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03.09.2020

## **Letter of intent for Åfjord municipality regarding the collaboration project Innovation of public services in a pandemic (InnoPan)**

### **About us**

Åfjord is a municipality with 4297 inhabitants in Trøndelag county in the geographical middle of Norway. Our municipality is a rural community with Årnes as the regional center. On January 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 there was a merger between Roan and Åfjord municipality and we are in the process of implementing this change.

### **Motivation and background**

Åfjord municipality is an innovative organization that continuously work to improve the well-being of our citizens. The Covi-19 pandemic has affected nearly every aspect of our organization. In order to protect our employees, users and citizens, we have had to make substantial changes to our work processes. We think it's important to learn from this experience and to understand better how other municipalities have reacted to the pandemic.

Åfjord and SINTEF have a strategic agreement about cooperating in research projects.

### **Contribution to the project**

We will assign a representative who will participate the steering group. The steering group will meet online four times per year. The group will identify 10-12 examples of innovations that were affected by the corona pandemic. We will contribute to develop case studies about these innovations by participating in workshops and presenting how we handled the innovation process in these cases.

Different employees may participate, depending on each case.

The total extent of our engagement will be 15 weeks terms of working hours for the duration of the project (two years).

### **Concluding remarks**

We attach a high importance to the realization of the InnoPan project. We look forward to cooperating with SINTEF and the other project partners.

Per O. Johansen  
Rådmann

