

## Invitation to a Workshop to Prioritise Research Topics About Charities and Philanthropy:

### *Tell us what you think researchers should prioritise finding out*

Charities and donors work best when their activities are informed by sound research. Hence there is increasing amounts of research about charities and donors.

We want to give charities and donors a louder voice in determining what research gets done. ***We are finding the 10 topics which charities and donors think are top priority for additional research.*** We will share that list with researchers and research funders, and one of us, Charity Futures, is working on setting up a new academic centre about charities and giving into which that list will feed.

**Come and give your views! In a workshop in Manchester (a snazzy venue!) on Monday, April 8th, 10am-4:30pm.**

Last year, we asked charities and donors to tell us the questions they wanted research to answer: we received over 50 questions. We then ran a second survey which asked people to choose the questions from that list that are most important to them.

#### **What is the workshop for?**

***The aim of the workshop is to decide the final top 10 questions for research into charities and giving.*** We hope that this will prompt researchers to answer those answers which matter most to donors and charities.



#### **Who are we looking for?**

We need people for the workshop who are prepared to share their experiences and opinions, and listen to other people's views, in a series of group discussions.

We are recruiting 25 people who are donors as individuals, or work in funding organisations (of any type) or work in charities or social enterprises. They can be in any sector and any part of the UK.

Together, you will be helping us to make decisions about the top 10 research questions you think should be prioritised.

#### **How this works**

If you are interested, please send us the information requested on page 3 below. As you will understand, we need a mix / balance of charities and donors, and sectors, etc. in the workshop: so at this stage, we are seeking just expressions of interest, and will send confirmation to a balanced group of people asking them to come.



#### **When?**

The workshop will be in Manchester on **Monday, April 8th, 10:00am-4:30pm**. Please let us know if you would need travel expenses (and accommodation) to be reimbursed.

#### **For more information**

See the section at the end of this document, and [here](#), or watch [this talk](#) which explains more.

## Expression of Interest in Attending The Workshop

**Name:**

**Email:**

**Contact telephone number:**

**Address:**

**Relevant organisations in which you are involved (e.g., if you are both staff in one charity and a trustee in another, please put both):**

The following questions all relate to the main organization which you will be representing:

**Are you (Put an X beside all that apply):**

Working in a charity	
Working in a social enterprise	
Working in a grant-making foundation	
Working in a grant-making public sector funder	
An individual donor	
An impact investor / working in an impact investing organisation	
Working in a company / corporate foundation	
Other	

**Is your work (Put an X beside one):**

Local	
Regional	
National	
International	

**What sector(s) do you work in? (Put an X beside all that apply):**

Health and Social Care	
Education and Employment	
Environment	
Housing	
Refugees	
Children and Families	
Human Rights	
Arts and Culture	
Disability	
Religion	
Sports and Physical Activity	
Crime and Justice	
Other	

**If you are in an operational organisation (i.e., not a funder), is its revenue (Put an X beside one):**

Below £1m	
£1m - £10m	
£10m+	

**Please briefly tell us why you are interested in taking part in the workshop (max 200 words):**

Please return the completed form by **16 February 2019** by email to: [Christopher@charityfutures.org](mailto:Christopher@charityfutures.org) or by post to: Christopher Penny, Charity Futures, 7 - 14 Great Dover St, London SE1 4YR

If you would like more information about the workshop or have questions about this project, please email [Christopher@charityfutures.org](mailto:Christopher@charityfutures.org) or call on 02030 967 726.

*The personal and sensitive information that you have provided in this form will be held securely by Charity Futures. It will be used solely for the administration for the workshop and to help us to make sure that we have as wide a representation as possible from the groups listed above. We will not provide or sell your personal data to other organisations for any other purposes beyond this workshop.*

### Who we are

**Charity Futures** is funding this project. It is an independent think tank focused on the long-term sustainability of charities. We challenge ourselves and others to think more deeply about the future by asking difficult questions, promoting conversation and provoking debate. Our belief is that a strong charity sector delivers a strong society.

**Giving Evidence** is running this project. It works to enable *giving* based on sound *evidence*. Hence we work closely with researchers to ensure that their research is relevant and usable, and with nonprofits and donors to help them to find and use the reliable research evidence. We have worked on many topics in many countries over many years, including with the Universities of Chicago and London, agencies of the governments of the UK and US and in the Gulf, and many foundations of various sizes and types. Giving Evidence was founded by **Caroline Fiennes**, an [FT columnist](#) and one of the few people whose work has featured in both *OK! Magazine* and *Nature*.

Giving Evidence's team includes **Katherine Cowan**, an experienced consultant and facilitator, who has been a key contributor to the development of the James Lind Alliance method for involving patients, carers and healthcare professionals in setting priorities for health research. She is co-author of the James Lind Alliance Guidebook, and has facilitated more than 40 Priority Setting Partnerships in both the UK and Canada.

**The James Lind Alliance** is not formally involved in this consultation.