

x BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL LOCAL INNOVATION FUND "Doing things differently in neighbourhoods to make better places to live" WARD PROPOSAL FORM													
WARD Handsworth and East Lozells	INNOVATION TITLE Community Sensory Garden in Handsworth Park and Community Big Sleuth												
<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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/></td> <td>• New approaches to investment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Housing a great City to live in <input 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 type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>• Improving local centres <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<u>City Core Priorities</u>	<u>LIF Priorities</u>	• Children - a Great City to Grow Up In <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	• Citizens' Independence & Well Being <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	• Jobs & Skills a great City to succeed in <input type="checkbox"/>	• New approaches to investment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	• Housing a great City to live in <input 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 type="checkbox"/>		• Improving local centres <input checked="" 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>Introduction/background to our pilot in 2015 The Friends of Handsworth Park (FHP) received £25,000 funding for the Handsworth Park Art Trail in 2015, which engaged local the local community to engage in activities in the park to co-create 6 pieces of temporary public art with schools, the park community and resident artist on site making a piece of art. As part of this, the city wide project the Big Hoot Owl came in to the park – a local resident Artist conducted delivered a series of workshops with the local community in the park, local allotments and children towards the design of the Owl. Once this was installed – two events including partnership with the RSPB with at presentation on owls and a night time bat walk occurred.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External funded investment into Handsworth Park: The success of the HP art trail and the Big Hoot added external investment in to the park by funders including the Arts Council and the Near Neighbours Fund, • Engagement with Children and Local Community and learning The children loved being part of something bigger in the city – and for once Handsworth was part of the main event – everyone during the summer seemed to be collecting Owls. Often Handsworth is not part of the action! <p>We engaged children and local people in participatory arts activity to create all the art works. Local people were proud of the pieces they contributed to, they also gained an understanding of the importance of the nature in the park.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Citizens – All the volunteers, the Friends of Handsworth Park, the project 													

managers were local people who have contributed their time and expertise. The citizens include expertise which has been shared -accountant for a regional charity, a former head teacher, the Cricket club vice Chair, local community activist, and Active Park co-ordinator gaining skills in public,

- **Collaboration:** Local people, artists and organisations working together the project involved – schools, allotments, the Boathouse Café, Perry Barr Arts Forum, the RSPB, Active parks, the Park Service. The garden design and content was created through working with the local community.
- **Improving pride in the local area and increasing community cohesion:** Bring people from across the city to experience Handsworth Park and the locality – through the Big Hoot – many visitors to the park had never been before and only came because of the Big Hoot but would visit again and their perception of the park and area had changed.

The Big Sleuth Community Bear and the Handsworth Park Community Sensory Garden 2017

Introduction and Investment:

The Friends of Handsworth Park consulted with the local community regarding looking after a part of Handsworth Park space – and many people expressed an interest leading to us have securing £25,000 at the end of 2016 to create the Community Sensory Garden in Handsworth Park with an edible plants area with funders Veolia and Tesco's- Bags for Life.

We are requesting funds to support activities to promote positive mental and physical wellbeing and community cohesion focused around children and families, these activities will address primary health issues for children – childhood obesity and engagement with the green spaces as a way of reducing this. The activities will be fun and encourage exercise in a fun way. The sensory garden will have an edible growing area which we will run projects to promote healthy eating including – Pot to Plate – children will create grow edible plants and flower in pots and harvest to create and plate of colourful salads – with community volunteers sharing their skills.

Our Bear hunt and Teddy Bears picnic will create a walking trail around the park to encourage exploration of the park and outdoor activity and exercise in a fun way to encourage participation

Workshops to decorate the Community Big Sleuth Bear which will form part of the City Wide Bear Trail and remain as permanent piece of Public Art co-created by the people of Handsworth.

RSPB and the Parks services will deliver support and workshops to support activities throughout the year.

We will be provide regular community cohesion events by bringing members of the local community and local groups together in secular activities – to reflect the changing of the 4 seasons. This will involve food, arts, showcasing of local neighbourhood activities and environmental stewardship.

Funding request:

We are asking the LIF to fund part of one years worth of garden activity and volunteer co-ordination, materials for activities and workshops with the community to decorate the Bear

£4500 to match funding to the £25,000 we have raised already which includes part funding towards of £3000 towards the cost of the Community Bear.

We will be arranging further fundraising – by holding a teddy bears picnic, a bear hunt which will provide fun activities to promote physical exercise in the park with a bear hunt trail in the park. And a crowdfunding campaign.

Active Citizens: Health and Wellbeing outcomes

Through the work of the Friends of Handsworth Park, local people who have been instrumental in ensuring activities are delivered in the Park which promote health and wellbeing for people in the park to enjoy and participate in activities in the Park – including arts, exercise and nature.

- We will encourage and local people share their expertise, and bring local volunteers and Companies including Eversheds to help in the community garden,
- This Community Garden and Big Sleuth will bring people together locally to create a sensory garden space to promote wellbeing, bringing community together to work on a site to share and gain skills promoting sharing, creating positive relationships to improve mental well being and relationships.
- Creating art for the park through the art trail improves the environment for local people.
- Active volunteers will be recruited to maintain the Sensory community garden in the Park. And this year we have participated in the National Spring Clean which engaged a 16 children and families to volunteer to litter pick in the park.
- Gain new skills will be gained from participating in the garden activities.

Children and Young People outcomes

- Improve health and wellbeing by engaging families in positive activities for health and wellbeing, physical activity addressing one of the primary health issues for children – childhood obesity. The sensory garden will have an edible growing area which we will run projects to promote healthy eating including – Pot to Plate – children will create grow edible plants and flower in pots and harvest as part of allotment to create and plate of colourful salads – with community volunteers sharing their skills.
- Our Bear hunt and Teddy Bears picnic will create a walking trail around the park to encourage exploration of the park and outdoor activity and exercise in a fun way to encourage participation.

Community Cohesion outcomes

Handsworth Park is one of the few secular public spaces in the local area, it is a dynamic and diverse park and usage reflects the local community – our projects our comes will include:

- Local people through a co-production model will work together with community groups, the local authority and the Friends of Handsworth Park to celebrate the our shared interests in the environment and develop skills in community and environmental stewardship, through our shared partnership approach with the Wilkes Green partnership and Helping Hands Handsworth. It takes a village to raise a child and children model behaviour from adults – good community cohesion needs modelling we will aim to provide opportunities to work and play together.

Partnership and collaboration

The partners have been working with FHP to create a vibrant park which engages local children and families to participate in activities for health and wellbeing and active citizenship.

RSPB, Handsworth Creative, Park Ranger Service, Perry Barr Arts Forum, schools, the Boathouse, Ava arts and Active Parks, the Handsworth Health and Wellbeing Centre (Handsworth Leisure centre), Spring Housing Association, Hamilton School, The Wilkes Green Partnership, Helping Hands Handsworth. And the Handsworth Community Choir (over 60% of the attendees are aged over 65 and the choir was initially funded as a wellbeing group by Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health Trust.) Currently we are working with CC Collaborative and AVA arts to create seasonal art works and nature walks in the park with local people and artists called Handsworth Revolutions with £10,000 funding from Awards For All.

To date – Cosmic Egg has been created, A Bat walk with the RSPB, Tree Walks with the Park Rangers and a Lantern Walk with music. The Boathouse Runners was supported by the Friends of Handsworth Park working with Active Parks – and has engaged over 100 children and families to participate regularly in running activity.

The community garden and the Big Sleuth Bear provide ways of engaging and working together and embed into the local community the desire to contribute actively to improving their local environment when they can actively see their contributions through the garden and the Bear, and that this will bring people from across the city to visit the Park.

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?**

We will work with our partners to bring their families to participate in activities and to design the Bear, they will participate in gardening and nature activities and gain the opportunity to share natural history and to understand the park as a resource that we all have responsibility for.

Implementation will involve:

- Friends of Handsworth Park (FHP) creating a brief to recruit the for the Community Garden Activities Facilitator.
- The brief will include event and workshop co-ordination and supporting volunteers to participate in maintaining the community garden with the support of the FHP committee.
- FHP will commission the community artist for the Bear by convening a committee comprising of Friends of Handsworth Park, Handsworth Creative, Lee Southall – Park Manager and Culture Commissioning Service and the local councillors.
- A timetable of activities and workshops arranged within the park, local schools and community groups from April onwards.

- Community Launch event Picnic in Handsworth Park for the garden and the Bear in July.

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?

Outcomes

- **External funded investment into Handsworth Park:**
Veolia, and Tesco for the Community Sensory Garden, fundraising by local people and crowd funding.
- **Healthy Children**
Children and families will engage in healthy activities to promote wellbeing including healthy eating and exercise.
- **Engagement with Children and Local Community and learning**

We will engage children and local people in participatory arts and environmental stewardship in an urban environment. Local people were proud of the pieces they contributed to, they also gained an understanding of the importance of the nature in the park.

The children will again be part of something bigger in the city – and Handsworth will be part of the main event – people across the city will be collecting Big Sleuth Bears and so will people in Handsworth- along with welcoming new people to the area.

- **Active Citizens** – All the volunteers, the Friends of Handsworth Park, the project managers were local people who have contributed their time and expertise. The citizens include expertise which has been shared -accountant for a regional charity, a former head teacher, the Cricket club vice Chair, local community activist, and Active Park co-ordinator
- **Collaboration:** Local people, artists and organisations working together the project involved – schools, allotments, the Boathouse Café, Perry Barr Arts Forum, the RSPB, Active parks, the Park Service and

Longer term outcomes

Improving pride in the local area and increasing community cohesion:

The Community Garden will showcase local people working together, and a regular group of volunteers continue with the support of the park rangers service on a weekly basis. We will bring people from across the city to experience Handsworth Park through the Big Sleuth Bear, and people will take away positive perceptions of the area.

The Community Garden in the Park is a positive symbol of collaborative working.

- We anticipate at least 250 members of the community attending various activities in including growing and tending the garden, the bear hunt and picnic and workshops for the bear decoration, and RSPB nature talks.
- We will recruit 20 local people including refugees and 2 schools to support the

- community garden, with the Park Rangers visiting regularly to provide support
- At least 7,000 people will see the Big Sleuth Bear and the Art Trail.

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 secured £25,000 for the community garden, we will aim to lever in further activity funding from Awards for All, to continue further work in the park. Partnership with Handsworth Creative for the Handsworth Art trail who have secured a grant from the Aston/ New Town funding.

What resources will be required?

	£
- Capital- materials/garden/bear	1500
- Garden and bear activity facilitation	1800
- People power-volunteer support	1000
- Community cohesion -activity facilitation	700

Total: £5000

Amount required from LIF £4500

Have you got any match funding – in cash or in kind? We have secured in total £25,000 for the garden and the Bear, we will fundraise for the remaining further £500 for activities and materials including a contribution for FHP reserve.

Contact person for proposal

NameRachel Chiu.....

Telephone07957028357.....

E-mailrachel@springhousing.org.uk

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

We attended the ward meeting on the 17th January to present our proposal to councillors and local people.

This project is supported by Friends of Handsworth Park who are all local residents and partners including Handsworth community choir, Boat house runners, Handsworth creative etc, and we have discussed with local police.

Also at FHP held meetings last October and will be having a meeting on the 10th Jan 2017 to. The project meets local priority regarding activities for children and brings capacity to the local community to develop skill and become active citizens, maintaining the environment.

Discussed at

Ward meeting

Date

Signatures of all 3 Ward Councillors

Name Hendrina Quinlan Signature [Signature] Date 6/4/2017

Name Muhammed Hussain Signature [Signature] Date 6/4/2017

Name Waseem Zaffar Signature [Signature] Date 21/4/2017

Internal use only

Received: Date

Go to Cabinet Committee Local Leadership for decision: Date

Approved

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

