

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL LOCAL INNOVATION FUND “Doing things differently in neighbourhoods to make better places to live” PROPOSAL FORM													
WARD Kingstanding	INNOVATION TITLE Raising Achievement in Kingstanding												
<p>Innovations have to meet the LIF priorities and add value to the City wide core priorities listed below. (Tick all those that apply)</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 50%;"><u>City Core Priorities</u></th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 50%;"><u>LIF Priorities</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>• Children - a Great City to Grow Up In <input style="width: 50px;" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>• Citizens' Independence & Well Being <input checked="" style="width: 50px;" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Jobs & Skills <input checked="" style="width: 50px;" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>• New approaches to investment <input style="width: 50px;" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Housing for Birmingham <input style="width: 50px;" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>• Active citizens & communities stepping up <input checked="" style="width: 50px;" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Health <input style="width: 50px;" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>• Clean streets <input style="width: 50px;" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>• Improving local centres <input style="width: 50px;" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<u>City Core Priorities</u>	<u>LIF Priorities</u>	• Children - a Great City to Grow Up In <input style="width: 50px;" type="checkbox"/>	• Citizens' Independence & Well Being <input checked="" style="width: 50px;" type="checkbox"/>	• Jobs & Skills <input checked="" style="width: 50px;" type="checkbox"/>	• New approaches to investment <input style="width: 50px;" type="checkbox"/>	• Housing for Birmingham <input style="width: 50px;" type="checkbox"/>	• Active citizens & communities stepping up <input checked="" style="width: 50px;" type="checkbox"/>	• Health <input style="width: 50px;" type="checkbox"/>	• Clean streets <input style="width: 50px;" type="checkbox"/>		• Improving local centres <input style="width: 50px;" type="checkbox"/>
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<p>What is your innovative idea and how does it show collaborative, partnership working and active citizenship?</p> <p>Kingstanding Gardens will provide a free gardening service to elderly and vulnerable residents who are unable to maintain their gardens.</p> <p>The work will be delivered by a qualified trainer working with a cohort of young people from Kingstanding that are not in employment, education or training (NEET). These young people will gain valuable work experience and training and be supported to gain entry level vocational qualifications that will enable them to work in the construction industry. They will also receive job search support through one to one mentoring and workshops to enable them to progress into employment or further education. All of the young people that we work with face multiple economic and social barriers that prevent them gaining employment. They often live in homes where inter-generational unemployment is the norm, are the primary carers for sick relatives and younger siblings, experience physical and emotional abuse, have mental health support needs and regularly use drugs and alcohol leading to addiction. They have no qualifications, poor experiences at school and on training programmes and when we first meet them they lack self-confidence and the basic practical and social skills required to secure employment. All the young people working on this project will receive in kind one-to-one mentoring and life skills training, delivered by our organisation, to enable them to address these barriers in order to improve their confidence and sense of self-worth and to enter and stay in employment.</p> <p>We will work with our existing partners across Erdington including The YMCA, Princes Trust, Connexions and The Birmingham City Council Youth Offending Team to identify young people who would benefit the most from our initiative</p> <p>Many of the elderly and vulnerable residents that we work with have complex support needs around a range of issues including mental and physical health, social isolation and benefits</p>													

and pension entitlement. We will work in partnership with local agencies including New Heights and Age UK, both of which provide volunteer befriending schemes and social activities, to support these residents to maintain and enhance their independence and wellbeing and to access appropriate support and advice services when this is required. Our project has been developed through consultation with the young people and residents that we work with.

Earlier this year we surveyed over 100 young residents who told us that their biggest fear was not being able to find work and that a lack of work experience and vocational qualifications was holding them back. From our own experience and from government statistics and independent reports we estimate that approximately 25% of 16-24 year olds in Kingstanding are NEET and our project will directly support them into sustainable employment.

We are actively involved in a range of local networks and forums including the Local Delivery Group, The Kingstanding Interagency Partnership where we have consulted with residents and partner agencies. They tell us that there is a need for increased community cohesion and community pride in Kingstanding and that they want to get involved in initiatives that improve the local environment and make green space and community facilities accessible to all. We currently work with a number of "Friends Of..." groups in the local area including Friends Of The Pimple and Friends of Brookvale Park and members of both groups are happy to volunteer their time to help us to develop a volunteer programme for local residents to provide them with basic training to support us to maintain both residential gardens and local parks and green spaces and volunteers will work alongside our trainers and young people to deliver this initiative.

Over the past year we have delivered a range of initiatives that both create employment opportunities for young people and enhance green space in Kingstanding. We have delivered successful initiatives at The Pimple and Kingstanding Leisure Centre with 48 young people entering employment after gaining work experience and entry level vocational qualifications with us.

Our Kingstanding Gardens project which enabled us to provide a free one off gardening service to elderly and vulnerable residents has proved extremely successful with demand for the service far outweighing what we can deliver. We have had over 130 enquiries for the service over the past five months with 90% of the 40 residents we have worked with offering to pay for a regular gardening service.

We want to develop our current initiatives and believe that this project will allow us to pilot and test our idea to develop a community led social enterprise. In the long term we aim to create new and improve existing green spaces in Kingstanding making them accessible to the whole community. We aim to set up a sustainable enterprise that will offer practical work based training and vocational qualifications for young people and that will provide tangible benefits for elderly and vulnerable residents by supporting their independence and well-being. Our enterprise will create opportunities for residents to get involved initially as volunteers and eventually as employees, managers and trustees of our business.

Time Frame – is it:-

One off event/programme

Implement and complete within 6 months (2016)

Implement and complete within 12 months (2017)

X

How will the innovation be implemented?

Kingstanding Regeneration Trust are very experienced in delivering funded initiatives for community benefit. We are currently piloting a similar project but this is time limited. However it has proved very popular with demand for the service far exceeding what we can currently offer. We have robust management systems in place for the current project which we will continue to use if we are successful in our bid

Overall management of the project will be overseen by our board of trustees, all of whom live or work in Kingstanding and all are very experienced in delivering similar initiatives. Day to day management of the project will be led by a project manager who will oversee the work of our trainer and employment advisor. We will also set up a user group including young people, volunteers and residents to provide regular feedback on delivery and to consult with us to ensure that we are delivering a quality service that suits all their needs. Our project manager will monitor delivery of the programme to ensure that we are achieving all our outputs and outcomes and are managing the budget correctly. She will prepare monthly reports on project progress to our board who will make recommendations on project delivery based on these reports and feedback from our user group.

Before commencing the project our board and project manager will prepare a Project Initiation Document (PID) which will set out the aims of the project and include agreed outputs and outcomes, a risk register and mitigation plan.

We will deliver the project over a six month period starting immediately. We will work with very small groups of trainees each spending three weeks on the project working 22.5 hours a week. In that period they will gain work experience by working on residential gardens, workshop training and mentoring support to improve their employability and be offered one-to-one mentoring and life skills training through additional initiatives that we currently manage. They will also take entry level examinations to allow them to work in the construction industry and continuous support to gain full time employment.

All our young people will gain the following qualifications.

- Construction Skills Certificate Scheme Green Card
- Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) Health and Safety Certificate
- CITB Manual Handling Certificate
- UK Asbestos Training Association Asbestos Awareness Certificate

We will market the programme to potential beneficiaries (trainees, volunteers, residents) through our networks and through outreach and a poster campaign at local community facilities, cafes, GP surgeries, supermarkets, bingo halls, hairdressers and places of worship. We will also market the project through social media, community radio and local press.

Residents interested in the gardening service will be able to contact us personally or via a representative by email, telephone or via a visit to our office. We will agree a time with them to inspect the garden, agree the work to be done and then return on a convenient date to undertake the work. Our staff are trained to work with older and vulnerable residents and

to identify any additional needs that they may have. Our staff will be able to sign post residents to support services, social clubs and community activities and liaise with professional health care and wellbeing practitioners and agencies if they believe that the resident needs are more acute.

What outcomes will the proposal achieve? What will success look like and how will its impact be measured? How will you ensure legacy/ continuation and what learning will the project provide?

We will deliver the following outputs that will be measured by monthly monitoring of the service.

- 30 young people NEET will complete a 3 week work focused training programme
- 30 young people NEET will achieve 4 construction industry entry level vocational qualifications.
- 20 young people NEET will enter full time employment within 6 weeks of completing the training programme
- 10 young people NEET will progress to further training, education or part-time employment within six weeks of completing the training programme.
- 80 elderly or vulnerable residents will benefit from having received a free gardening maintenance service.
- 60 gardens belonging to elderly or vulnerable residents will be improved.
- 80 elderly or vulnerable residents will receive additional sign posting advice and professional support to help them to maintain their independence and wellbeing.
- 10 residents will receive training and learn new skills to enable them to volunteer on the project.

We also aim to achieve the following longer term outcomes that we will monitor through one to one interviews, resident surveys, our user group and focus groups.

- Young people NEET gain accredited vocational qualifications and transferable skills enhancing their chances of gaining employment
- Young people NEET achieve improved emotional wellbeing and resilience, enabling them to focus on gaining qualification and entering and staying in employment
- Young People NEET enter work, further education or training enhancing long-term employability and improving their quality of life
- Elderly and vulnerable residents are supported to engage with the wider community and support networks enabling them to improve and maintain their independence and physical and emotional well-being
- Residents gain new skills and work experience through volunteering opportunities enhancing their employability skills
- Residents and young people gain a sense of community pride and ownership and experience better community cohesion through inter-generational working that has a

positive community impact

Success for us will see us achieving all our outputs and outcomes and in some cases exceeding them. We intend that our project has long term economic and socially beneficial impacts for our community. These benefits include young people gaining new skills and qualifications to enter employment and elderly and vulnerable residents feeling less socially isolated and more supported to actively engage in community activity.

We want this project to become sustainable by creating a social enterprise that will provide a domestic gardening service to residents and a maintenance and grounds work service to stake holders across North Birmingham. We aim to create training opportunities and employment for young people NEET and eventually employ residents to manage and deliver the service. We aim to use any profits to subsidise the service we will offer to elderly and vulnerable residents and to lever in match funding to create new and maintain and improve community green space in Kingstanding.

Funding through the Innovation Fund will allow us to support young people and residents immediately. It will also enable us to learn how we should best shape our services to match beneficiary and residents needs and to test whether we can create a viable, sustainable and community led social enterprise.

We will share our experience and learning with partner organisations and community groups, that aim to deliver services that support elderly and vulnerable residents and young people NEET, and organisations across Birmingham that are supported by the Local Innovation Fund. We will do this by developing a best practice tool kit, by delivering presentations and short films at networking events and making ourselves available to meet with organisations who want to draw on our learning to create their own programmes.

Have you considered other sources of funding and whether the project can be used to leverage further funding from elsewhere (please specify funding sources)?

This funding will enable us to test our business idea that in the longer term will generate a valuable income stream for our organisation. As grant and trust funding becomes reduced and the application process more competitive we believe that showing funders that we have generated a sustainable income stream will lever in match funding

We have made an application to Big Lottery for continuation funding to deliver a programme that addresses the needs and improves the employability of young people living in Kingstanding that are NEET.

We have also applied to the Power To Change Bright Ideas Fund for free business support mentoring to help us develop our social enterprise and that will provide long term funding to develop a community led business.

What resources will be required?

	£
- Capital	1700
- Running costs	14300
- People power volunteers	0000

Amount required from LIF **£16,000**

Have you got any match funding – in cash or in kind?

We have four volunteers who will offer their time and experience to support the project. We will also provide administrative and marketing support free of charge. We will also use staff time to deliver additional life skills training to young people engaged on the project.

Contact person for proposal

Name Nick Schlittner

Telephone

E-mail nickschlittner@kingstandingregentrust.org.uk

Which residents or community groups was the proposal discussed with and when (please give details of any meetings and which councillors attended)?

New Heights Community project 3rd November 2016

Discussed with Friends of the Pimple group at open evening event 26th October

New Heights luncheon Club 3rd November 2016

BCC The North Quadrant Neighbourhood Officer Terry Dingley

10 Kingstanding Food Community Volunteers

20 local elderly residents 1st – 10th November 2016

12 local NEET young people 8th November 2016

Nicola Colligan and Michael Wall from The Princes Trust

Nick Barr from the Youth Offending Team

Roth Souter St Martins Church

Age Concern Rosie Barrett

Dave Billingham Bham Street Scene Coordinator

Kingstanding Tasking Meeting October 2016

Kingstanding Ward Meeting 27th November

Discussed at

Ward meeting

Date

Signatures of all 3 Ward Councillors

Name Signature Date

Name Signature Date

Name Signature Date

Internal use only

Received: Date

Go to Cabinet Committee – Local Leadership for decision: Date

Approved

Yes	
No	