the pandemic. To address these growing needs as effectively and efficiently as possible, the Trust recognises that current services may need to be refocused, rebalanced or redesigned. The Elizabeth Casson Trust would like to support the profession with this work and is making available a number of grants for this purpose across all areas of practice in health and social care.

2. What's Available

The Elizabeth Casson Trust is offering **up to £10,000 per project** for initiatives to address:

- the development of rehabilitation pathways and services that assist individuals with long-COVID to return as quickly as possible to their preferred level of activities
- return to work/ vocational services specifically for individuals with long-COVID
- the development of integrated work arrangements or new service models to make full use of resources across health and social care to assist in meeting pent-up demand

The Trust is keen to support a number of initiatives so value for money as well as quality of application is an important consideration. We will also give preferential weighting to proposals that include a strategy/ plan to progress with an application to local commissioners following completion of the Trust funded project.

3. Proposals

We would like to run an expedient and streamlined application process so please adopt the following headings for your proposal:

- i. Project title
- ii. Name of lead organisation, individual and contact details; any partner organisations
- iii. Project aim/ intent: state the aim/ intent of your project and situate this in the wider context of your service/ locality/ other (as appropriate). Be clear as to the benefit and potential impact of your project
- iv. Method: clearly state the activities/ stages required to deliver your project (bullets acceptable)
- v. Evaluation: indicate how you will evaluate the effectiveness and impact of your project
- vi. Future plans (optional): if you intend to submit a proposal to your commissioners following evaluation of this project, please provide an outline of your plan and the name of your commissioners
- vii. Dissemination plans: summarise how any learning from the project can be made available to the wider occupational therapy community
- viii. Timescales: provide a milestone chart against the activities/ stages noted above (iv)
- ix. Budget: state the amount you are requesting and provide a breakdown of costs (staff costs can be included, overhead costs are not eligible). Up to £15,000 may be available for exceptional projects however inputs and costs must be justified

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- x. Capacity: provide a confirmation from your line manager/ institution that the project timeframes can be met, and the application is supported (email confirmation is acceptable)
- xi. Capability: provide a CV for the project lead and/ or key individuals that shows experience of similar work and/ or demonstrates the skills and experience required to undertake the project

4. Submission

Please submit your proposal using the headings in the section 3, above, to structure your document no later than **9 July 2021** to Pam Anderson at [secretary@elizabethcasson.org.uk](mailto:secretary@elizabethcasson.org.uk) and cc Suzanne at [admin@elizabethcasson.org.uk](mailto:admin@elizabethcasson.org.uk). If you have enquiries, please email Pam.

5. Award

Applicants will be notified no later than 13 August 2021, with funds available following signed agreement.