

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL LOCAL INNOVATION FUND "Doing things differently in neighbourhoods to make better places to live" WARD PROPOSAL FORM													
WARD Northfield.....	INNOVATION TITLE ...NewStarts.....												
<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%;"> <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 type="checkbox"/></td> <td>• Citizens' Independence & Well Being <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Jobs & Skills a great City to succeed in <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>• New approaches to investment <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Housing a great City to live in <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>• Active citizens & communities stepping up <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Health a great City to lead a healthy & active life <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>• Clean streets <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Improving local centres <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<u>City Core Priorities</u>	<u>LIF Priorities</u>	• Children - a Great City to Grow Up In <input type="checkbox"/>	• Citizens' Independence & Well Being <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	• Jobs & Skills a great City to succeed in <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	• New approaches to investment <input type="checkbox"/>	• Housing a great City to live in <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	• Active citizens & communities stepping up <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	• Health a great City to lead a healthy & active life <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	• Clean streets <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Improving local centres <input 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>We want to replicate the work of our Bromsgrove project by initiating a furniture re-use project in South West Birmingham, which, like Bromsgrove, also offers voluntary work placements for the long term unemployed, delivers other key services to the local community and which acts more as a community hub, rather than just a second-hand furniture shop (in Bromsgrove, we also operate a food bank, deliver free training in money management and basic I.T. skills, and manage a digital inclusion project, which recycles unwanted I.T. hardware and provides affordable laptops and computers (£35-£100).</p> <p>Over the last 3 years, we have received a 700% increase on requests for free furniture from Birmingham agencies, of which 15% (10 cases) are from the Northfield Ward. These requests are for their service users either in financial crisis, and/or moving from temporary accommodation into a tenancy, but the property they have secured is empty and unfurnished.</p> <p>We are already working with Birmingham City Council Officers, providing free furniture for their tenants as well as The Project in Longbridge and a number of schools in the south Birmingham area. We have also met with a Northfield Stakeholder Group and I am aware that there is a real lack of volunteering opportunities for young people wishing to go into the warehousing industry. We are able to provide those opportunities in a real working environment, with mentors who are able to provide excellent on-the-job training. We will also be working with the local community to understand what other services they would like to see being provided through the project.</p> <p>We are aware that there is currently no project like this in south west Birmingham</p>													

Time Frame – is it:-

One off event/programme

Implement and complete within 6 months (2016)

Implement and complete within 12 months (2017)

✓

How will the innovation be implemented?

There are 2 key stages to developing our work in Birmingham and we're requesting funding to help us establish the first stage:

Stage One:

Establish a small project in Northfield, using a local team of volunteers, to collect unwanted furniture, to store it safely before donating it to local people in financial crisis.

- Rent a small warehouse space (approx. 2500 square foot) with dry storage
- Acquire a van in good condition (large Transit or Luton).
- Recruit volunteers from the area (we already have a few volunteers from the area signed up)
- Advertise the new service in the area and arrange an opening ceremony with Richard Burden undertaking the ceremony
- Commence collections and deliveries.

Stage Two:

Within 18 months of starting our project in Northfield, we expect to move to stage 2 of our plan, which, and with an established foothold in the area, will see us take on a larger premises so we can expand our activities, create a community hub (as we have in Bromsgrove) take on our first members of staff and develop a retail side to our Northfield activities. (we currently raise 68% of our own income from our enterprise in Bromsgrove)

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?

Through the new initiative in South West Birmingham, an area of the city with many pockets in the top 5% of deprived areas in UK (Distribution of SOAs in Birmingham in the Most Deprived 25% in England) we expect our ultimate impact will be greater community cohesion and positivity through:

1. Improved mental resilience, confidence, optimism and emotional well-being of local people.

2. A reduction in the length of time individuals/families spend in temporary accommodation or being homeless.
3. An improved local environment through the reduction of landfill and promotion of reuse.
4. Improved chances of employment for the long-term unemployed through technical and personal skills development.
5. A reduction in social isolation as those on the fringes of society are both supported by and engaged in, delivering the services we provide.
6. Increased community participation and cohesion as local people come together to help each other.

We measure outputs and outcomes through a comprehensive reporting system and this will be used at the Northfield site as well. It includes;

- Number of households provided with free furniture and household items
- Number of individuals taking part in the volunteer programme
- Recording and reporting on the support provided to volunteers
- Customer and client follow-up
- Number of collections and weight of items diverted from landfill
- Number of volunteers moving into employment & education

As with the Bromsgrove operation we will be expecting some household items to be sold and this will help to sustain the long term future of the project. Currently the Bromsgrove operation is 68% self-funding through sales, delivery charges, donations and re-use credits.

We are able to provide considerable input into cross-organisational discussions concerning homelessness, unemployment, mental health issues and debt through the work that we do. We currently feed into a number of cross-organisational groups in Bromsgrove and Redditch including the Economic Development Theme Group, the Community Well-being Theme Group, Homelessness Strategy Group and the Redditch Community Well-Being Group.

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

We have already obtained £14,000 in funding from other organisations including Michael Marsh, The Rowlands Trust, CHK Charities and Albert Hunt. We are waiting to hear from two other funds regarding a further £10,000 with the balance being provided through Crowdfunding

What resources will be required?

- Capital
- Running costs
- People power volunteers

£
10000
41000
15

Amount required from LIF ~~£15,000~~.....

Have you got any match funding – in cash or in kind? Yes both – we have already received £14,000 towards the costs from other grant providers. We also have volunteer hours of those volunteers already undertaking work in the Northfield area.

Contact person for proposal

NameMarion Kenyon.....

Telephone07534067752 or 01527 882410.....

E-mailchief.executive@newstarts.org.uk.....

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

Northfield Stakeholder Group 28th February 2017 no councillors attended, however I spoke to Councillor Randal Brew on 22nd June and emailed Councillor Brett O'Reilly and Councillor Debbie Clancy. I have also spoken to Longbridge groups, in order to secure funding from the Longbridge LIF, include the Longbridge Task Force and the Longbridge LIF group, at which Councillor Andy Cartwright, Councillor Ian Cruise and Councillor Carole Griffiths were present.

Discussed at

Ward meeting

Date

Signatures of all 3 Ward Councillors

Name B. O'REILLY Signature [Signature] Date 20/11/17
 Name DEBBIE CLANCY Signature [Signature] Date 20-11-17
 Name RANDAL BREW Signature [Signature] Date 20/11/17

Internal use only

Received: Date

Go to Cabinet Committee – Local Leadership for decision: Date

Approved

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

