CONNECT TO WORK
Funded by UK Government
In partnership with SOCIAL FINANCE IPS GROW base british association for supported employment Inclusive Trading

Dear Colleagues,

We're writing to reinforce and reaffirm how the Connect to Work Fidelity Assurance contract will be delivered, including roles and responsibilities across partners, and what you can expect from upcoming IPS and SEQF fidelity reviews.

Who we are and what we do

The Fidelity Assurance contract is delivered by Social Finance, working in partnership with the British Association for Supported Employment (BASE).

- **Social Finance** is a not-for-profit organisation with extensive experience delivering and supporting work, health and employment programmes. Social Finance holds the DWP contract and is responsible for overall delivery, coordination and assurance.
- **IPS Grow: the team of IPS specialists within Social Finance that will** lead on IPS fidelity reviews and will be your main point of contact for IPS-related activity.
- **BASE (subcontracted by Social Finance)** leads on SEQF fidelity reviews and will be your main point of contact for SEQF-related activity.

Together, we work as a single, aligned partnership to ensure a consistent and supportive approach across both models.

Social Finance have also been contracted by DWP as the national support team for the WorkWell programme. Although the programmes are distinct, we will ensure relevant learnings are shared across both programmes.

Why fidelity reviews matter

Fidelity strongly correlates with outcomes. Fidelity reviews are designed to support high-quality delivery of IPS and SEQF by:

- Identifying strengths in current delivery.
- Highlighting opportunities for development.
- Providing consistent, evidence-based assurance to DWP.
- Supporting continuous improvement across your system.

Our aim is to work with you in a constructive and collaborative way – recognising the progress you've made and helping you to build on it.

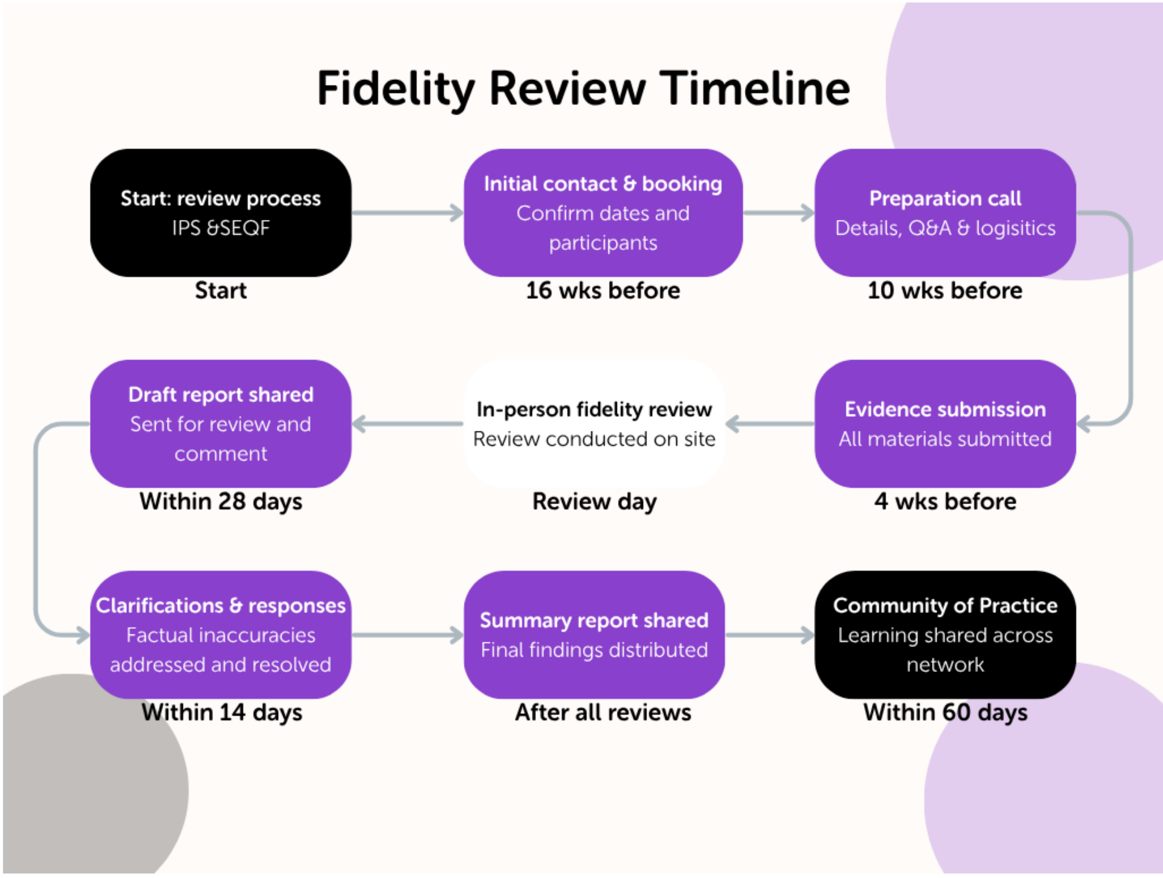
What this means for you

- You will be contacted directly by the relevant team (IPS Grow or BASE) to plan and prepare for the reviews of all your in-house teams and those delivery partners instructed by the accountable body.
- IPS and SEQF reviews will run independently, but communication will be coordinated to avoid duplication.
- You will have clear guidance, support and time to prepare at each stage.
- Ongoing support will be available through monthly drop-in sessions (for both IPS and SEQF).

Review timelines and preparation

While IPS and SEQF are distinct approaches, key processes have been aligned where appropriate to ensure consistency. We've provided a simple flowchart of the review process to support you, which outlines:

- Key milestones and timings
- When you'll be contacted
- What preparation is required at each stage



You will also receive detailed guidance directly from the relevant team, including:

- Preparation guidance.
- Evidence requirements.
- Adapted language scales.

These documents can be found here: File and folder sharing

Ongoing communication and support

To support both Accountable Bodies and Delivery Partners ahead of reviews, we are hosting monthly **drop-in sessions on the second Monday of every month at 11am covering both IPS and SEQF.**

These sessions will provide an opportunity to:

- Ask questions about the review process
- Clarify expectations around evidence and preparation
- Raise any practical queries ahead of your review

If you have any questions about any of the information above, please contact ctwsupport@socialfinance.org.uk in the first instance who will be able to direct your query accordingly.

If you have any questions regarding Connect to Work policy, please contact:laenquiries.supportedemploymentprogramme@DWP.GOV.UK

If you have any other general queries, please contact your DWP Regional Engagement Lead.

All the best,

Connect to Work Fidelity Assurance Team