

Local Innovation Fund- Doing things differently in Neighbourhoods to make better places to live.

A new fund has been recently launched by the Council to help people across Birmingham invest in the projects, groups and activities they think will help their local communities. The **Local Innovation Fund (LIF)** is providing £48,000 investment for each of the City's forty Wards with an emphasis on ward councillors listening to and working closely with people in their local area supporting new and innovative ways of doing things in neighbourhoods to make better places to live.

The money can be used to fund new and innovative activity which can help make communities stronger, as well as develop more local involvement, participation and active citizenship. There are lots of possibilities, for example - setting up a Community Enterprise which can provide low cost painting and decorating or an odd jobs service, community led initiatives or helping community groups come together and learn from and support each other.

The focus is on investing in people and places rather than spending money on things and is a Ward Investment Programme rather than a grants scheme.

How can you get involved?

For this opportunity to be successful and used well it needs Ward councillors and local people to work together to identify what the funding should be used for and how it will be spent. You can help play an important part in this by getting involved:-

- **To share what you think the priorities are for your community and neighbourhood – what should the funding be used for?**
- **To share a good or great idea you have – this could come from your own group or organisation, or something else you have heard about and want to try in your local area**

To find out more and get involved in your neighbourhood please contact your local Councillor and/or attend the following meetings in your area:

**EDGBASTON WARD PARTNERSHIP MEETING
SATURDAY 3 DECEMBER 2016
10:30AM – 12:30PM
EDGBASTON QUAKER MEETING HOUSE
ST JAMES ROAD (CORNER OF ST JAMES/GEORGE RDS)
B15 1JP**