**ANALYTICAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME 2017**

This note invites bids from voluntary organisations in Scotland for very short sharp projects (up to 10 person days) where statistical or analytical skills could make a difference to your organisation. The way this would work is individuals or small groups of Scottish Government analysts (one or two people) act as an analytical consultancy to solve problems in your organisation and would be delivered at no cost to you.

This scheme ran for each of the last five years. In total Scottish Government analysts have supported around 100 projects providing a total of well over 350 days of support to 3rd sector organisations.  Most placements were about either (a) evaluation methodologies – how you measure success (b) bringing together evidence around a subject or (c) data management/making the most of data you collect. However, you have the potential to look at other things, like data visualisation or how you structure a significant problem.

If this is something that you think your organisation could benefit from, I’d love to hear from you. However, to ensure we get the best fit between your needs and the skills of the analysts in the scheme, to be considered you need to compete the short attached application.  Can you send this to me by e-mail: chiefstatistician@gov.scot by Friday 3rd March.  Matching analysts to organisations will happen soon after and then it will be up to matched analysts and organisations to arrange a mutually beneficial time to do the work.

A slight note of caution is that, based upon the level of interest last year, there may well need to be some prioritisation. Shorter pieces of work may be favoured to maximise the spread of this scheme.  I look forward to reading your bids and if you have any questions beforehand, also drop me a note on the e-mail address above.

Yours sincerely



**Roger Halliday**
**Chief Statistician & Head of Performance, Scottish Government, Room 2W.02, St. Andrews House, Edinburgh. EH1 3DG
t: 0131-244-0302, m: 07780-492-378, e:** **roger.halliday@gov.scot** **tw:@ScotStat @HallidayRoger**